The technique really amounts to smoke and mirrors, since both images are directly coded on the page. However, the larger image is made invisible through CSS and only becomes visible when the visitor hovers over the link. Clicking the link opens the full-size image in the new page.

We start with an outer <div> (links) that will contain all the thumbnails and whose width is 60% and centered.

Inside this we create a <div> called thumbnail for each picture we want to display. The image is displayed inside an anchor tag so that we can use the :hover later. The important part of this code is the float: left style, which causes each division to follow each other across the page.

<div id="links">

<div class="thumbnail">

<a href="header\_left.gif" target="\_blank">

Image Name<img src="photo01.jpg" alt="" /></a>

</div>

</div>

#links{

margin-top:100px ;

margin-left:auto;

margin-right:auto;

width:60%;

}

.thumbnail {

float: left;

width: 139px;

height: 145px;

border: 1px solid #000;

margin: 0 40px 15px 0;

padding: 5px;

text-align: center;

background-repeat: no-repeat;

background-position: 50% 50%;

margin-bottom:30px;

background-image: url(header\_left.gif)

}

When you run this code you will see both the background image of the <div> and the image inside the <a> tag (which in effect will become the hover image). This is not want we want. We want to see the background image only and when we hover over the image we want to see the second image (the 1 sitting inside the <img> and <a> tags).

So we automatically hide all the images that are linked within the <div id="links"> through CSS:

#links a img {  
height: 0;  
width: 0;  
border-width: 0;  
}

Since all images are automatically hidden, it is necessary to display the thumbnail as a background image outside of the actual link. In order for the link to work over the image and display the text below the image (instead of over it), it is necessary to include this code:

#links a {  
display:block;  
padding-top: 110px;  
}

The larger image is revealed above the link when the cursor is hovered over it:

#links a:hover img {

position: relative;

top: -200px;

left: -40px;

height: 240px;

width: 220px;

border-width: 2px;

border-color:#ccc;

padding:20px;

background-color:#000;

}

This is all there is to making the "rollover". If your enlarged image is different from the example, the top and left positions and height and width will have to adjusted accordingly.