

Lesson1

The History of HTML

HTML was first created by Tim Berners-Lee, Robert Cailliau, and others starting in **1989**. It stands for Hyper Text Markup Language.

Hypertext means that the document contains **links that allow the reader to jump to other places** in the document or to another document altogether. The latest version is known as [HTML5](#).

A **Markup Language** is a way that computers speak to each other to control how text is processed and presented. To do this HTML uses two things: tags and **attributes**.

What are Tags and Attributes?

Tags and attributes are the basis of HTML.

They work together but perform different functions – it is worth investing 2 minutes in **differentiating the two**.

What Are HTML Tags?

[Tags](#) are used to **mark up the start of an HTML element** and they are usually enclosed in angle brackets. An example of a tag is: `<h1>`.

Most tags must be opened `<h1>` and closed `</h1>` in order to function.

What are HTML Attributes?

[Attributes](#) contain **additional pieces of information**. Attributes take the form of an opening tag and additional info is **placed inside**.

An example of an attribute is:

```

```

In this instance, the image source (src) and the alt text (alt) are attributes of the `` tag.

Golden Rules To Remember

1. The vast majority of tags must be **opened** (`<tag>`) and **closed** (`</tag>`) with the element information such as a title or text resting between the tags.
2. When using multiple tags, the tags must be **closed in the order in which they were opened**. For example:

```
<strong><em>This is really important!</em></strong>
```

HTML Editors

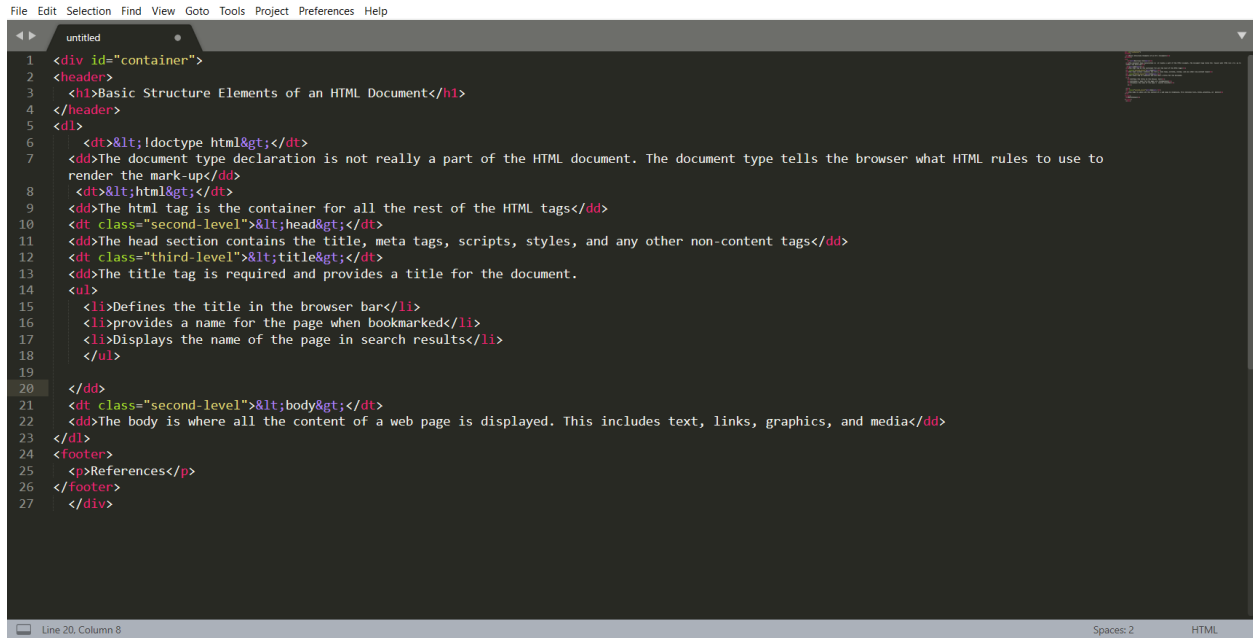
Now that we've gotten the basic theory out of the way. It's time to **learn how to build our first website**.

First off, we must ensure that we have the right tools. Most important, we need an HTML editor.

