

Teach Yourself
VISUALLY[™]

Adobe[®]
Dreamweaver[®] CS6

The Fast and Easy Way to Learn



Dw

Janine Warner

Teach Yourself
VISUALLY™

Dreamweaver® CS6



by Janine Warner



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About the Author

Janine Warner's best-selling books and videos about the Internet have won her an international following and earned her speaking and consulting engagements around the world.

She is the creator of DigitalFamily.com and runs a full-service interactive agency that offers web design, iPad app development, content strategy, and Internet marketing services.

Janine's skills as a "techy translator" helped her land the deal for her first book in 1996. Since then, she has written or coauthored more than 25 books about the Internet, including *Web Sites Do-It-Yourself For Dummies*, *Mobile Web Design For Dummies*, *iPhone & iPad Web Design For Dummies*, and several editions of *Dreamweaver For Dummies*. Janine has also created more than 50 hours of training videos about web design and Internet marketing.

Janine's early Internet projects included helping a creative director in Sausalito to manage a quirky team of programmers in Siberia, designing a virtual scanning system in a simulated futuristic store for Levi Strauss, and building one of the first newspaper websites in the country for the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Point Reyes Light*.

In 1998, her experience as a journalist and Internet consultant, combined with her fluency in Spanish, took her to *The Miami Herald*, first as the online managing editor and later as the director of new media. She left that position to serve as the director of Latin American operations for CNET Networks.

Janine has taught online journalism courses at the University of Miami and the University of Southern California. She has also been a guest lecturer at more than 20 other universities in the United States and Latin America, and she helped create an Internet literacy program for high school students in Central America.

She is a member of the TV Academy's Interactive Media Peer Group and has served as a judge in the Interactive Emmy Awards, the Knight News Challenge, and the Arroba de Oro Latin American Internet Awards.

Janine is a popular speaker at conferences and other events. You can learn more about her speaking topics and view a video of her in action on her website at <http://JCWarner.com>.

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Special thanks to some of the designers, artists, and photographers whose work is featured in this book, including Amy Baur of www.inplainsightart.com, David LaFontaine, and all the great photographers at <http://istockphoto.com>.

Thanks to all the animals who have graced me with a chance to photograph them in the wild, as well as in my living room. A special thanks to all the birds, dolphins, and deer in my California Wildlife Photography site, as well as the adorable pets featured in the photos in Chapters 11 and 12. I would send you all model releases and royalties, but my publisher does not accept paw prints. And finally, thanks to the entire team that made this book possible, most notably, my editors, Dana Lesh, David LaFontaine, and Stephanie McComb.

How to Use This Book

Whom This Book Is For

This book is for readers who have never used Dreamweaver to create websites, as well as those who have some experience and want to learn the newest features in version CS6 of this powerful program. All you need to get started is a basic understanding of how to surf the web and a desire to learn to create your own websites.

The Conventions in This Book

1 Steps

This book uses a step-by-step format to guide you easily through each task. **Numbered steps** are actions you must do; **bulleted steps** clarify a point, step, or optional feature; and **indented steps** give you the result.

2 Notes

Notes give additional information — special conditions that may occur during an operation, a situation that you want to avoid, or a cross-reference to a related area of the book.

3 Icons and Buttons

Icons and buttons show you exactly what you need to click to perform a step.

4 Tips

Tips offer additional information, including warnings and shortcuts.

5 Bold

Bold type shows command names or options that you must click or text or numbers you must type.

6 Italics

Italic type introduces and defines a new term.

Change the Font Face

You can change the font style of your text in a variety of ways in Dreamweaver, but all of them require using CSS. For example, you can create a new style rule using the font face that you want and define it with a class selector. You can then apply the class style to any text on the page. You can also change the font face settings with a CSS rule defined to format any existing HTML tag, such as the h1 or h2 tag, and any text formatted with that tag will be displayed in the specified font.

Change the Font Face

- 1 Click and drag to select the text.
- 2 Click CSS in the Property Inspector.
- 3 Click the Font .
- 4 Click a font collection.

Note: Leave the Targeted Rule field set to <New CSS Rule>. In the section “Edit Styles with the Property Inspector,” you can find instructions for editing CSS rules with the Property Inspector.

The New CSS Rule dialog box opens.

- 5 Type a name for the new style.

Note: Do not use spaces or special characters.

- 6 If the selected text is already formatted with an HTML tag, Dreamweaver inserts the tag name into the Selector Name field.

In this example, the headline is formatted with an h1 tag.

- 6 Click OK.

2 The text changes to the first font in the collection that is available on your hard drive. The new style can be applied to additional elements by using the Property inspector.

Note: To find out more about how to create and apply styles, see the sections “Create a Class Style” and “Apply a Class Style.”

7 Click CSS Styles.

8 Click the name of the new style rule.

9 Use to change the font collection. The font face is changed.

TIPS

How are fonts classified?
The two most common categories of fonts are serif and sans serif. Serif fonts are distinguished by the decorations, or *serifs*, that make the ends of their lines curly. Common serif fonts include Times New Roman, Palatino, and Garamond. Sans serif fonts lack these decorations and have straight edges. Common sans serif fonts include Arial, Verdana, and Helvetica.

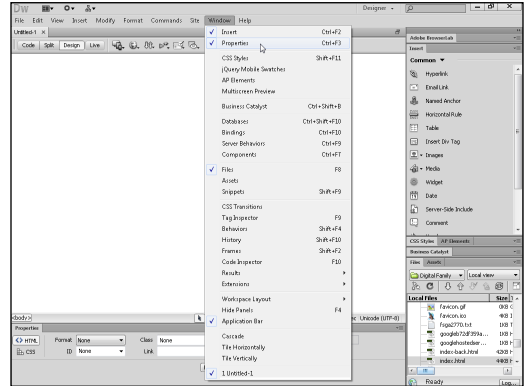
Why are there so few fonts available from the Font menu?
Using a linked font in a Style Rule, as discussed in the following section, on the user’s computer to be displayed in a web browser. Dreamweaver’s default list of fonts specifies the common typefaces that are available on most computers, and alternative styles if the user does not have those fonts installed. If you want to use an unusual font, you should link to the font or convert the text to a graphic.

