

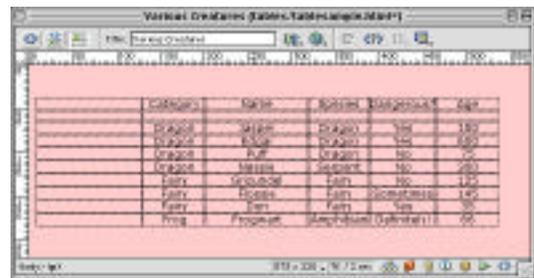
# Tables

You are probably familiar with tables from some other application. Word makes great use of tables, as do spreadsheet programs, such as Excel. Tables are defined by columns and rows of cells. As it turns out, tables offer the web designer much control over page layout, and so they've become quite popular for web design. Quite often a viewer has no idea that a web page's look is due to having everything put into table format.

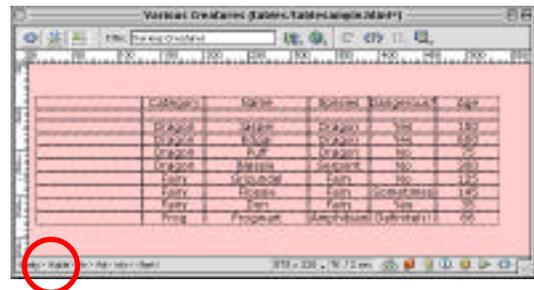
## Changing the Border of a Table

1. Launch Dream Weaver. Using the Site window, define the **tables** folder as your ROOT folder.

2. In the Site window, double-click on **tablesample.html** to open it. There is a table in the middle of this page. It appears to have dotted line borders, but in the browser, those borders aren't visible.



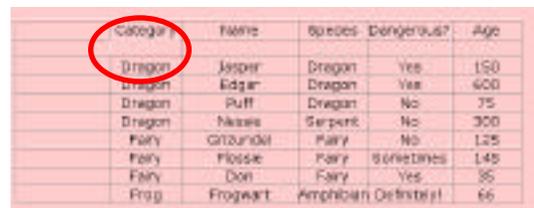
3. Click anywhere inside the table. In the status bar (bottom of window), you can see the `<table>` tag selector. Click on that tag to select the entire table.



4. In the Properties Inspector, change the Border to 1.

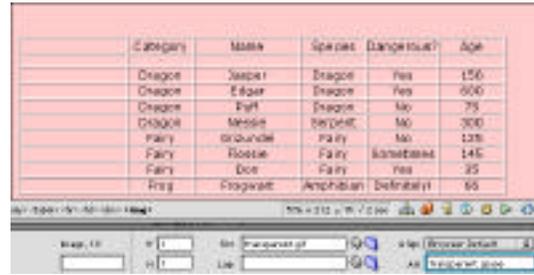


5. Press **F12** to preview in the browser. You can now see the cell borders. You may also see that the second cell in the second row doesn't appear to have a border. (It's OK in Internet Explorer, but wrong in Netscape—another example of how browsers are different.)



- Close the browser to return to Dreamweaver. Click in the empty cell (below Category). Insert the image **transparent.gif**.

The image just inserted is a 1 pixel x 1 pixel transparent gif. It doesn't appear in the browser because it's transparent. (You may see a tiny spot while the cell is still selected.)



- Preview in your browser. The table now looks correct with all cells outlined.
- Close the browser. Save the document but don't close it yet.

## TIP

Transparent 1x1 pixel images, such as **transparent.gif**, are often used to create space in web pages. Since they're transparent, they don't show. It is an easy thing to insert this image and then change the dimensions in the Properties Inspector if you need a larger amount of space. You may want to save **transparent.gif** in an easily accessible place so that you can copy into any root folder where you might want to use space.

## Sorting the Table

- Select the table (choose the Tag Selector in the status bar). Choose **Commands > Sort Table...**



- Change the settings to **Sort By: Column 3**. Click **OK**.

The table is now sorted by name.