There are many choices on the market. Here are a handful of the most popular:

Sublime Text 3

However, for this tutorial, we will use the [Sublime Text 3](#) as it is free and also offers cross-platform support for Windows, Mac, and Linux users.



Sublime Text 3 has a mini-preview window on the right.

Pros

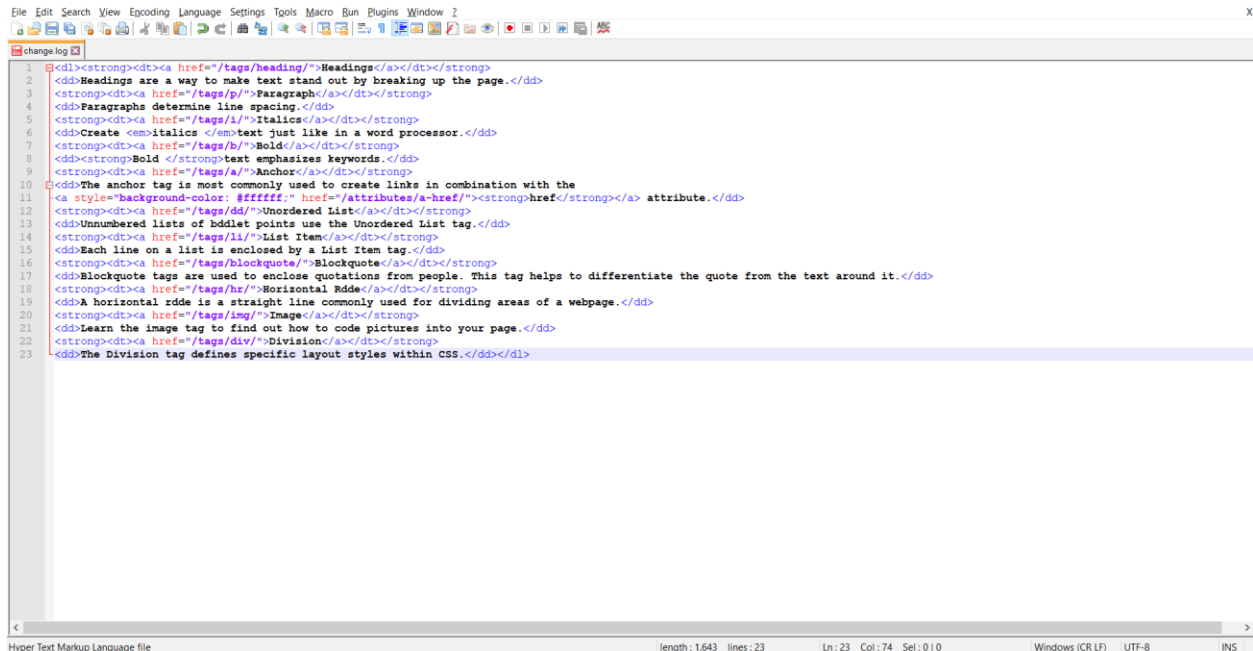
- Easily customizable
- Beginner-friendly
- Pleasant color schemes to choose from.

Cons

- Can't print documents or code
- No toolbar or dashboard available.

Notepad ++

Another common choice for HTML and other language coders is [Notepad ++](#). It is a tiny program to download and perform the functions you need for writing clean code.