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Creating and Applying Cascading Style Sheets

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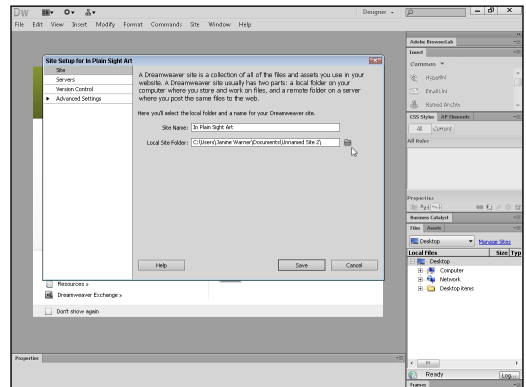
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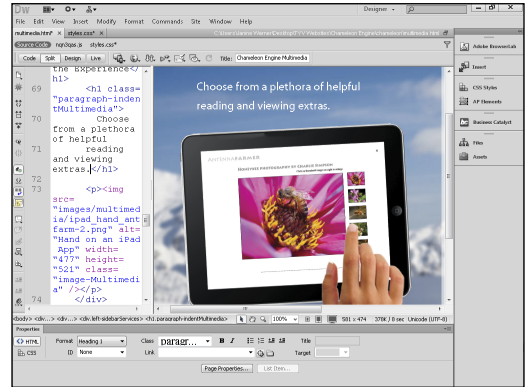
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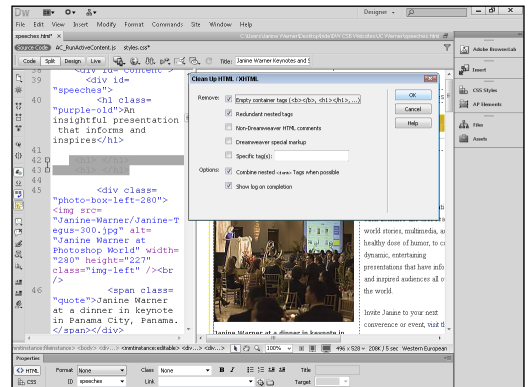
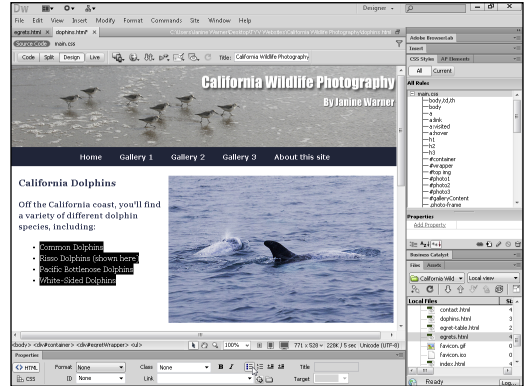


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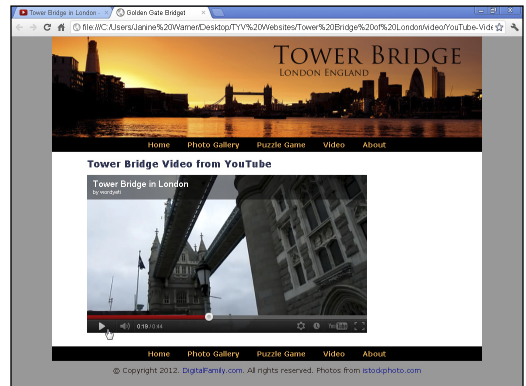
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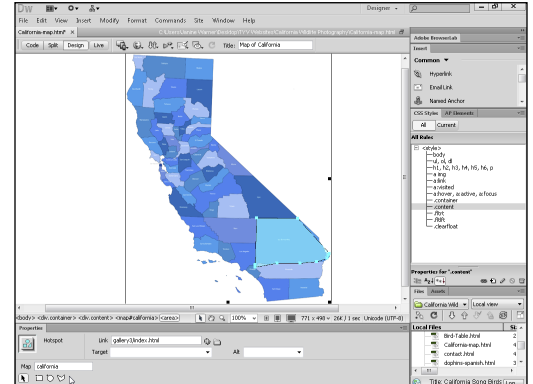
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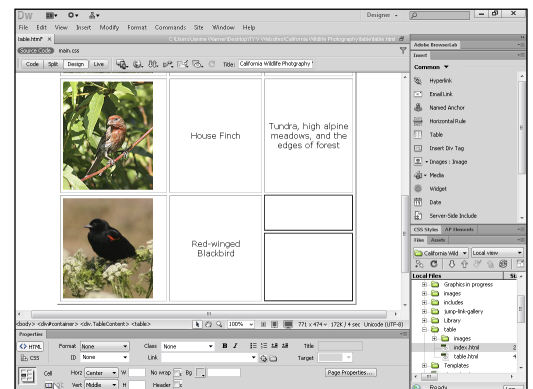
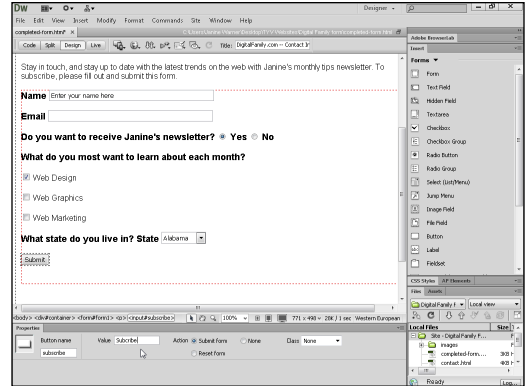


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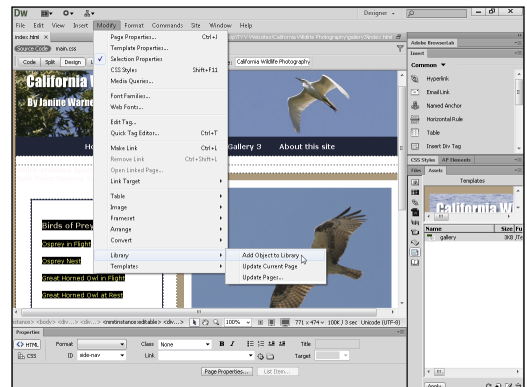
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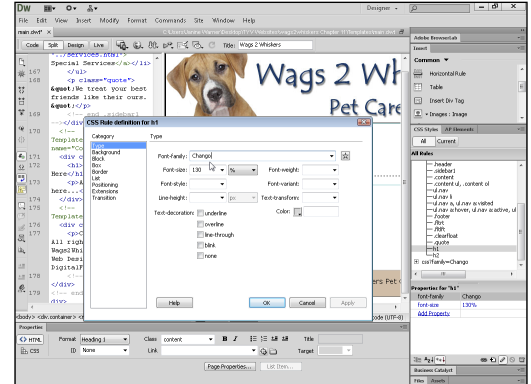
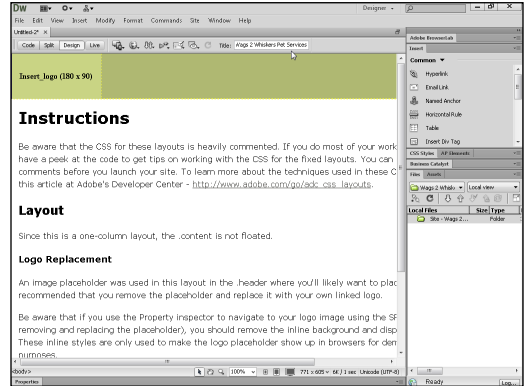


