



Web Tutorial #1: The HTML Skeleton

Below is the HTML skeleton that all HTML documents must have. There are two main sections within an HTML document:

1. The HEAD, which contains no content of the page, but instead contains important information that is read by the browser, as well as search engines.
2. The BODY, which is where all page content resides.

=====

```
<html>
<head>
<title>Welcome!</title>
</head>
<body>
```

Hello, world! Welcome to my web page.

```
</body>
</html>
```

=====

HTML “commands” are written using “tags.” There are two types of tags:

1. Containers, which have both an opening and a closing tag (e.g., `` and ``). In most cases, the closing tag is required, but there are exceptions where it is optional.
2. Elements, which have only an opening tag, and no closing tag (e.g. the `IMG` tag)

Containers and elements often contain attributes. These attributes can be used to declare styles that will appear on the page. However, not all tags utilize attributes.

Note that HTML tags are not case-sensitive. You can use all lower-case, all upper-case, or even a mixture. However, web servers are indeed case-sensitive when it comes to file and image names. Thus, whenever specifying images or links to other pages or sites, it is critical that you use the EXACT spelling.

HTML documents are composed in text editors. A PC comes pre-loaded with Notepad and Word Pad. Other text editors are available from shareware sites like cnet.com

Browsers pay no attention to vertical spacing. You could type your code one line at a time, or even 5 lines apart, and it will make no difference. It is the HTML formatting that determines how your finished web page will appear, not how it looks in your text editor.

Furthermore, browsers ignore all horizontal spacing beyond one blank space between words or other characters. You could space your words like this “string of words” or “string of words,” and it will not make any difference to the browser. The finished product will look like “string of words.”

Assignment:

Using a text editor, type the code above, and insert your own message instead of the one I have provided. Save your code as sample.html and then open it in your browser. You will have just created your first web page!