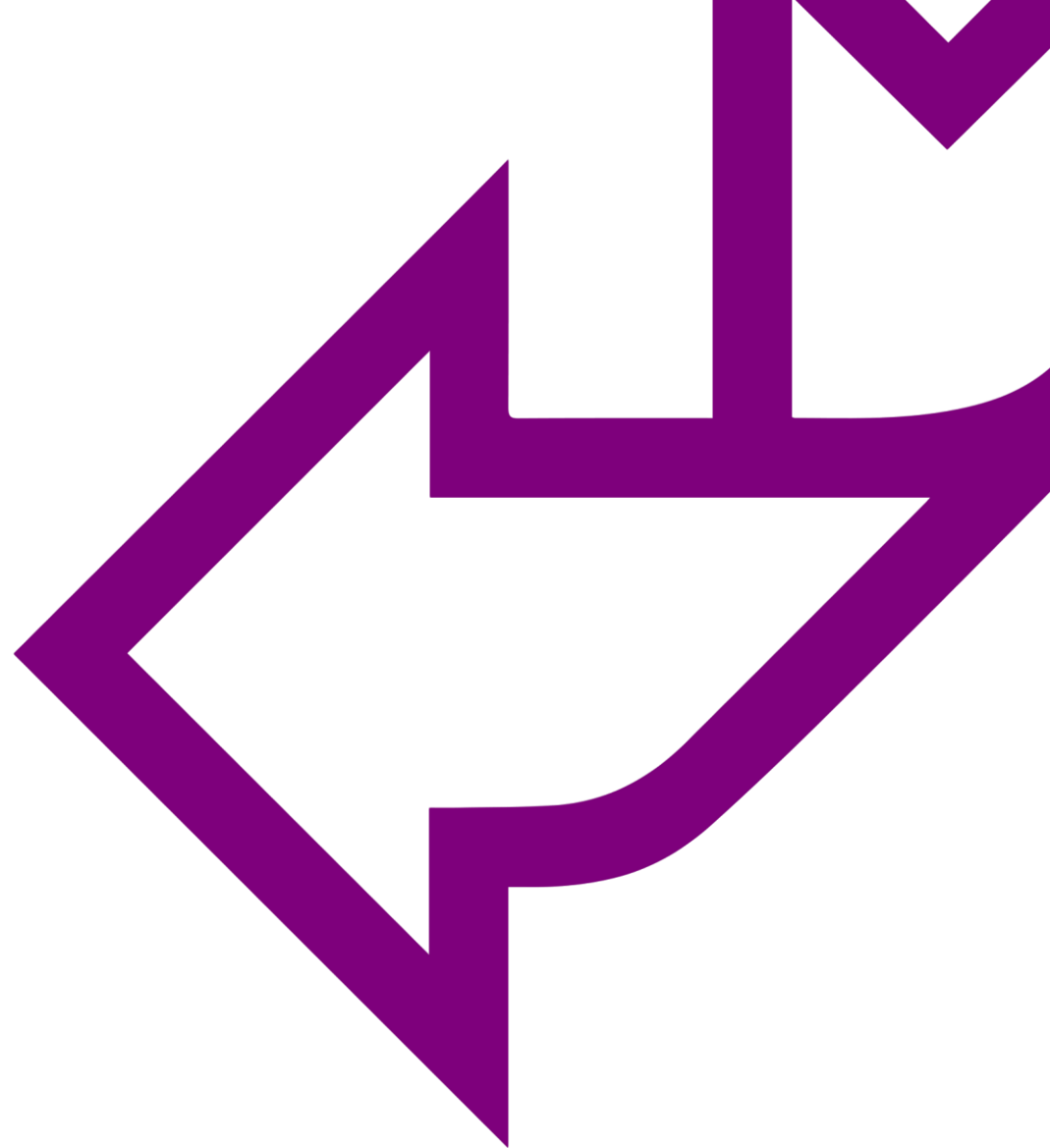# Hyperlinking

HYPERLINKS

Hyperlinks connect related pieces of information

- Can point to separate documents located on different web servers
- Hyperlink text is shown by colour change or underlining
- Linked document is loaded by clicking text/object with mouse