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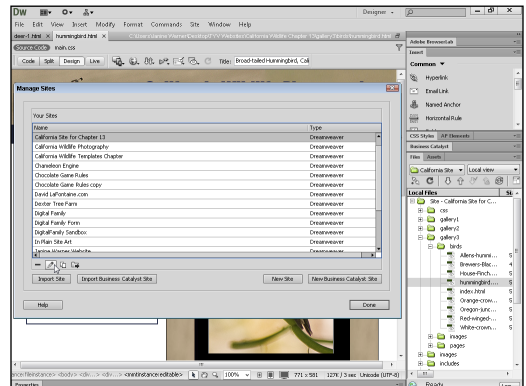
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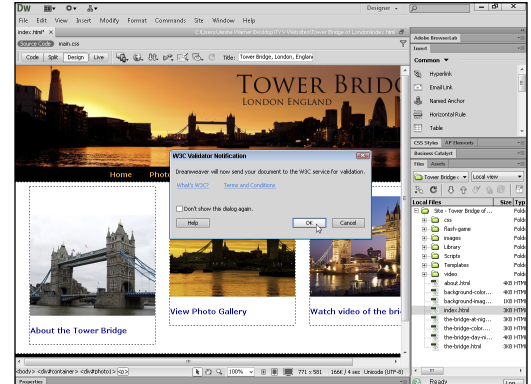
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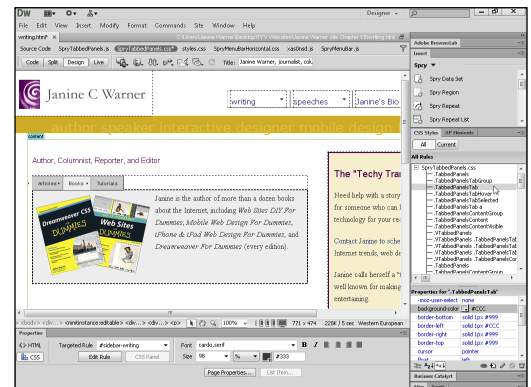
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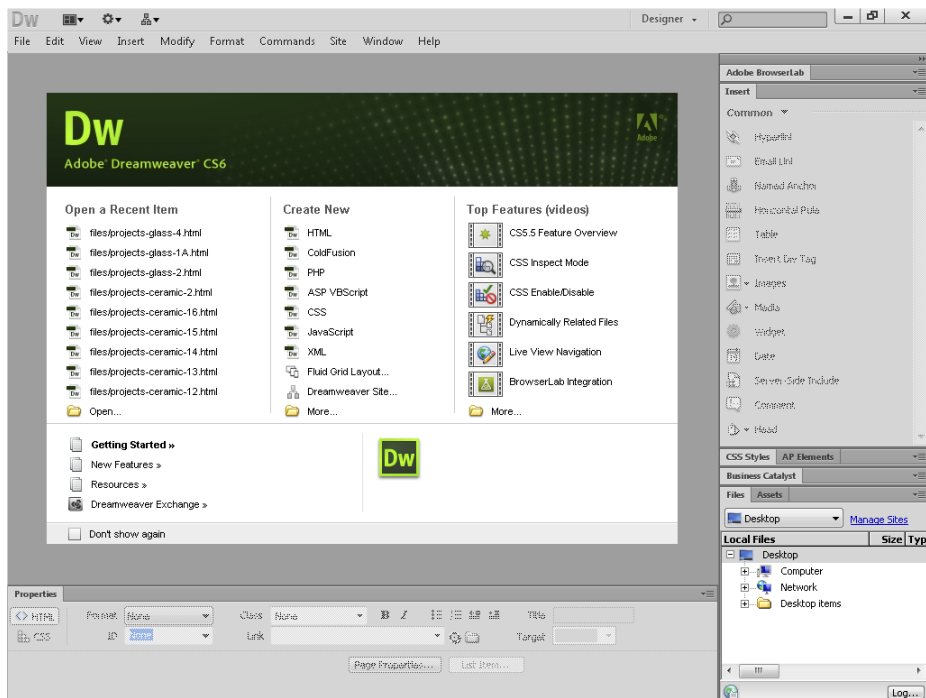


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CHAPTER 1

Getting Started with Dreamweaver

This chapter describes the World Wide Web (WWW), introduces the different types of information that you can put on a website, and shows you how to get started with Dreamweaver.



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Introducing the World Wide Web

You can use Dreamweaver CS6 to create, edit, and publish pages on the World Wide Web (WWW) using the Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). You can create web pages on your computer and test them in a web browser, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, or Google Chrome, before publishing them on the web. However, before your web pages can be viewed over the Internet, they must be transferred to a web server.

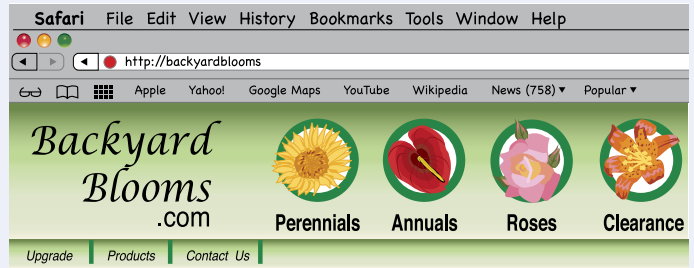
The World Wide Web

The *World Wide Web* — or simply the *web* — is a global collection of documents located on Internet-connected computers. You can access the web by using a web browser, such as Internet Explorer, Safari, Chrome, or Firefox. Web pages are connected to one another by hyperlinks that you can click.



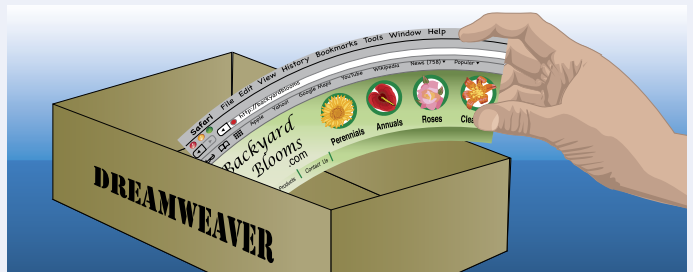
A Website

A *website* is a collection of linked web pages stored on a web server. Most websites have a *home page* that introduces the site and provides a place where visitors can start their exploration of the site's information. A good website includes links that make it easy to find the most important pages.



