So, you say you want to learn to build a web page…

## Introduction

It seems that the modern way of the world is for every business to become a software development business. The first problem is not knowing where to start; everything you read on line seems to just assume you already know how the different parts and pieces of a program or webpage are related. What you need is clarity on how to find your bearings, and where best to start learning. Let this be a first step towards solving those problems, learn to build your own webpage. The rest of this article provides the bigger solution to learning; you will be shown a detailed path from knowing nothing about basic web-development to confidently publishing your own page.

## You’ve got the tools

You’ve decided you want to give it a shot, you’re going to make your own webpage. You should know this is no light task; it will require a lot of additional reading beyond this initial informational article. That said, you can rest assured that all the additional information and resources you will need can be found in a list at the end of this article.

## You’ve got the determination

The first few pages you make shouldn’t be geared towards your end-game plans so much as learning how to use the tools of web-development. To that end, it’s best to think of your first page as your cheat-sheet for later pages; which means it needs to be based upon a more advanced developers approach to webpage design. This means you will probably need to use this guide more than one time, and each time through you will try a different jump-off point to gain perspective and understanding.

## You’ve got the talent

There are a ton of resources out there for building a webpage from scratch, but unless you are trying to get a job as a front-end web-developer, those resources are little more than references to you. You need something with a depth, and style so that you can learn how to generate such elements in your own pages later.

The best way to get that depth and style is to download and save a copy of a public domain website: you should start with this one. Then modify it so that it doesn’t contain any proprietary images, icons, or intellectual property according to the link in the conclusion section of this article. Do not use this page for personal profit, as there is no penalty for utilizing the HTML code, and Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) structure of a page for personal non-profiting use (Damburg, 2013).

This is only good for teaching you so much, so if this is your second time through the guide you should consider starting from a template instead. This is something that you should consider doing after you’ve created your first page from borrowed content as suggested before.

## Conclusion

You’ve chosen how you want to start your webpage, be it borrowed from a professional page, or copied from a template, this is your starting code. Next, you should read this guide to see how you can set your computer up for editing the code as described in this other guide.

You were warned, there will be a lot of additional reading required if you want to go the distance; however, if you follow the provided guides you will be shown the clearest trail towards learning how to build your own webpage.

--This is beyond the scope of the required paper, but for the sake of keeping it sort of close to the webpage format I’ve included it in the paper as well.

#### Helpful Reference Links:

* Legal details on copying websites
  + How Far Is Legal
  + How to Avoid Plagiarism on Your Blog or Website
* GitHub Pages – Good source for templates
* Mozilla.org – Very good reference for HTML and CSS documentation

# References

Dramburg, Sebastian. “Copying Websites – How Far Is Legal?” *HEUREKA Magazine*, 17 July 2013, http://theheureka.com/copying-websites.

GitHub.com “GitHub Pages.” *GitHub Pages*, https://pages.github.com/. Accessed 14 Dec. 2017.

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