



Chapter 3

Creating Hyperlinks and Anchors

Objectives

- Describe hyperlinks
- Explain absolute and relative paths
- Explain how to hyperlink to a Web page and e-mail address
- Explain how to hyperlink to anchors and other content

VKU Hyperlinks 1-3

- A hyperlink is referred to as a link, linking to another Web page or to a section in the same Web page.
- The A (anchor) element is used to create a hyperlink.
- One can specify a text or an image as a hyperlink.
- When mouse is moved over such content, the cursor changes into a hand with its index finger pointing towards the content.
- This means that clicking the link will take the user to the respective link.
- To specify the linked page section or linked Web page, attributes of the A element have to be used.
- Following table lists the attributes of the A element.

Attribute	Description
href	Specifies the URL of the Web page to be linked or the value of the name attribute.
hreflang	Indicates the language of the destination URL.
name	Specifies the section of the Web page, which is to be linked.

VKU Hyperlinks 2-3

- The <a> tag is used to provide a hyperlink.
- This contains the href attribute that would contain the link to a URL or path of a Web page.
- An example of a href attribute code is as follows:

```
<a href=" http://www.aptech-worldwide.com/">
```

- The description and reference text that will serve as a hyperlink must be provided before closing the <a> tag by using .
- An example of a hyperlink along with its output is as follows:

```
<html>
  <head>
  </head>
  <body>
    <a href="http://www.aptech-woldwide.com/">
      Click to view    the Aptech Web site</a>
  </body>

</html>
```

VKU Hyperlinks 3-3

- The output of the example is shown in the following figure:



Target Attribute

- The target attribute of the `A` element specifies the location where the linked Web page will open when a link is clicked.
- One can assign values to the target attribute.
- Following table lists some of the values of the target attribute.

Value	Description
<code>_blank</code>	Loads the target URL in a new blank window.
<code>_self</code>	Loads the target URL in the same window as that of the current Web page.
<code>_top</code>	Loads the target URL in the complete area of window.



Absolute and Relative Paths 1-2

- Absolute paths are links that contain the complete address to get to a Web page.
- Absolute paths are the best way to link to a Web site.
- The syntax of an absolute path is as follows:

Syntax:

```
<a href=" http://www.aptech-worldwide.com/pages/about-us/aboutus_aboutaptechworldwide.html ">Aptech Web site</a>
```

- Relative paths are links that are provided when the files of a Web page are in the same folder as the page displaying the link.
- The syntax of a relative path is as follows:

Syntax:

```
<a href="aboutus_aboutaptechworldwide.html">Aptech Web site</a>
```



Absolute and Relative Paths 2-2

- To link to the files present in the subfolder, you need to provide the path to the subfolder.
- For example, if the file `aboutus_aboutaptechworldwide.html` is in a subfolder named `about-us` then the syntax is as follows:

Syntax:

```
<a href="about-us/aboutus_aboutaptechworldwide.html">  
Aptech Web site</a>
```

- Files that are present in folders that are one level up can also be linked using a relative path. The syntax to link to a file one level up is as follows:

Syntax:

```
<a href=" ../aboutus_aboutaptechworldwide.html">Aptech  
Web site </a>
```


Hyperlink to an E-mail Address

- Hyperlinks can be even applied to e-mail addresses in the same way as they can be given for Web pages.
- There are various tasks that can be performed when a hyperlink is given to an e-mail, such as starting the default e-mail client, creating a new message, adding the subject line, and so on.
- To add an e-mail to a hyperlink, the href attribute must be used and followed by mailto:email address.
- Following code snippet shows the way to hyperlink an e-mail address.

```
<a href="mailto:customercare@aptech.ac.in">Customer  
Care</a>
```

- To automatically add a subject line in the new e-mail message, the ?subject= attribute must be inserted after the e-mail address.
- Following code snippet shows the way to add a subject line to a hyperlinked e-mail address.

```
<a href="mailto:customercare@aptech.ac.in?subject=E-  
mail to Customer Care">Customer Care</a>
```



Hyperlink to Other Content Types

- Hyperlinks can also be used to link to other files and documents.
- Some commonly linked file types on Web pages using hyperlinks are zipped files (**.zip**), executable files (**.exe**), documents (**.doc**), PDF reader files (**.pdf**), and so on.
- Hyperlinks can also be used to link to graphical .jpg and .gif files.
- To specify a file instead of the Web page, the name of the file must be provided in the <a> tag as shown in the following code snippet:

```
<a href="Compressed.zip">Click to download the  
compressed zip file </a>
```

Summary

- A hyperlink is referred to as a link. It refers to linking to another Web page or to a section in the same Web page.
- The A (anchor) element is used to create a hyperlink.
- The target attribute of the A element specifies the location where the linked Web page will open when a link is clicked.
- Absolute paths are links that contain the complete address to get to a Web page.
- Relative paths are links that are provided when the files of a Web page are in the same folder as the page displaying the link.
- To add an e-mail to a hyperlink, the href= attribute must be followed by mailto:email address.
- Hyperlinks can also be used to link to files and documents such as zipped files (.zip), executable files (.exe), documents (.doc), PDF reader files (.pdf), and so on.

Q & A