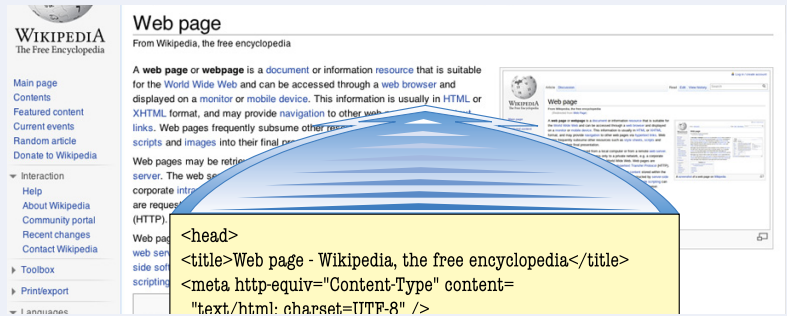
Dreamweaver

Adobe Dreamweaver is a program that enables you to create and edit web pages with hyperlinks, text, images, multimedia, and more. You can design web pages on your computer and then, when you are finished, use Dreamweaver to transfer the finished files to a web server where others can view them on the web.



HTML, HTML5, and XHTML

HTML is the formatting language that is used to create web pages. The Extensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML) is a stricter version of HTML that meets today's web standards. HTML5 is the newest version, but it has not yet been finalized by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), which sets standards for the Internet, and the Web Hypertext Application Technology Working Group (WHATWG), which has been working to create HTML5 as the "living standard." You can use Dreamweaver to create web pages without knowing HTML because Dreamweaver writes the HTML code for you behind the scenes.



A Web Server

A *web server* is a computer that is connected to the Internet and has software that serves web pages to visitors. Each web page that you view in a browser on the World Wide Web resides on a web server somewhere on the Internet. You do not have to run your own web server to create a website because there are many web hosting companies that provide web server space for a small monthly fee. When you are ready to publish your pages on the web, you can use Dreamweaver to transfer your files to such a web server.



A Web Browser

A *web browser* is a program that interprets HTML and other code and then displays the web page text and any associated images and multimedia described in that code. You can download most popular web browsers for free, including Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, and Google Chrome.



Explore the Many Ways to Design a Web Page

In the early days of the Internet, web design was a lot easier, but it was also vanilla boring. You could use text and images on a web page, but the formatting options were extremely limited. Today, there are many more ways to design web pages, but first you have to decide which approach is best for your site. This section introduces you to a few of the most common options that you can choose from and provides tips for when it is best to use tables, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), Flash, and other more advanced options.

Text and Images

Dreamweaver makes it easy to insert text and images into your web pages. You can then use Dreamweaver to change the size, color, and font of the text; to organize your text into paragraphs, headings, and lists; and to change its alignment. However, if you want to create a more complex design, you need to use one of the other options described in this section.

egan in 1861 and was completed ten years later. Made of red brick, the cathedral is based on a design by [ohdanowicz-Dworzecki](#). The style was influenced by [and Milan Cathedral](#). With the help of funds from [Russia](#) and its neighbouring states, the church was [napel](#) for Moscow's Polish parish in 1911. In the [ssian Revolution](#), to promote [state atheism](#), the [l](#) many churches closed; the cathedral was closed in [War II](#), it was threatened with demolition, and was used [il](#) purposes, as a warehouse and then a hostel. In 1996, [communism](#), it once again became a church, and in

The [Frenchman](#) [Omar](#) [response](#) [Iran](#) [and](#) [Toumani Touré](#) is ousted in a [coup d'état](#)

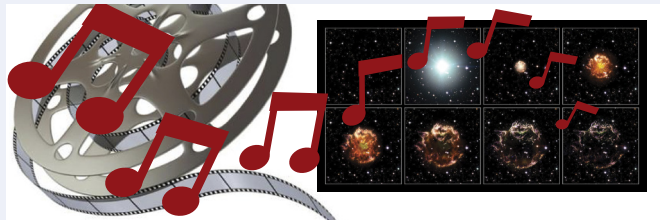
- The [Mahon Tribunal](#) into political [concludes](#) with findings against high-profile including two former [Taoisigh](#).
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On this day...

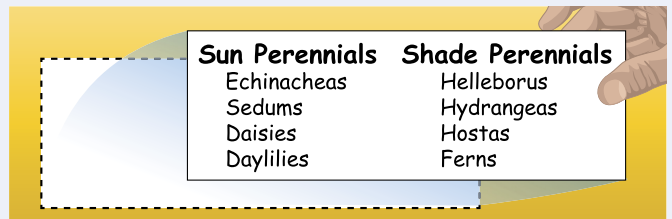
Multimedia

Websites can include audio, video, and animation files, collectively called *multimedia*. You can use Dreamweaver to add these files to web pages. Some of the “flashiest” sites on the web have been created using Adobe Flash, a vector-based design program. Although Flash has been popular for years, many designers no longer use it because the .flv and .swf files that it creates are not visible on the Apple iPad or iPhone. Using a video hosting service, such as YouTube or Vimeo, is a better way to add video to your web pages today.



Tables

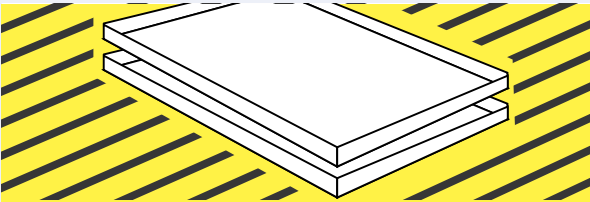
Tables used to be a popular choice for creating page designs. By merging and splitting table cells and turning off the border setting, you could create complex page layouts. Today, designing with Cascading Style Sheets is the best option, and tables are recommended only when you are formatting tabular data, such as the kind of information you would find in a spreadsheet program or a database.



Sun Perennials	Shade Perennials
Echinaceas	Helleborus
Sedums	Hydrangeas
Daisies	Hostas
Daylilies	Ferns

AP Divs

Dreamweaver's AP Divs, called *layers* in earlier versions of Dreamweaver, use absolute positioning to create "boxes" that you can use to position images, text, and other content on a page. AP Divs are very intuitive to use: You just click and drag to create a box anywhere on a web page. However, AP Divs have many limitations, among them that you cannot center a design created with AP Divs, which is a popular trick for making your design appear to float on the page on different screen sizes. Another limitation is that, although they seem to give you precise design control, their display can vary dramatically from browser to browser.



