

# Introduction to Web Design

**Links**

# The Internet

- The basic function of a link is to make a reference, from an HTML document to a resource, which can be itself another document.
- The `<a>` element can be used to insert links inside the content of a document.
- **a**: stands for **A**nchor, which means Link.
- Browsers highlight the content of this element (by default, showing it in blue and underlined) and allow users to follow the link with a click.

# HTML Links - Syntax

The HTML `<a>` tag defines a hyperlink. It has the following syntax:

```
<a href="url">link text</a>
```

The most important attribute of the `<a>` element is the `href` attribute, which indicates the link's destination.

**href:** Means **H**ypertext **RE**ference

The *link text* is the part that will be visible to the reader.

Clicking on the link text, will send the reader to the specified URL address.

# HTML Example

## Example

This example shows how to create a link to google.com:

```
<a href="https://www.google.com/">Visit GOOGLE</a>
```

# Absolute and Relative Links

A local link (link to the same web site) is specified with a **relative** URL (without `http://www....`).

```
<a href="index.html"> main page </a>
```

an **absolute** URL (A full web address).

```
<a href="http://www.google.com"> go to google </a>
```

# Linking to Email addresses

If you want to let people email you by clicking a link, you use this code:

```
<a href="mailto:lcdlmukalla@gmail.com">mail me</a>
```

to create this — [mail me](mailto:lcdlmukalla@gmail.com) — which will open the users email program with your address in the *To:* box.

# Linking to Pictures

Linking to a picture file is practically the same as to a html file. Just include the name of the file, and do not forget the correct suffix — i.e. if it is a **gif** or a **jpg**.

```
<a href="default.asp">  
      
</a>
```

# Linking to File

You link to a file just like a picture. The only difference is that it won't open in a browser, but instead will download onto a specified place on the reader's hard drive.

```
<a href="song.mp3">download the song (2.6MB mp3)</a>
```



# The Target Attribute

The **target** attribute specifies where to open the linked document.

The target attribute can have one of the following values:

- `_blank` - Opens the linked document in a new window or tab

- `_self` - Opens the linked document in the same window/tab

```
<a href="http://www.google.com/" target="_blank">go to google</a>
```

# The Titles

The title attribute specifies extra information about an element. The information is most often shown as a tooltip text when the mouse moves over the element.

## Example

```
<a href="https://www.google.com" title="Go to google web site ">Visit  
google </a>
```

# The subdirectories

A relative link can be used to link to any other file at the same URL

a href="aboutme.htm"

a href="documents/obituaries.html"

a href="families/brown/surnames.html"

**How do you link from one of those subdirectories back to index.html?**

We just use some more HTML magic.

It's called dot-dot-slash ( ../ ).

a href="../index.html"

a href="../jones/surnames.html"

