Links

WEB DEVELOPMENT FUNDAMENTALS

QA

Objectives

- To use links in HTML pages
- To understand relative and absolute links
- Be able to target links
- To create email links

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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> ... 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
or phone us on +44 (0) 1793 696000.

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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>
```

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Relative and Absolute URLs

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

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

```
<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>
```

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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>
```

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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:chris.bruford@qa.com">Contact Chris</a>
```

- Can also append a subject

```
<a href="mailto:chris.bruford@qa.com?subject=Hello
Chris">Contact Chris</a>
```

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

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

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Exercise

- Create textual hyperlinks in HTML to link multiple pages
- Use HTML anchors

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Review

- Hyperlinks
- Named Anchors
- Relative and absolute links
- Hyperlink targeting
- Mailto links

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