



# Dreamweaver CS6

Level 1

## Topics

- Workspaces
- Basic HTML
- Basic CSS

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## Tour the Workspace

The arrangement of panels and menus you use to interact with a document is called the workspace. Much of Illustrator is customizable: you can move or show or hide the panels to suit your needs.

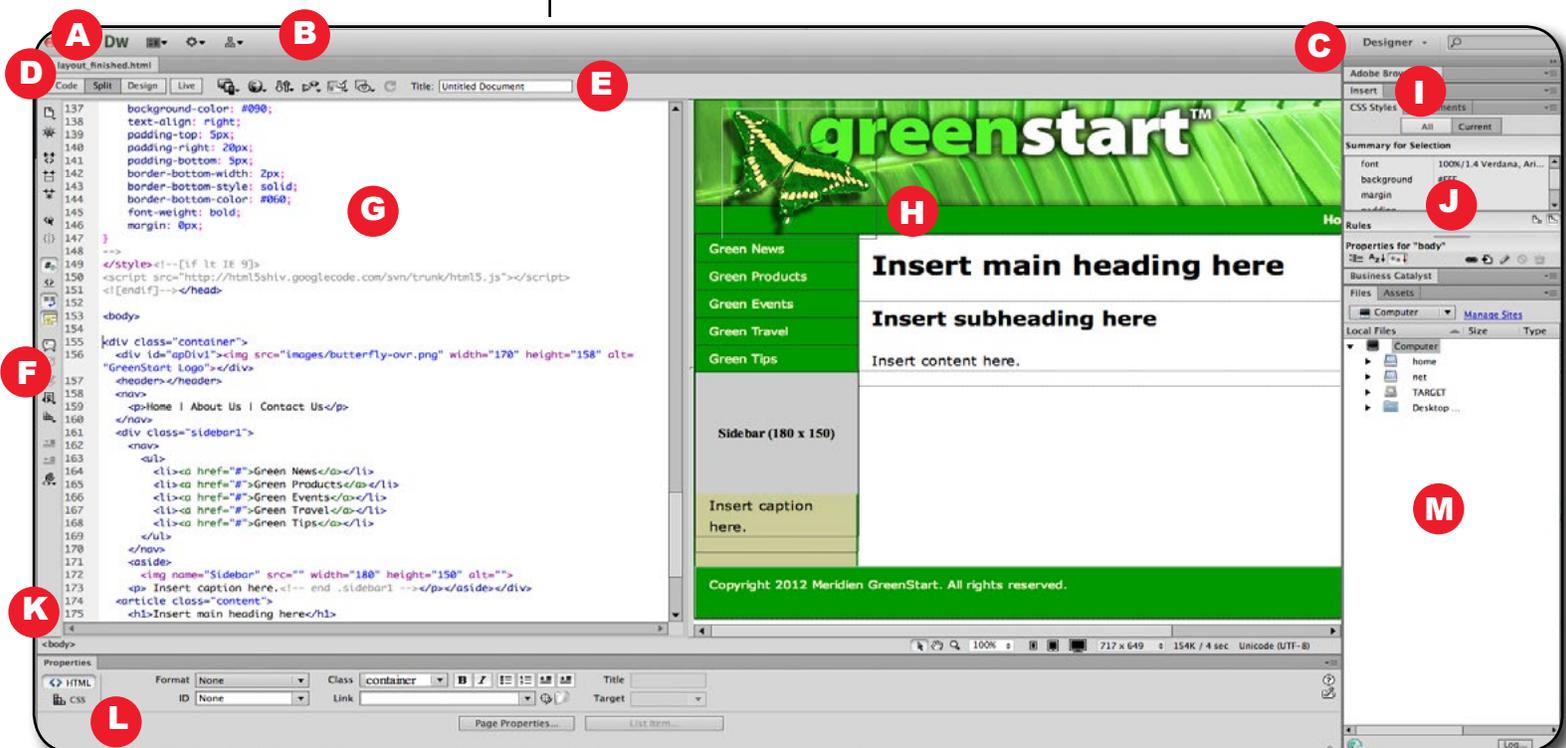
This lesson is an overview of the workspace and the customization options available to you.