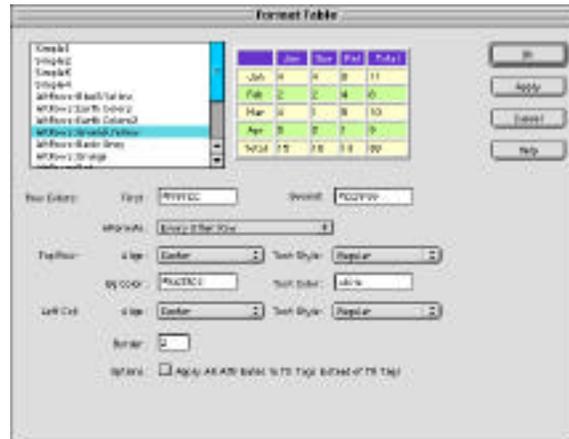
Category	Name	Species	Dangerous?	Age
Fairy	Dot	Fairy	Yes	35
Dragon	Edgar	Dragon	Yes	600
Fairy	Rosie	Fairy	Sometimes	145
Frog	Frogwart	Amphibian	Definitely	55
Fairy	Grunchel	Fairy	No	128
Dragon	Jasper	Dragon	Yes	156
Dragon	Messie	Serpent	No	300
Dragon	Puff	Dragon	No	75

- Save the file. Leave it open.

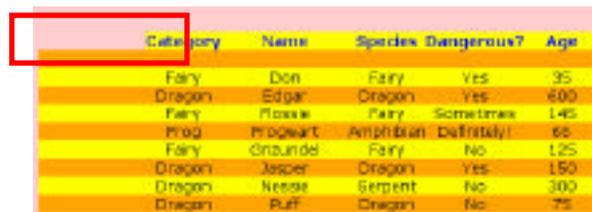
## Table Color Schemes

You can use Dreamweaver's automatic color features or set whatever colors suit your fancy.

1. Using the table document we've been working with (**tablesample.html**), make sure the table is selected. Then choose **Commands**  $\ominus$  **Format Table**.



2. On the left is a list of preformatted color styles. Most of them are pretty eyepopping (*that's **not** to say pretty!*). Below the preformatted colors are boxes where you can set your own row and font colors. Unfortunately, you'll need to know the hexadecimal code for the colors you want because there is no easy-to-use color picker to use here.
3. Choose a style or put in your color codes and click the OK button to see what you've got.
4. Preview in the browser (**F12**). It could be that one or more of your table cells didn't get colored (see example below).



Category	Name	Species	Dangerous?	Age
Fairy	Don	Fairy	Yes	35
Dragon	Edgar	Dragon	Yes	600
Fairy	Flora	Fairy	Sometimes	145
Frog	Prognost	Amphibian	Definitely!	65
Fairy	Orbunde	Fairy	No	125
Dragon	Jasper	Dragon	Yes	150
Dragon	Neese	Serpent	No	300
Dragon	Puff	Dragon	No	75

5. If that happened to you, return to Dreamweaver. Click in the offending cell and insert the **transparent.gif** image.

- Preview again in the browser and your problem should be solved. Return to Dreamweaver and save your work.

Category	Name	Species	Dangerous?	Age
Fairy	Don	Fairy	Yes	35
Dragon	Edgar	Dragon	Yes	600
Fairy	Flossie	Fairy	Sometimes	145
Frog	Frogwart	Amphibian	Definitely!	66
Fairy	Gizundel	Fairy	No	125
Dragon	Jasper	Dragon	Yes	350
Dragon	Nessie	Serpent	No	300
Dragon	Puff	Dragon	No	75

- Save this document and close it. We're done with it.

## Creating and Modifying a Table

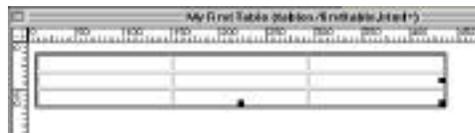
- Create a new document (**File New**) and save it into the **tables** folder under the name **firsttable.html**. Use Page Properties (**⌘+J**) to title it **My First Table**. Click OK.
- From the Objects Palette, click on the Insert Table icon.



- When the Insert Table dialog box appears, change the settings for a 3-row, 3-column table with a border of 1 and a width of 75%. Click OK.



- Your table appears.



- Highlight the first column by clicking in the first cell and dragging down to the last.
- Press (**Option+Command+M**) to merge the selected cells. (Or choose **Modify ⌘ Table ⌘ Merge Cells**.)



