**8 Case-Sensitivity and File Names**

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Web servers on the Internet treat file names as CASE-SENSITIVE entities; this means that upper-case and lower-case versions of the same letter are NOT the same as far as a web server is concerned. For instance, "**MYPAGE.HTML**" is not the same as "**mypage.html**", which are both different from "**myPage.html**".

Exact spelling is ALSO important: "**myPage.htm**" is NOT the same as "**myPage.html**".

URLs invoke resources which reside on a web server; therefore, URLs are CASE-SENSITIVE. When you are working on your own computer, testing HTML pages from a local hard drive, this case-sensitivity will NOT be apparent. Once you mount your pages on a web server on the Internet, however, you will find that case-sensitivity is CRITICAL.

Everyone gets caught by this case-sensitivity issue when they first start publishing on the Web. I hope by mentioning it, that I'll save you some hours of serious frustration. So, don't say I didn't warn you...

Computers have always been rather finicky creatures, at best. Careful proof-reading and meticulous (or at least consistent) spellings are essential to functional code, whatever the language. Web browsers are more forgiving of mistakes than most computer programming environments, but this tolerance is deceptive. Firefox and Internet Explorer are not tolerant of the SAME errors; rather, each has its own set of tolerances which are not completely compatible, and which are different from other browsers, such as Opera. The only truly cross-browser compatible code is error-free and meticulously crafted.