- A Menu bar
- B Application bar
- C Workspace menu
- D Document tab
- E Document toolbar
- F Coding toolbar
- G Code view
- H Design view
- I Insert panel
- J CSS Styles panel
- K Tag selectors
- L Property inspector
- M Files panel

## Overview

Dreamweaver is the industry-leading Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) editor, with good reasons for its popularity. The program offers an incredible array of design and code-editing tools. Dreamweaver offers something for everyone.

Coders love the variety of enhancements built into the Code view environment, and developers enjoy the program's support for ASP, PHP, ColdFusion, and JavaScript, among other programming languages. Designers marvel at seeing their text and graphics appear in an accurate **What You See Is What You Get** (WYSIWYG) depiction as they work, saving hours of time previewing pages in browsers. Novices certainly appreciate the program's simple-to-use and power-packed interface. No matter what type of user you are, if you use Dreamweaver you don't have to compromise.

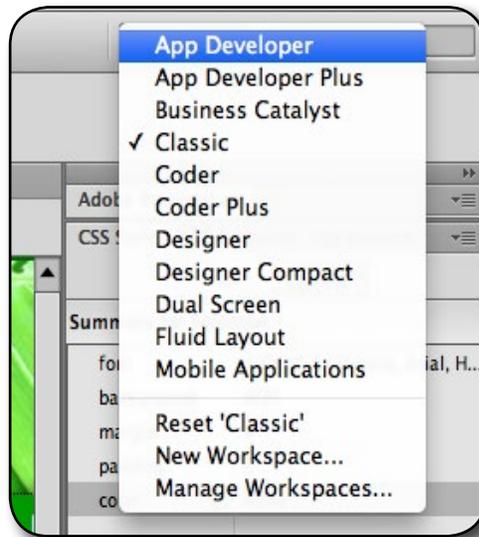


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## Selecting a Workspace layout

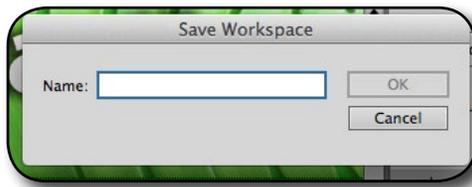
A quick way to customize the program environment is to use one of the prebuilt workspaces in Dreamweaver. These workspaces have been optimized by experts to put the tools you need at your fingertips.

Dreamweaver CS6 includes 11 prebuilt workspaces. To access these workspaces, choose them from the Workspace menu located in the Application bar.

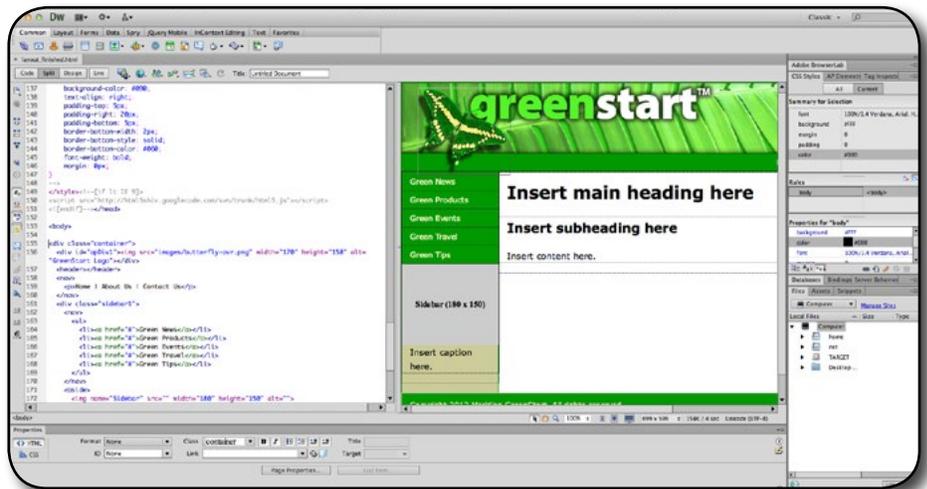


Workspace menu

As you continue to work with Dreamweaver, you will devise your own optimal workspace of panels and toolbars for each activity. You can store these configurations in a custom workspace of your own naming. To save a custom workspace, create your desired configuration, choose New Workspace from the Workspace menu in the Application bar, and then give it a custom name.



