



Quizzes



Learn why people **trust wikiHow**

MARKUP LANGUAGES » HTML

How to Run a HTML File

Author Info

Last Updated: June 7, 2023  Tested

[Download Article](#)

| [Show more](#)

HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) is a web-based scripting language. It is mainly used to structure the look and function of websites. Any file containing HTML code is saved using the extension ".HTML". All modern browsers -- such as Google Chrome, Safari and Mozilla Firefox -- recognize this format and can open these files, so all you need to do to run an HTML file is open it in your Web browser of choice.

Part

Part 1 of 3:

Saving an HTML File



1 Understand HTML. HTML stands for Hypertext Markup Language. HTML files are text files which represent the content and the layout of a web page. To read an HTML file, you can use any text editor (e.g notepad, notepad++, or any specialized HTML editor). However, if you want to see what the program looks like, you need to run it on a web browser, which is designed to read and render HTML files.

2 Write or copy HTML into a basic text editor. As you become a more proficient coder, you can use HTML editing programs like Adobe Dreamweaver, Microsoft Expression Web, CoffeeCup, and Visual Studio Code, but a simple program is all you need to start. Notepad (Windows) or TextEdit (Mac) should suffice.

Advertisement



3 Save the file as your-file.html. If you make an HTML file in Notepad, TextEdit, or any other text editor, be sure to save it with the proper notation. Before saving the file, make sure that you have changed your "Save as type" to "All files" (if needed) and click "Save".

Advertisement

2_{rt}

Part 2 of 3:
Running an HTML File



- 1 Make sure that there is a browser installed on your computer.** To run a HTML file on your computer you must have a browser.



2 Find the saved file. If you think the file is in a certain folder, but you cannot find it, try running a file search on your computer. Type your-file.html into the search box at the bottom of the Start menu (if using Windows) or the search box in the Finder app (if using a Mac).

- HTML files usually are in a folder with the same name as the .html file but without the .html extension. Inside of the folder may be different files such as .js .css , images and other files. Do not worry about those, they are necessary files for the layout and functionality of the page. It is necessary not to delete these files. Leave them in the same directory (folder) as your html file, otherwise the page won't display properly. If you would like to modify an html file, you will need to learn coding in html and other scripting languages

3 Right-click (Windows) or double-click (Mac) the file and select "Open with" from the action menu. You will be able to choose between any of the browsers that are installed on your computer, although your computer's default browser will top the list. Open the file using any web browser: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, etc.

- Most computers will associate your default browser with the .html file extension. That means that



normally, you don't need to find a browser to open the file—you can just double-click on it, and the computer will open it in your default web browser.

- If your computer doesn't recognize the file, Windows will ask whether to open this file using an already installed application, or search for the extension on the internet. Select the "open using already installed applications" option. You will be able to choose from a list of all browsers installed on the system.

4 View your HTML file in your chosen browser. The browser automatically interprets your coding and displays it. The location of the file will be displayed in the address bar—this will help you confirm that the HTML file has been opened, and not any other.



5 Alternate method: Run your browser, then press Ctrl-O. This should pull up an "Open" menu. Find your file, double-click it, and watch your program open up in a browser tab. Different browsers may have different "Open" hotkeys, so check your browser settings.

Advertisement

3

Part 3 of 3:

Running an HTML File for a Website



- 1 Open your preferred FTP platform.** If your host has one built in, stick with that—it will make it a lot simpler. If not, use a third-party FTP host like FileZilla.

- 2 Next, connect to your remote server (your website's server).** If you're using the built-in platform, you don't need to worry about this. You'll see two boxes on the left and two boxes on the right. Don't worry about the left or top right ones; all you need to focus on is the bottom right box.



3 **Locate your HTML file and drag it into the box.** It will start the upload right away. If you're using the built-in platform, find and locate the "htdocs" (or default HTML) folder and press "Upload"; it will give you options from there.

- Don't use the shortcut! This will upload the LNK Mirror file, which you don't want.



- 4** Wait until the file is uploaded. Then, if you've removed the default page, go and view your website to see your HTML file! If you see a directory listing, click the .html file to view.

Advertisement



Community Q&A

Search

Type your query here

[Add New Question](#)

- Question

How do I run the HTML code from the notepad?



Community Answer

Save the file as an HTML file type. Then, open the file and it should open in a browser.

Thanks! We're glad this was helpful.

Thank you for your feedback.

If wikiHow has helped you, please consider a small contribution to support us in helping more readers like you. We're committed to providing the world with free how-to resources, and even \$1 helps us in our mission.

[Support wikiHow](#)

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

Not Helpful 40 Helpful 67



- Question

How do I open the file in Notepad again after opening it in the browser?

Community Answer

Community Answer

Do the opposite of what you did to make it an html file. Save it as index.txt from index.html.

Thanks! We're glad this was helpful.

Thank you for your feedback.