CSS Layouts

Many professional web designers today recommend creating page layouts using CSS. Although AP Divs are technically created with CSS, they receive very special treatment in Dreamweaver and have very significant limitations. In general, when web designers refer to *CSS layouts*, they mean designs that do not use absolute positioning — or that use it very sparingly. Using CSS is one of the most challenging web design options, but it brings some powerful benefits, such as greater accessibility and flexibility, which can help your site look better to more people on a greater range of devices. When used effectively, pages designed with CSS are also faster to download and easier to update.

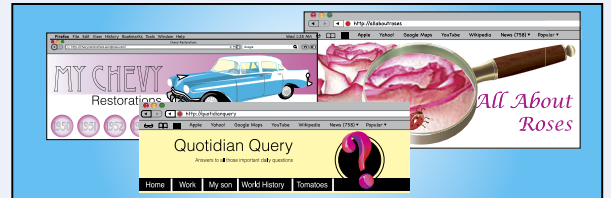
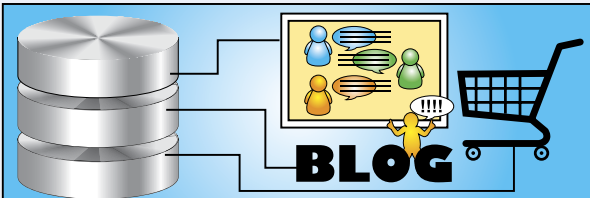
Association Meeting Schedule			Association Meeting Schedule		
11:00AM	Monday	Auguste Hall	11:00AM	Monday	Auguste Hall
9:00AM	Tuesday				Geothe Aud.
7:00PM	Tuesday				Geothe Aud.
8:00AM	Wednesday				Jordan Hall
9:00AM	Thursday				Lindley Hall
11:00AM	Friday				Well House

Sample Websites

To help you appreciate the many ways to create websites and to follow along with the exercises in this book, you can find a collection of sample websites that you can download and use at www.DigitalFamily.com/tyv/; follow the instructions there to find these bonus materials.

Dynamic Websites

At the highest end of the web design spectrum, you can connect a website to a database, Extensible Markup Language (XML) files, or another data source to create highly interactive sites with features such as shopping carts, discussion boards, and more. Most blogs are created using a database and a program such as WordPress, Drupal, or Joomla. Database-driven sites are especially useful when a website grows to more than 100 pages or so because they are more efficient to update.



Plan Your Website

Before you start building a website, taking a little time to plan what you will place on your pages and how you want your website visitors to move from one page to another can help to ensure that your finished website looks great, is well organized, and is easy to navigate. Before you create your first page, organize your ideas and gather all of the images, text, and other materials that you will need to create your site.

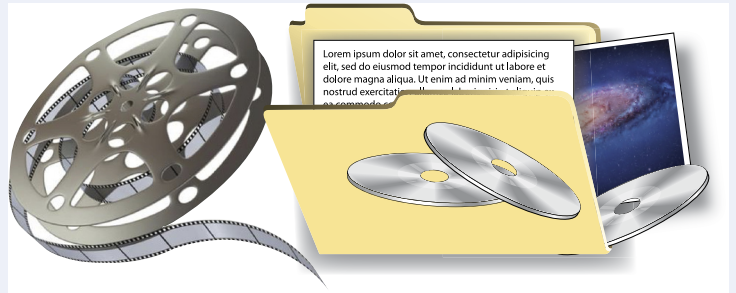
Organize Your Ideas

Build your website on paper before you start building it in Dreamweaver. Sketching out a website map, with rectangles representing web pages and arrows representing links, can help you to visualize the size and scope of your project. Use sticky notes if you want to move pages around as you plan your website.



Gather Your Content

Before you start building your web pages, gather all the elements that you want to use. This process may require writing text, taking photos, and designing graphics. It can also involve producing multimedia content, such as audio and video files. Gathering all your material together in the beginning makes it easier for you to organize your website when you start building it in Dreamweaver.



Define Your Audience

Identifying your target audience can help you to decide what kind of content to offer on your website. For example, you may create a very different design for small children than for adults. Similarly, a website for a business audience may require a more professional design, whereas a site for gamers may warrant a more playful approach.



Host Your Finished Website

To make your finished website accessible over the Internet, you need to store, or *host*, your site on a web server. However, you do not have to set up your own web server. Most people have their websites hosted on a web server at a commercial Internet service provider (ISP) or at their company or university.



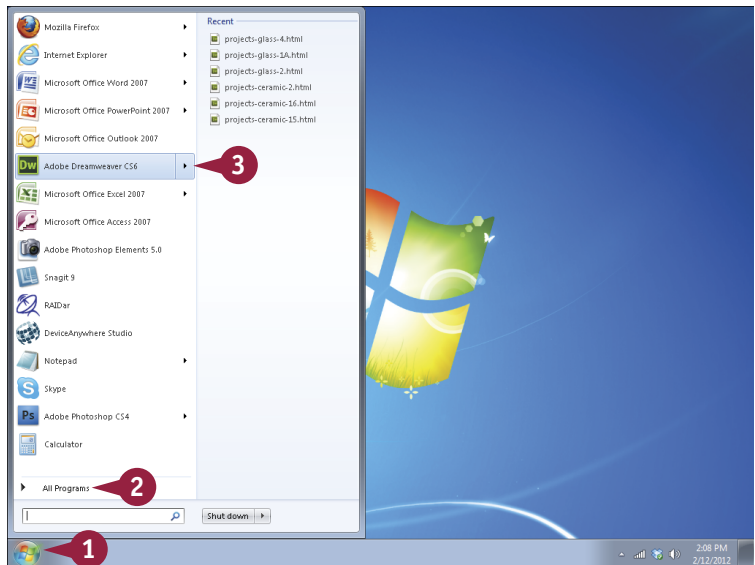
Start Dreamweaver on a PC

You can use Dreamweaver on a PC running the Windows operating system. Most web designers begin by creating web pages on their local computer and then publishing those pages to a web server after they are completed. If you do not already have Dreamweaver, you will need to purchase and install the program. If you want to try the program before you buy it, you can also download a fully functional, free trial version that will work for 30 days from Adobe's Dreamweaver web page, www.adobe.com/dreamweaver.