Longtime users of Dreamweaver may choose the Classic workspace, which displays the panels and toolbars they're accustomed to seeing and using in previous Dreamweaver versions.



Classic Workspace

## Basic HTML

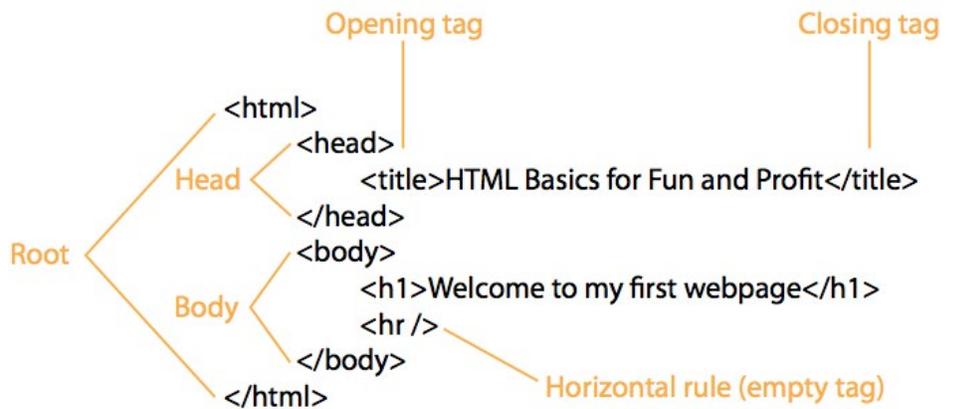
is the backbone of the web, the skeleton of your webpage. It is the structure and substance of the Internet, although it is usually unseen except by the web designer. Without it, the web would not exist. Dreamweaver has many features that help you access, create, and edit HTML code quickly and effectively.

It consists of around 90 tags, such as **html**, **head**, **body**, **h1**, **p**, and so on. The tag is written between angle brackets, as in **<p>**, **<h1>**, and **<table>**. These tags are used to enclose, or mark up, text and graphics to enable a browser to display them in a particular way. HTML code is considered properly balanced when the markup contains both an opening tag (**<...>**) and a closing tag (**</...>**). When two matching tags appear this way, they are referred to as an element.

Some elements are used to create page structures, others to format text, and yet others to enable interactivity and programmability. Even though Dreamweaver obviates the need for writing most of the code manually, the ability to read and interpret HTML code is still a recommended skill for any burgeoning web designer. And sometimes, writing the code by hand is the only way to find an error in your webpage.

The idea of writing code may sound difficult or at least tedious, but creating a web-page is actually much easier than you think.

### Basic HTML Code Structure





## CSS rules can reside in the following locations:

### External CSS style sheets

Collections of CSS rules stored in a separate, external CSS (.css) file (not an HTML file). This file is linked to one or more pages in a website using a link rule in the head section of a document.

### Internal (or embedded) CSS style sheets

Collections of CSS rules included in a style tag in the head portion of an HTML document.

### Inline styles

Defined within specific instances of tags throughout an HTML document. (Using inline styles is not recommended.)

## CSS Basics

Before getting down to the detail of how to write CSS, it's important to understand the principle of the cascade, which we'll look at next. Why are they called "cascading" style sheets?

The cascade in CSS refers to the way that rules are added together and applied cumulatively. Think of the cascade in the literal sense of a waterfall or a river. As a river flows from the mountains to the sea, it starts off as a tiny trickle, but as more water is added through tributaries, it becomes bigger and more powerful. Yet the water in that original trickle is still part of the whole.

