

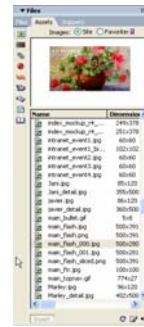
# Intro to Dreamweaver 8

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## Managing Graphics

- Using the Assets tab of the File panel, you can view images before placing them on a page
- The Assets tab is divided into two views, Assets and Favorites, which can be toggled between
- Scrolling to the right in the Assets window allows you to see the physical dimensions of the image
- An individual graphic which will be needed often can be added to the Favorites view to eliminate the need to search through hundreds of images in the Assets view



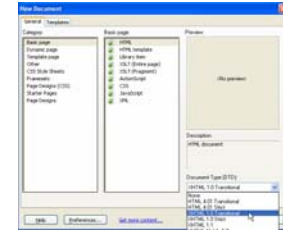
## Getting Started

- Before starting to work on an existing site, a site definition needs to be created in Dreamweaver to allow it to manage and update links within the site
- To create a site definition:
  - Choose Site > New Site...
  - The name you choose for the site is only used by Dreamweaver
  - If you have a webserver installed on your computer, you can choose the option "None" in the Editing Files, Part 2 screen
  - When asked for the location of the local files, point to the folder containing the index page for your site
  - If you will be working with other Dreamweaver users on the site, enable Check In/Check Out to ensure that everyone is working on the most current version of a page



## Creating a New Page

- Using the File > New command allows you to specify the type of file you are wanting to create
- When creating a HTML page, you can use the Document Type pop-up to specify the level of HTML or XHTML you would like Dreamweaver to write
  - For the modern web, choosing either XHTML 1.0 Transitional or XHTML 1.0 Strict is generally best



## Working with the Site Window

- The Site Window provides a list of all of the files in the site
- Clicking on the Expand button shows the local files and files on the webserver in a side-by-side view
- Files can be downloaded from or uploaded to the webserver using the Get and Put buttons
- To ensure that you have the most current version of the pages in the site, the Synchronize Sitewide command in the Site menu will compare the last modified date/time of the files on the webserver with the files on your local computer



## Inserting Elements on a Page

- To add content to the page, you can either choose the type of element from the Insert panel or from the Insert menu
- The Insert panel is divided into groups or categories of objects
- Many objects on the Insert panel have additional objects "hiding" under them and can be recognized by the small triangle next to the icon
- The Favorites category can be customized to display a user-defined selection of objects



## Copy and Paste Content

- Users of Dreamweaver have always been able to copy text from other applications directly into their HTML pages – however, there was always a trade-off in the form of DW losing all of the formatting of the text. Even something as simple as a bolded text was lost.
- With Dreamweaver 8, you can now maintain the formatting of pasted text by first copying the text from the original document and then in DW, using the Edit>Paste Special command. DW will insert the text and even make CSS styles for you on the fly for the given text.



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## Using the CSS panel

- Due to the cascading nature of styles, i.e. style attributes can be overwritten by other stylesheets or rules applied further down in the document chain, it can be difficult to find the individual rule that is causing a particular styling to occur on an element
- Using the Current View of the CSS panel, simply select a page element
- At the top of the view is a summary of every attribute currently in effect for the selected item
- Simply click on the attribute that you want to change and Dreamweaver will locate the attribute in the correct stylesheet and rule
- In the lower area of the view, you can now change the desired attribute



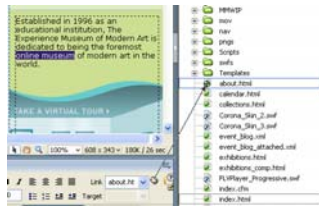
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## Creating a Link

- The easiest way to create a link to another page within your site is to highlight the desired text or graphic, and then, using the target icon in the Properties panel, click-drag-and-point at the desired file



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## Exporting CSS Styles to an External Stylesheet

- By default, Dreamweaver creates new style declarations within the header of the current document
- To work efficiently with CSS, these styles should generally be contained in an externally linked CSS file
- To export internal stylesheets, open the CSS panel and select the <style> tag
- Right-click and choose Export
- Give the new CSS file a name
- Click on the <style> tag again and click the Delete (Trash) icon in the lower right corner of the panel
- Click the link icon in the CSS panel and select the newly created stylesheet and select the desired media type from the Media pop-up menu
- NOTE:** You will need to update the reference to any background images used in the individual rules



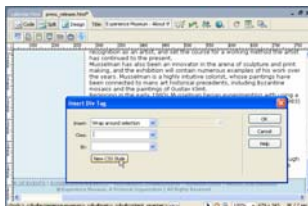
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## Creating CSS-based Layout Elements

- When building a layout based entirely on CSS styles, DW can help you mark up the page very quickly using the Insert DIV object from the Insert->Layout panel.
- Simply select the block(s) of text and graphics that you want to combine into one DIV and then select the Insert DIV object.
- In the dialog you'll have the option of assigning your existing styles either as classes or ID's – or if you haven't built the style yet, simply click the New CSS Style button to create the new style.
- Finally, ensure that the Wrap around selection option is chosen and click OK.



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