Start Dreamweaver on a PC

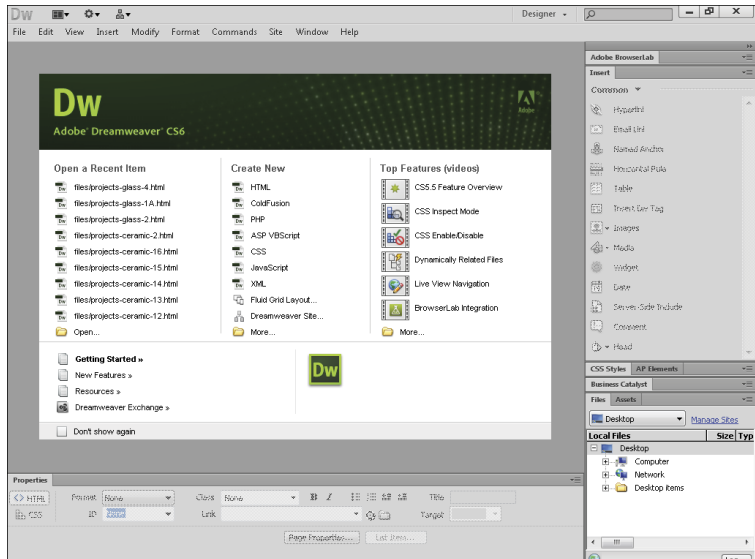
- 1 Click **Start**.
- 2 Click **All Programs**.
- 3 Click **Adobe Dreamweaver CS6**.

Note: Your path to the Dreamweaver application may be different, depending on how you installed your software and your operating system.



The Dreamweaver start screen appears.

Just before Dreamweaver starts, you may be prompted with a dialog box that gives you the option of making Dreamweaver the default editor for many kinds of file types, including CSS, XML, and PHP. If you want to open these kinds of files automatically in Dreamweaver, click **OK**.



Start Dreamweaver on a Macintosh

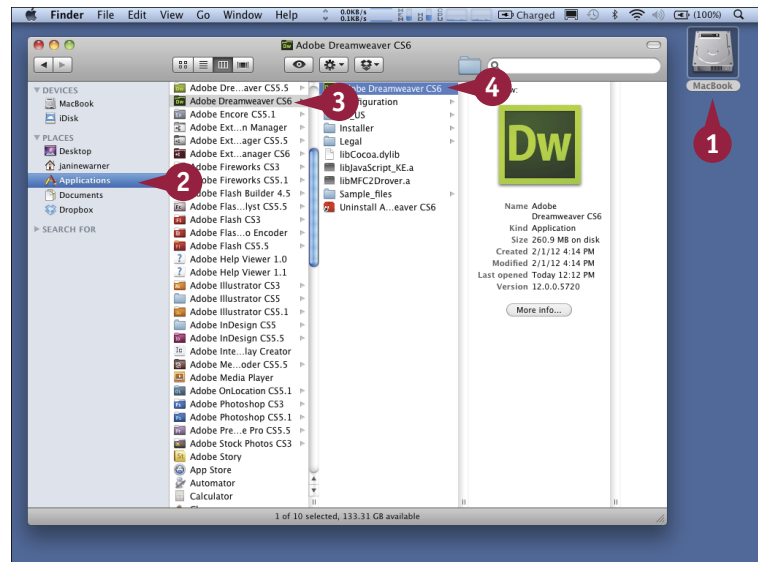
You can use Dreamweaver on a computer running the Macintosh operating system, and you can create web pages on your Mac and test them before you publish your site on the web. If you do not already have Dreamweaver installed on your Macintosh, you will need to purchase and install the program. You can also download a fully functional, free trial version that will work for 30 days from Adobe's Dreamweaver web page, www.adobe.com/dreamweaver.

Start Dreamweaver on a Macintosh

- 1 Double-click your hard drive icon.
- 2 Click **Applications**.
- 3 Click **Adobe Dreamweaver CS6**.

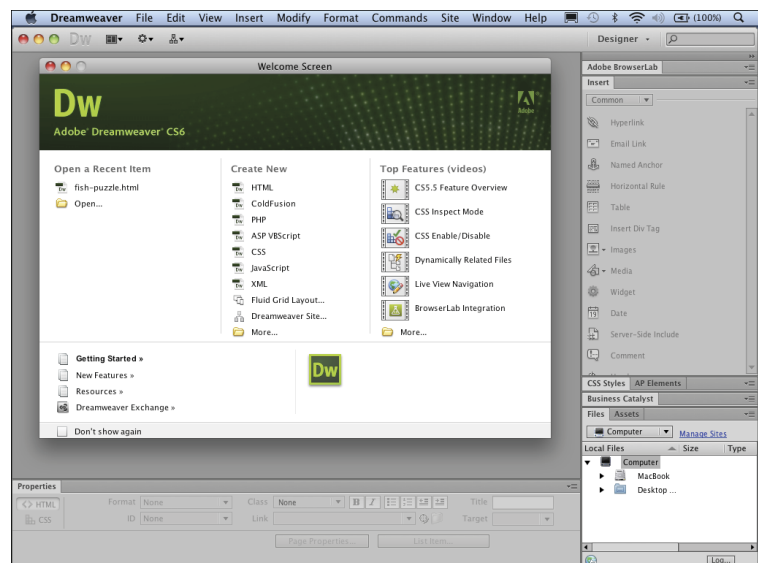
Note: The exact location of the Dreamweaver folder depends on how you installed your software.

- 4 Double-click **Adobe Dreamweaver CS6**.



The Dreamweaver start screen appears.

Just before Dreamweaver starts, you may be prompted with a dialog box that gives you the option of making Dreamweaver the default editor for many kinds of file types, including CSS, XML, and PHP. If you want to open these kinds of files automatically in Dreamweaver, click **OK**.



Tour the Dreamweaver Interface on a PC

When you open Dreamweaver CS6 on a PC, you will see a variety of windows, panels, and inspectors. Opening and closing panels and reading the names of the features in the various menus are great ways to get familiar with the program. You can move panels and other items around in the interface to make the features that you like best more accessible. Dreamweaver includes several workspace layouts. This book primarily shows the Designer layout option. To make your program appear the way that it does in the figures in this book, click **Window**, then **Workspace Layout**, and then **Designer**.

A Menus

Contain the commands for using Dreamweaver. Many of these commands are duplicated within the windows, panels, and inspectors of Dreamweaver.

B Toolbar

Contains shortcuts to preview and display features and a text field where you can specify the title of a page.

C Insert panel

Provides easy access to common features. There are several different Insert panels that you can select, depending on the type of features that you want to insert into your page.

