

Hands-On Lesson

to accompany

Curriculum Webs

A Practical Guide to Weaving the Web into Teaching and Learning

By Craig A. Cunningham and Marty Billingsley

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LESSON 2: Creating your first web page

GoLive

This lesson was written by

Craig A. Cunningham and Russ Revzan

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Goals for this lesson

- Create a simple first web page and apply various formatting.
- Play with your software to get a sense of what it can do.

Opening a new document

GoLive

- Choose the blank window that appeared when you opened the software (untitled.html) or use File | New

Saving your file

Type “Welcome to my home page,” or something like that, just to create some content to save. Save your file in a folder on your computer. Give the file a name and location that you will remember later.

GoLive

- Use File | Save As.

Creating a simple home page

Include your name, information about you, your job, your family, and your interests. Simply type text as you would in a word processor.

Try to create some headings, alter the text size, and change the background color. Add bulleted and numbered lists. Specific steps are listed below.

Using headings

HTML includes six levels of predefined heading styles. Headings always have extra vertical space before and after the line, and are bolded. Available headings from largest to smallest are Heading 1 through Heading 6. Heading 4 is the same size as regular type, but is bolded with space before and after.

First, make sure the cursor is in the paragraph you wish to turn into a heading.

GoLive

- Use Type | Header and choose a heading style.

Changing text size

Font size is always defined relatively, since the user's browser sets the default font size.

Font sizes can also be defined in a Cascading Style Sheet (CSS). These are not covered in this book. CSS's allow specific pixel dimensions (and various other font attributes) to be assigned to all instances of a given style appearing in a document. To find out more about CSS, see our companion web site at <http://curriculumwebs.com>.

GoLive

- Use Type | Size and then choose a size.
- Or click the type size drop-down box on the toolbar and choose a size.

Making bulleted lists

GoLive

- Create your list, then highlight the list, then click the bullet button on toolbar.

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- Or use Type | List | Default Unnumbered List. There are other options on this menu as well. Try them.

Making numbered lists


GoLive

- Create your list, then highlight the list. Click on the Numbered List button on the toolbar.
- You can also use Type | List | Default Numbered List. There are other options on this menu as well. Try them.

Changing the background color

In general, it is a good idea to be cautious when adding background colors. Try to maintain high contrast between the color of the text and the color of the page.

GoLive

- Click the Page icon  near the top of the document window. In the Inspector, choose the Page tab. Put a check mark next to Background color. Choose the color from the color picker.
- The GoLive color picker has numerous modes, indicated by the tabs at the top of the Color panel. The tab sixth from the left is used to select browser-safe colors.
- If the color box next to Background color is highlighted with a box around it, then whatever color you pick with the color picker will become the background color.

Giving your page a title

The title of your page appears in the browser's title bar when the page is viewed. The title also becomes the name given to your page if someone bookmarks it or creates a favorite. Every page you create should have a descriptive title.

Call your page "My Home Page."

GoLive

- Click the Page icon and enter a title into the Title field.
- Or, if the file is not currently open, click on a file in the site view. Edit the title in the Inspector.

Viewing your page in a browser

Save your page again by using File | Save. Preview your page in a web browser.

GoLive

GoLive has a built-in preview window that allows you to test the page as you build it without loading a separate browser.

- Click the Preview tab at the top of the page editing window. This mode does not allow you to test links to other files, however.
- Or right-click the filename in the site view and choose Open in Browser. If necessary, choose your browser using Edit | Preferences.

Playing with your software

Before you've actually done any work in your software, it is a good idea to simply play with it for a while. See what you can do with the tools. Experiment with the right mouse button (on a PC) or holding down the mouse button (on a Mac). The pop-up menus that appear usually have the commands most relevant to what it is you right-click on.

Try some of the objects of the Palettes and Toolbars.

GoLive

- Try some of the icons in the Basic tab of the Objects palette.

Using undo

All of the software packages will allow you to undo the previous action. This is very powerful because it allows you to experiment with tools without danger of ruining what you have created so far. Dreamweaver and GoLive allow you to see a “History” of your previous actions, and to return to a previous state of the document. FrontPage and Composer will allow you to undo up to 30 of the most recent steps.

GoLive

- Use Edit|Undo.
- To undo multiple steps, use Window|History. Click on any previous step to return to the state of the document after you completed that step. Click on the white space at the top to return to the state of the file when you last saved or opened it.