CSS works in a similar way. You can create a style rule that trickles down through the whole page. For example, it's common to set the background and text colors in a rule for the body of the page. But lower down, new rules can be added that affect the font or size of the text without changing the color. And just like a river can break into a delta as it reaches the sea, you can break the CSS cascade into different strands, so that a sidebar looks different from the main content or footer of the page.

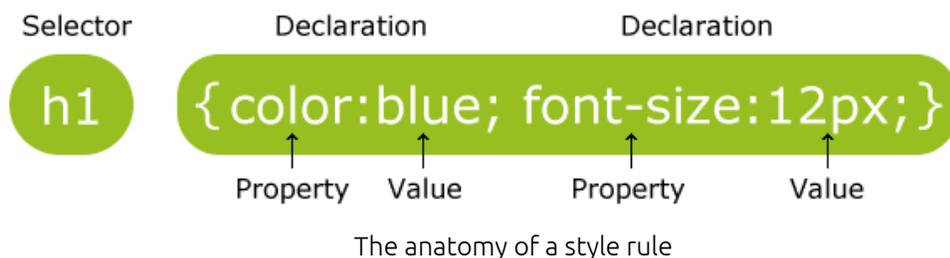
This might sound mysterious at the moment, but all should become clear by the end of this book. The important things to remember are these:

- **Styles trickle down:** A style rule applied to the <body> affects everything inside the page unless something else overrides it.
- **Styles are cumulative:** Most property values are inherited, so you need apply only new ones.
- **Inherited styles can be overridden:** When you want to treat an element or section of the page differently, you can create more detailed style rules and apply them selectively.

In most cases, the order of your style rules doesn't matter. However, the cascade plays an important role when there's a conflict between rules. As a basic principle, style rules that appear lower down in a style sheet or <style> block override any previous rules in the case of a direct conflict. But first, I need to show you how to write CSS.

## How do I write a style rule?

Creating a style rule is very simple.



The anatomy of a style rule

Let's take a look at each part in turn:

- **Selector:** This tells the browser where you want to apply the rule. The above rule uses the simplest type of selector, a type selector, which redefines the default style of an HTML tag. You create a type selector by using the name of an HTML tag without the surrounding angle brackets. This example redefines the style of all <p> tags—in other words, paragraphs. Because they redefine the style of HTML tags, you'll also see type selectors referred to as “tag selectors.” You'll learn about other types of selectors as you progress through this handout.
- **Declaration block:** This begins with a left curly brace and ends with a right curly brace. You put your style declarations between these braces. Each declaration consists of a property followed by a colon (:) and value, and ends with a semicolon (;).
- **Property:** This is one of the properties defined in the CSS specification. There are nearly 100 visual properties in the current version. Most have intuitive names. The property in the rule above, affects the left margin of the element being styled. Property names are not case-sensitive, but they are normally written entirely in lowercase. The CSS specification also defines aural properties for use with screen readers for the disabled, but these are beyond the scope of this handout.
- **Value:** This is the value you want to apply to the property. Some properties have a fixed list of values that you can choose from. Others let you specify the value yourself, although the value must still adhere to some simple rules. The example in the rule above sets the value of the left margin to 40 pixels.

### CSS Example

A CSS declaration always ends with a semicolon, and declaration groups are surrounded by curly brackets:

```
p {color:red;text-align:center;}
```

**Note:** that the property is separated from the value by a colon (:), and the value is followed by a semicolon (;). Strictly speaking, you can leave out the semicolon after the last declaration in a block or if the block contains only one property/value pair.

## Wrap-up

Upon completing this workshop, you should be able to do the following:

- Switch document views
- Work with panels
- HTML( HyperText Markup Language)
- CSS (Cascading Style Sheets)
- Write Basic HTML code by hand
- Understand the difference between HTML and CSS formatting