D Document window

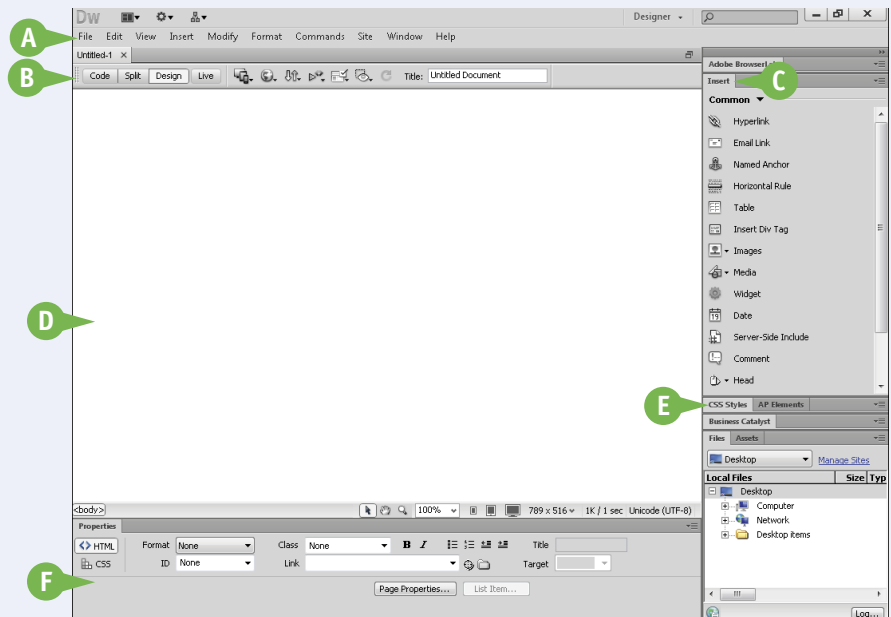
The main workspace where you insert and arrange the text, images, and other elements of your web page.

E Panels

Can be docked or floated and provide access to many common tools in Dreamweaver, including the Insert, CSS Styles, AP Elements, Business Catalyst, Files, and Assets features.

F Property inspector

Used to display and edit the attributes of any element selected in the Document window.



Dreamweaver CS6 on a Macintosh likewise features a variety of windows, panels, and inspectors. Opening and closing panels and reading the names of the features in the various menus are great ways to get familiar with the program. You can move panels and other items around in the interface to make the features you like best more accessible. Dreamweaver includes several workspace layouts on the Macintosh. This book primarily shows the Designer layout option. To make your program appear the way that it does in the figures in this book, click **Window**, then **Workspace Layout**, and then **Designer**.

A Menus

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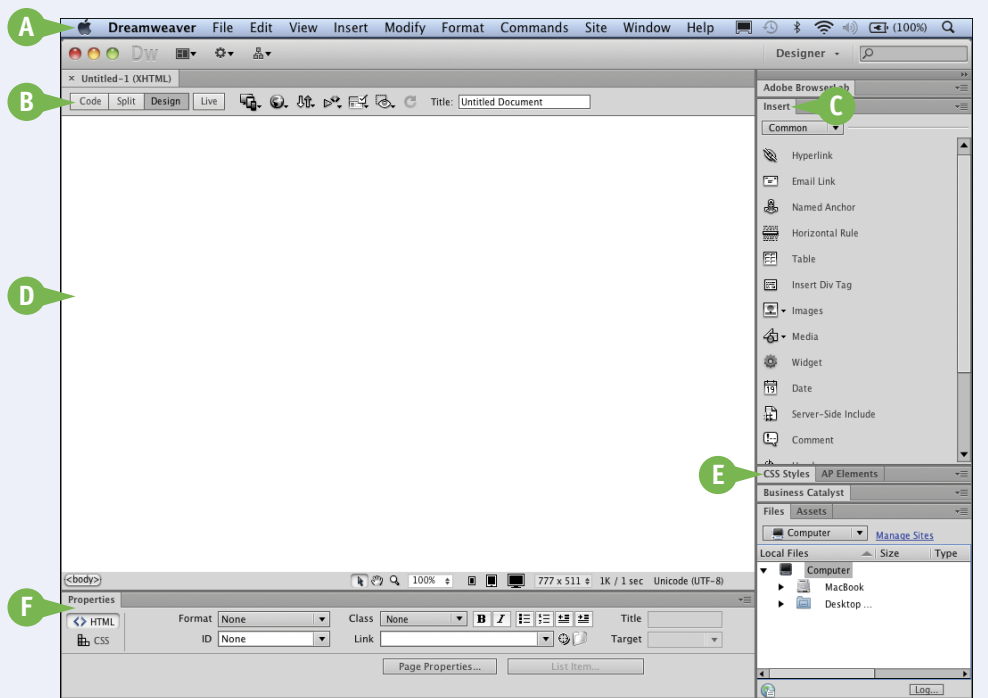
The main workspace where you insert and arrange the text, images, and other elements of your web page.

E Panels

Can be docked or floated and provide access to many common tools in Dreamweaver, including the Insert, CSS Styles, AP Elements, Business Catalyst, Files, and Assets features.

F Property inspector

Used to display and edit the attributes of any element selected in the Document window.



Show or Hide Features

You can show or hide features in Dreamweaver, called *windows*, *panels*, and *inspectors*, by choosing options from the Window menu. Panels and inspectors provide access to the many tools. For example, the Files panel displays all the files in a website, and the Property inspector displays the properties for any selected item on the page. For these and most other features to work in Dreamweaver, you must have a document open in the program. You can create a new document or open any existing web page.

Show or Hide Features

Show a Window

- 1 Click **Window**.
- 2 Click the name of the window, panel, or inspector that you want to open.

This example opens the Property inspector.

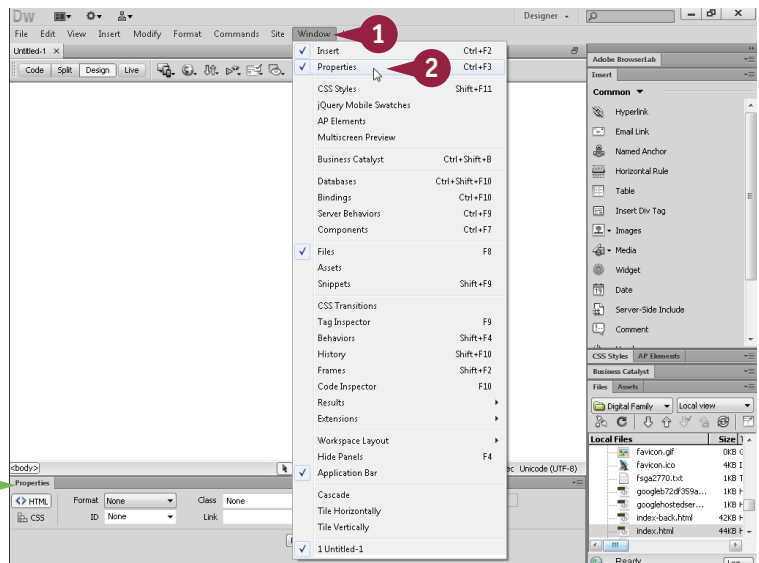
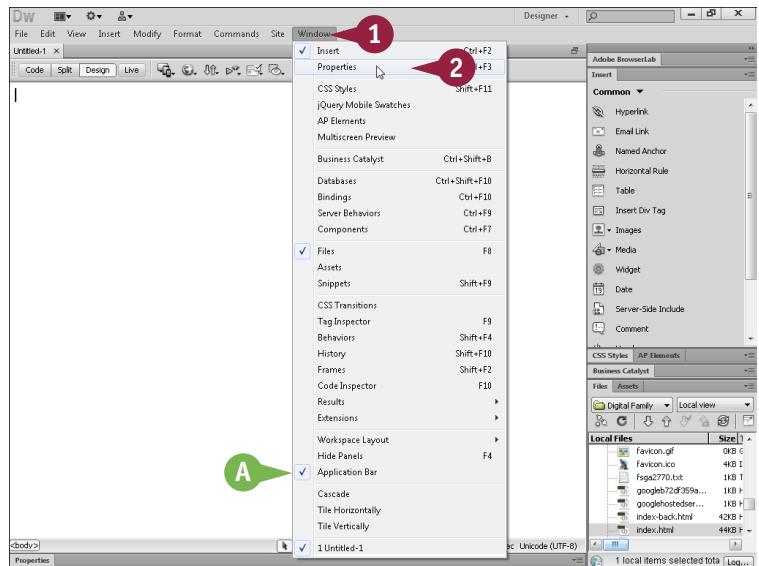
- A next to a name indicates that the window, panel, or inspector is open.