If wikiHow has helped you, please consider a small contribution to support us in helping more readers like you. We're committed to providing the world with free how-to resources, and even \$1 helps us in our mission.

Support wikiHow

Yes

No

Not Helpful 12 Helpful 23

- Question

How do I run an HTML program using Chrome?



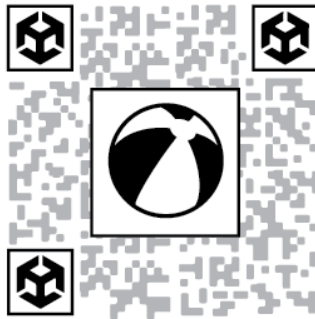
Community Answer

First, save the program on your desktop with an extension ".html," then right click on the file document and click on open with Chrome.

Thanks! We're glad this was helpful.

Thank you for your feedback.

If wikiHow has helped you, please consider a small contribution to support us in helping more readers like you. We're committed to providing the world with free how-to resources, and even \$1 helps us in our mission. [Support wikiHow](#)



Yes

No

Not Helpful 25 Helpful 44

[See more answers](#)

Ask a Question

What is your question?

200 characters left

Email address (optional)

Include your email address to get a message when this question is answered.

Submit

Advertisement

Tips

- For better performance, use a better web browser than Internet Explorer 7.

Thanks

Helpful 0 Not Helpful 1

Submit a Tip

All tip submissions are carefully reviewed before being published

Your tip here

Submit

Thanks for submitting a tip for review!

Advertisement

You Might Also Like



How to
Run a .Jar Java File

How to
Write PHP Scripts

4 Ways to Add a Link to a Picture



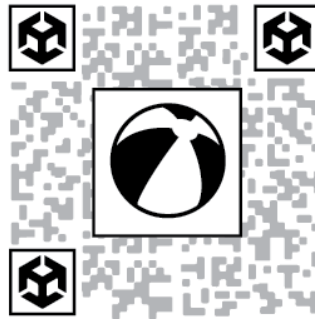
How to
Create a Simple Web Page with HTML

How to
Run a HTML File in Visual Studio Code



How to
Insert Spaces in HTML

Simple Ways to Find the Hex Code of Any Color on Your Computer



How to
Change the Button Color in HTML

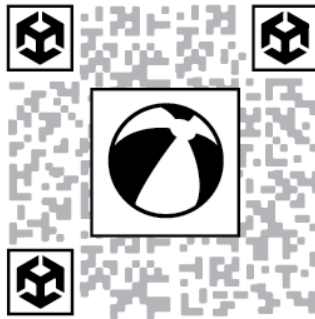
How to
Write HTML Code



How to
Insert Images with HTML

Add a Background Image to a Website: Step-by-Step Tutorial

How to
Create an Email Link in HTML

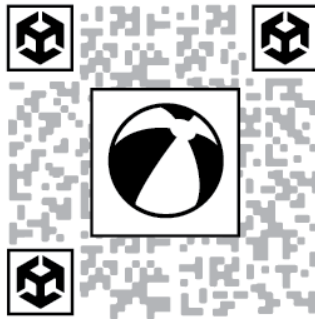


How to
Create Redirects in HTML

How to
Create a Calculator Using HTML

Advertisement

About This Article



Tested by:
wikiHow Technology Team

wikiHow is a “wiki,” similar to Wikipedia, which means that many of our articles are co-written by multiple authors. To create this article, 24 people, some anonymous, worked to edit and improve it over time. This article has been viewed 645,433 times.

How helpful is this?

Co-authors: 24

Updated: June 7, 2023

Views: 645,433

Categories: [HTML](#)

In other languages:

[Spanish](#)

[Russian](#)

[Italian](#)

[Portuguese](#)

[Indonesian](#)

[German](#)

[French](#)

[Dutch](#)

[Arabic](#)

[Chinese](#)

[Thai](#)

[Vietnamese](#)

[Japanese](#)

[Hindi](#)

[Korean](#)

[Turkish](#)

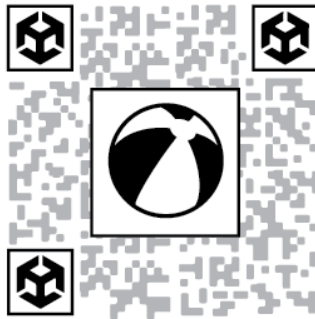
Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 645,433 times.

Is this article up to date?

Yes

No

Advertisement



wikiHow

[Categories](#) » [Computers and Electronics](#) » [Internet](#) » [Website and Blog Creation](#) » [Markup Languages](#) » [HTML](#)



wikiHow Newsletter

Helpful how-tos delivered to
your inbox every week!

Sign me up!

By signing up you are agreeing
to receive emails according to
our privacy policy.

How to Run a HTML File

[Home](#)

[About wikiHow](#)

[Experts](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Site Map](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Contribute](#)

[Follow Us](#)

×

wikiHow Tech Help Pro:

Level up your tech skills and stay ahead of the curve

Let's go!

X