

Research and Development

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THE VILLAGE

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Your home page

Why make a home page?

- Who uses them.
- What they use them for.
- What information needs to be there.

How to do it.

- HTML Overview
- Technicalities: Tips, resources and strategies

Design issues.

Who will look at your home page

Other researchers

- People who want to get one of your papers.
- People who want to follow up on one of your papers that they found elsewhere.
- People who met you in person and want to learn more about you and your work.
- People who want to access tools, resources and information that you make available.

Who will look at your home page

Students

- The undergraduates or graduate students that you are TAing this semester.
- People you collaborate with, in your classes, in your lab, on research projects.
- Prospective graduate students who want to know what happens in the department and who might be like them here.

Who will look at your home page

Everybody

- Friends elsewhere
- Press
- Businesspeople
- Spam robots
- Nigerian scam artists
- Etc., etc., etc.

Having a home page is important

It lets you

- Advertise yourself and your work
- Represent and communicate your identity
- Organize your work and your research practice
- Participate in on-line communities

Google break

I feel lucky:

- Haym
- Muthu
- Liviu
- Vasek
- Endre

Things you should have available

Your name

A picture

Contact information (perhaps obscurified)

Your publications

Teaching resources

Background (education, community, etc.)

Statement of research interest

Forwarding links

Procedure

Create "public_html" subdirectory

```
chmod a+x public_html
```

Create "index.html" file

```
chmod a+r index.html
```

Request redirection to www.cs.rutgers.edu

– Send email to help@cs

Documented here:

<http://www.cs.rutgers.edu/~watrous/personal-home-pages.html>

<http://www.cs.rutgers.edu/~watrous/www-cs-url-redirection.html>

HTML basics

HTML files are plain text

You use HTML tags to mark the elements of your file for a browser.

Minimal HTML Document

```
<html>
<head>
<TITLE>A simple HTML example</TITLE>
</head>
<body>
<h1>HTML is easy</h1>
<p>Here is a paragraph</p>
<p>Here is another</p>
</body>
</html>
```

Hyperlinks

```
<A HREF=another/url>A link</A>
```

- Can be absolute, with http:// etc.
- Can be relative, to directory where current file is found.

Hyperlinks

Links to sections in one document

```
<a HREF=#somewhere>Look down</a>
```

...

```
<a NAME=somewhere>to here</a>
```

Inline images

```
<IMG SRC=image_url>
```

Lists

`...` - unordered list

`...` - ordered (ie., numbered) list

`` - begins a list item

Tables

`<TABLE>...</TABLE>`

- Creates a table

`<TR>...</TR>`

- Creates a row in the table

`<TD>...</TD>`

- Creates a data cell in the table

How to get the hang of it

HTML is big and complicated

- There are lots of other tags that can control how things look.
- Each tag has attributes that can specify further options.
- People are constantly developing new technology, such as style sheets, xml, semantic web, etc., etc., that can help structure documents.

How to get the hang of it

Every browser has an option to see page source code.

- In netscape: Alt-U (View > Page Source)
- In mozilla: CTRL-U (View > Page Source)
- In explorer: (View > Source)

Read it, steal it, mess with it.

HTML HTML

Useful web sites:

<http://archive.ncsa.uiuc.edu/General/Internet/WWW/HTMLPrimerAll.html>

NCSA guide to HTML – from the people who invented it.

<http://werbach.com/barebones/>

“The bare bones guide to HTML” – Google’s best guess for an HTML guide.

<http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/Guide/>

Getting started with HTML, at the W3C, by Dave Raggett.

Design tips

Make it easy and clear

Avoid clicks to search

- Anchor text should be enough to know whether you want to click.
- Simple frequent questions should be at top level.
- Put information in multiple places.

Design tips

Avoid visual search on a page

- Divide up document if audiences are clearly different.
- Provide document overviews and maps.
- Keep page structure simple.

Design tips

Be aware of bandwidth and performance

- Know how big your images are.
- Scale them if you have to (xv).
- Try your page on explorer and mozilla.
- Fix the page if any browser barfs.
- Put file sizes on links if they're surprising.
`hello [10M]`