- B Dreamweaver displays the window that you chose.

Hide a Window

- 1 Click **Window**.
- 2 Click the check-marked () name of the window that you want to hide.

Note: You can click **Window** and then click **Hide Panels** to hide everything except the Document window and toolbar.



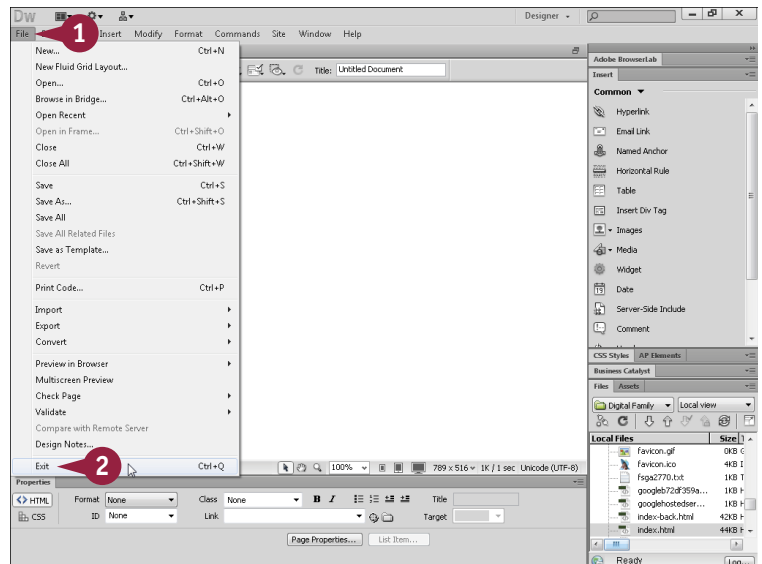
Exit Dreamweaver

You can exit Dreamweaver to close the program when you are finished working on the pages in your website.

You should always exit Dreamweaver and any other programs that are open before turning off your Macintosh or Windows computer. Make sure that you close all open files before exiting the program. Turning off your computer while you still have files open in Dreamweaver can cause you to lose any work that you have not yet saved in the program. Exiting Dreamweaver is a quick and easy process.

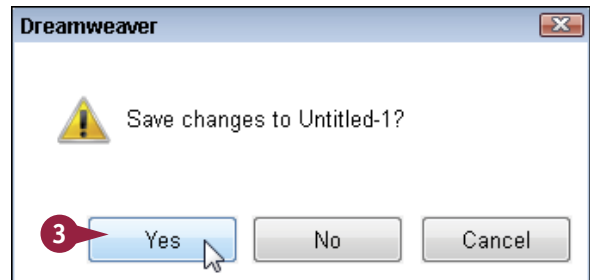
Exit Dreamweaver

- 1 Click **File**.
- 2 Click **Exit**.



Before quitting, Dreamweaver alerts you to save any open documents that have unsaved changes.

- 3 Click **Yes**.
Dreamweaver exits.

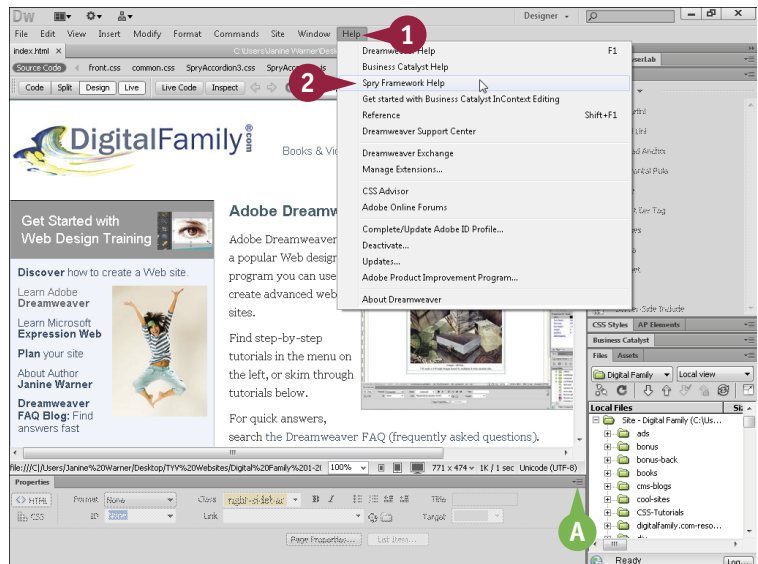


Get Help

Throughout this book, you will find instructions and tips for using the many great features in Dreamweaver, and you can find additional help on the Help menu. The Dreamweaver Help menu includes many options, including the Spry Framework Help option, shown here. All of the help options are searchable, which makes it easy to find answers to your questions or to learn new techniques. You must be connected to the Internet for most of the Help features to open.

Get Help

- 1 Click **Help**.
- 2 Click the Help option that you want, such as **Spry Framework Help**.
- A You can also click the Tab Group icon (☰) in the Property inspector and choose **Help**.



The selected Help page opens and displays information related to the feature that you selected.

- B You can click any topic that you want help with.
- 3 Type one or more keywords about the topic that you want help with.

Note: You can narrow your search by separating keywords with +.

- 4 Click **Search** or press **Enter** (**Return**).