`<a>` … `</a>` tags define the hyperlink

- The HREF attribute takes a URL as a value

```
If you want to find out about
our courses, you could try
<a href="http://www.qa.com/index.html">
QA Training's home page</a>
or telephone us on
+44 (0) 1793 696000.
```

- If you want to find out about our courses, you could try QA Training's home page
- Phone us on +44 (0) 1793 696000.

Named Anchors

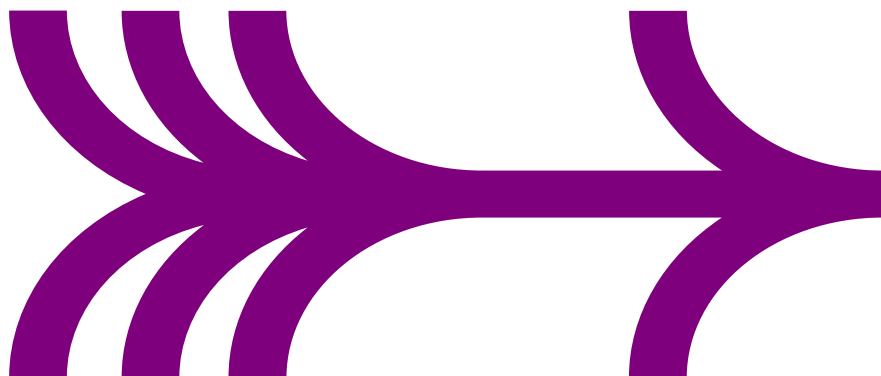**Named anchors permit**

- Hyperlinks within a document
- Hyperlinks from one document into any part of another

Use `<a id="AnchorName">` to define

- Name attribute is used as well as ID
  `<a name="AnchorName">`

**Use
`<a href="TargetURL#AnchorName">` to jump**

```
<a name="Start"> … </a>
<a href="http://www.qa.com#QAHTMLDEV">
HTML for Programmers</a>
<a href="#Start">
Top of page</a>
```

```
.. .. ..
<a name="QAHTMLDEV">
HTML for Programmers</a>
```

Relative and Absolute URLs

```html
<!-- Absolute pathname -->

<a href="http://www.qa.com/index.html">... </a>
```

```html
<!-- Relative pathname: find 'index.html'
    relative to current page on this server -->

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

```html
<base href="http://www.myserver.com/backissues">
<!-- This is a relative pathname, but is interpreted
    relative to the setting in <base> above.
    Therefore this relative URL always points to the
    page on the server. -->

<a href="jan13.html">... </a>
```

Hyperlink Targeting

The `target` attribute of a hyperlink tag can have one of these predefined values:

- **`_blank`**   A new blank window or new tab in a tabbed browser.

- **`_parent`**   Immediate parent of the document the link is in.

- **`_self`**   The same window the link was clicked in.

- **`_top`**   The full body of the window.

```
<a href="circont.htm" target="_parent">...</a>
<a href="circont.htm" target="_top"  >...</a>
<a href="circont.htm" target="_blank" >...</a>
<a href="circont.htm" target="_self" >...</a>
```

Mailto: links

Changing the scheme from `http://` to `mailto:` tells the browser to execute it's default e-mail behaviour.

This usually opens a new e-mail for composing

```
<a href="mailto:instructor@qa.com">Contact Instructor</a>
```

Can also append a subject

```
<a href="mailto:instructor@qa.com?subject=Hello Instructor">Contact
Instructor</a>
```

And even some content for the body of the e-mail

```
<a href="mailto:chris.bruford@qa.com?subject=Hello Instructor&body=Just
dropping a line to say hello">Contact Instructor</a>
```