An abundance of editors

While any text editor, like NotePad or TextEdit, can be used to create Web pages, they don't necessarily offer a lot of help towards that end. Other options offer more facilities for error checking, syntax coloring and saving some typing by filling things out for you.

One caveat, you need to make sure that whatever editor you choose will save to a "plain text" format (".txt"). Some editors will save to other formats by default (.rtf, .doc, etc.) so you need to make sure you save your source code as plain text.
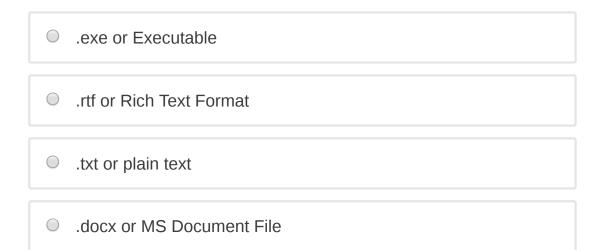
Here are a few possibilities:

- Notepad - on Windows PC's

- Visual Studio - on Windows PC's, many developers are already familiar with it

- XCode - Mac developers may be familiar with XCode

- TextEdit - This is available on Macs, but be sure you're saving as plain text, not as a .rtf or .doc file.

- Sublime Text is quite popular with developers, though there can be a bit of a learning curve to use it's many features.

- BlueGriffon is a WYSIWYG ("What You See Is What You Get") content editor for the World Wide Web. Powered by Gecko, the rendering engine of Firefox, it's a modern and robust solution to edit Web pages in conformance to the latest Web Standards.

- Atom is another cross platform editor, created by GitHub.

- XDK - the Intel® XDK includes an HTML aware editor and facilities for viewing and debugging code.

- Vim or Emacs - Great editors on which the internet was built, but if you're not already familiar with these, this isn't the time to try.

For our purposes in this course, we'll be showing examples and providing templates using the Intel XDK. In addition to providing an "HTML aware" editor, it also provides facilities for viewing your web app and provides easy access to samples and templates that we'll be using in this course.

Knowledge check (not graded)

If your editor saves in a variety of formats, which of the following should you be sure to use for your Web page?

- ○ .exe or Executable

- ○ .rtf or Rich Text Format

- ○ .txt or plain text

- ○ .docx or MS Document File

Hint (1 of 2): H is for HyperText

CHECK   HINT