The screenshot shows the Notepad++ text editor with a menu bar (File, Edit, Search, View, Encoding, Language, Settings, Tools, Macro, Run, Plugins, Window, ?) and a toolbar. The editor contains HTML code for a tutorial on HTML tags. The code is as follows:

```
1 <dl><strong><dt><a href="/tags/heading/">Headings</a></dt></strong>
2 <dd>Headings are a way to make text stand out by breaking up the page.</dd>
3 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/p/">Paragraph</a></dt></strong>
4 <dd>Paragraphs determine line spacing.</dd>
5 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/i/">Italics</a></dt></strong>
6 <dd>Create <em>italics</em> text just like in a word processor.</dd>
7 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/b/">Bold</a></dt></strong>
8 <dd><strong>Bold</strong> text emphasizes keywords.</dd>
9 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/a/">Anchor</a></dt></strong>
10 <dd>The anchor tag is most commonly used to create links in combination with the
11 <a style="background-color: #fffff2;" href="/attributes/a-href/"><strong>href</strong></a> attribute.</dd>
12 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/dd/">Unordered List</a></dt></strong>
13 <dd>Unnumbered lists of bddlet points use the Unordered List tag.</dd>
14 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/li/">List Item</a></dt></strong>
15 <dd>Each line on a list is enclosed by a List Item tag.</dd>
16 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/blockquote/">Blockquote</a></dt></strong>
17 <dd>Blockquote tags are used to enclose quotations from people. This tag helps to differentiate the quote from the text around it.</dd>
18 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/hr/">Horizontal Rddde</a></dt></strong>
19 <dd>A horizontal rddde is a straight line commonly used for dividing areas of a webpage.</dd>
20 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/img/">Image</a></dt></strong>
21 <dd>Learn the image tag to find out how to code pictures into your page.</dd>
22 <strong><dt><a href="/tags/div/">Division</a></dt></strong>
23 <dd>The Division tag defines specific layout styles within CSS.</dd></dl>
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates: Hyper Text Markup Language file, length: 1,643, lines: 23, Ln: 23, Col: 74, Sel: 0 | 0, Windows (CR LF), UTF-8, INS.

This is Notepad ++. Far from glamorous but does the job.

Pros

- Distraction-free interface
- Auto-completion feature
- Plugin options for extended functionalities.

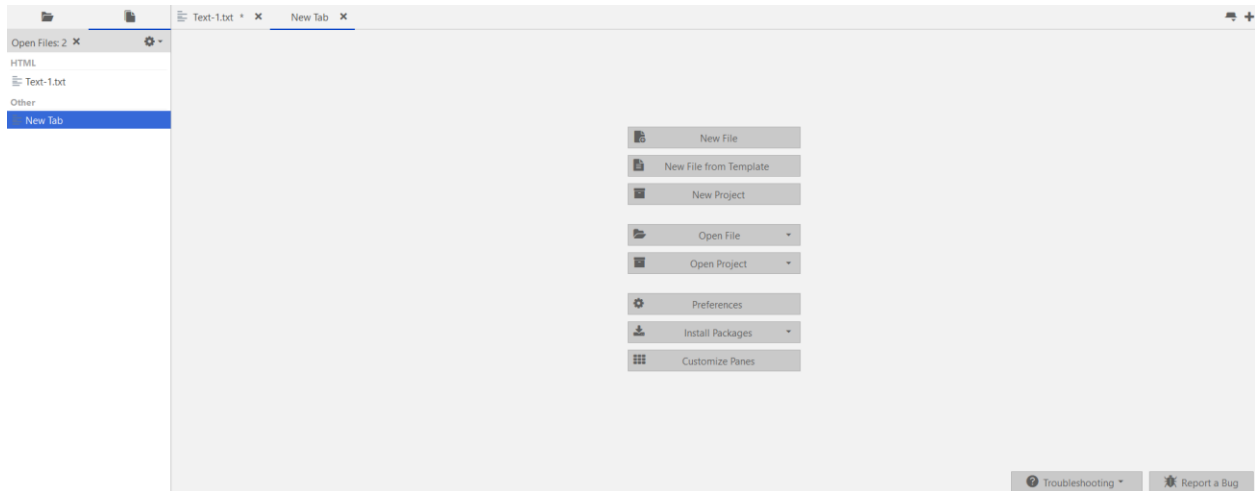
Cons

- Can be difficult to get used to for beginners
- No support for Mac.

Komodo Edit

Komodo Edit is one of two editors released by the same label. They offer a simple, open-source editor with a **variety of extensions and language support**.

It is free to download.



Komodo isn't one for a flash interface either but is simple to use.

Pros

- Easy-to-grasp coding interface
- Available for Mac, Windows, and Linux
- Impressive language support.

Cons

- No autocompletion by default
- Visual settings are difficult to find and change.

What To Avoid

Your code's front-end view varies from browser to browser – you will learn more about this with advanced CSS.

Do not use Microsoft Word or any other word processor when writing HTML code, only an HTML editor or at the very least, your machine's built-in notepad, is suitable for the task.

Secondly, ensure that you've installed a number of **different browsers** such as [Chrome](#) and [Firefox](#) in order to preview your upcoming creation.

Creating Your First HTML Webpage

First off, you need to open your HTML editor, where you will find a **clean white page** on which to write your code.

From there you need to layout your page with the following tags.