Hyperlinks

Objectives

- Reference full and partial URLs

- Specify alternative protocols

- Create hyperlinks for text and images

- Link to local files and remote sites

- Create an internal anchor within a file and link to it

The Anchor Tag

- The <a> tag creates hyperlinks

- A container tag that encompasses the text or image (or both) to be used as a link

- The syntax for using the anchor tag to create a link is as follows:

    ** linked text or image (or both) **

The Anchor Tag *(cont'd)*

- A fully qualified URL specifies an entire path
- A partial URL assumes a path relative to the file's current location

Type of Reference	Description	Examples
Fully qualified URL (also called absolute URL)	A URL (i.e., URI) that contains a full path to a resource, including the protocol indicator. Also known as a hard link.	*http://www.someserver.com/somepage.html* or *http://someserver.com/pub/~james/somefile.ext* or *c:\intetpub\wwwroot\ccyp\syb\syb.html*
Partial URL (also called relative URL)	A URL that assumes the current document's path. All references are made from the document's current directory.	*syb.html: Specifies a file in the current directory* *../css/stylesheet.css: Specifies a file one directory up from the current page* *pub/images/mybullet.gif: Specifies a file in a subdirectory*

The Anchor Tag *(cont'd)*

- ## You can specify various protocols

Protocol	Hyperlink HTML Example
HTTP	Visit the CIW<a/> site.
HTTPS (Secure HTTP)	Visit our secure CIW<a/> site.
FTP	Download the file from our FTP server.
E-mail	You can send e-mail to us at info@ciwcertified.com.
Telnet	Please visit our Telnet server.

CIW Foundations

CIW

The Anchor Tag *(cont'd)*

- Make sure that you:
  - Use a closing anchor tag
  - Place quotation marks around the value
  - Include the closing bracket at the end of the opening <a> tag
- Various issues to troubleshoot with hyperlinks
  - Text and images disappear
  - All successive Web page text is a hyperlink
  - Garbled code appears on screen
  - Code will not validate due to a problem <a> tag

The Anchor Tag *(cont'd)*

- Creating local hyperlinks

- Creating external hyperlinks

- Using images as hyperlinks

- Creating internal links
  - On a long page, a link to another point lower on the page
  - Internal links require internal bookmarks

- Example:

target anchor text or image (or both)

... other page content here ...

 text/images linking to targetArea1

Accessing an External File's Internal Link

- Link to a specific point in another page without first accessing the top of that page

- To link to an internal anchor inside of another file, use the following syntax:

link text/image

Managing Hyperlinks

- All hyperlinks need to be verified
  - Verify that the URL or other reference is valid
  - Verify that the target page or location is accessed
- Hyperlinks also need to be managed
  - Over time, URLs (and content) change
  - "Dead" links frustrate users
- Manually check links
- Automatic link-checking software:
  - Linklint (*www.linklint.org*)
  - Link Controller (*http://freshmeat.net/projects/linkcont*)
  - Checkbot (*http://degraaff.org/checkbot*)
  - Link should still be reviewed manually to verify relevance of linked content

Lesson 5 Summary

- Lesson 5 Hyperlinks
- See Skills Review