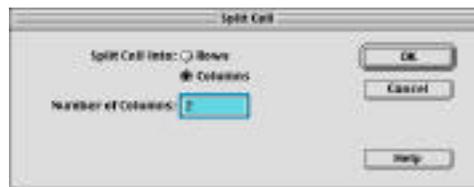
7. In the middle column, click on the middle cell and drag right to select the cell next to it.



8. In the Properties Inspector, click on the Cell Merge to merge these two cells.



9. You can also use the Properties Inspector to split merged cells. Click on the Split Cells icon and the Split Cell dialog box appears. Set the number of rows or columns to be split into and click OK.



10. You move from cell to cell in a table by clicking on the Tab key. When you get to the last cell in the last row, clicking Tab will get you another row in the table. If you'd like to add a row in the middle of the table, or add a column, you can open the Insert Rows or Columns by choosing **Modify** ⌘ **Table** ⌘ **Insert Rows or Columns**. Type in how many of what you want and click **OK**.



11. To totally delete rows or columns, select what you want to delete and type **Command+X**. (⌘+X).
12. Save and close this file.

## Aligning Images & Text

1. Open **flighttext.html**. Press **F12** to view it in the browser. Right now there is no table in the document and it's pretty plain.

Close the browser window to return to DreamWeaver.



2. Leave this document open. Create a new document. Save it into the **tables** folder and save it as **align.html**.

3. Open Page Properties (**⌘+J**) and title it **Alignment with Tables**. Click on the Browse button next to Background Image: In the **tables** folder, find **castle\_bg.jpg** and click Open. Click OK in the Page Properties window.



4. Insert a table as follows:  
**Rows: 2**  
**Columns: 3**  
**Width: 600 pixels**  
**Border: 0.**

Click **OK**.



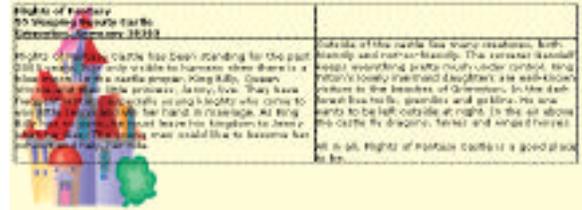
5. Your document should look like this:



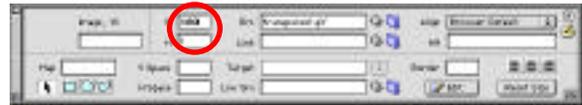
6. The **flighttext.html** document window should be open behind this window. Arrange the windows so that you can see a little part of **flighttext.html**. Then click on it to make it come to the front. Copy the 3-line address. Click on your **align.html** to bring it to the front. Click in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cell in the first row and paste in the address.

- Return to **flighttext.html** and copy the first text paragraph. Return to **align.html** and paste it into the middle cell of the 2<sup>nd</sup> row. You may notice that it appears that column 1 and column 3 have disappeared. In fact, they haven't but you can't see them too well. We'll take care of that in a moment. Just remember that you can tab from cell to cell in a table to enter the cells you can't quite see.

- Return to **flighttext.html** and copy the last two text paragraphs. Return to **align.html**. We need to paste this into the last cell of the 2<sup>nd</sup> row. Click in the middle cell (where the first paragraph text is, and tab to get to the last cell. Then paste as usual.

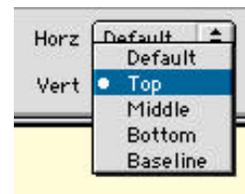


- Right now, the text flows over the picture. Let's fix it. Click in the last cell of the first row. It's empty. Then hit the TAB key to enter the first cell of the second row – the one you can't see too well.



Insert the **transparent.gif** image. In the Properties Inspector, change the width of the image to 180 pixels.

- You may have noticed that the two text paragraphs don't line up vertically. That's because the default setting is align-to-middle. To fix that, select row two (drag through all cells), and change the alignment to **Top** in the Property Inspector.



- Press **F12** to preview in browser. The columns look aligned nicely, but they are too close together. Return to Dreamweaver.

- Select the entire table (click anywhere in table and click on the Tag Selector. Change the CellSpace to **10**. That puts more space around the cells.



13. Preview once more in your browser. Save the document and close it.

