GETTING STARTED WITH HTML - FAQs

- What is HTML and what is it used for?
  - The HyperText Markup Language or HTML is the standard markup language for documents designed to be displayed in a web browser. It can be assisted by technologies such as Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and scripting languages such as JavaScript. Source: Wikipedia
  - HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is a markup language that tells web browsers how to structure the web pages you visit. It can be as complicated or as simple as the web developer wants it to be. HTML consists of a series of elements, which you use to enclose, wrap, or mark up different parts of content to make it appear or act in a certain way. Source: https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn/HTML/Introduction_to_HTML/Getting_started
  - "Hypertext" refers to links that connect web pages to one another, either within a single website or between websites. Source: https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML
  - HTML can also be used when using packages, modules, etc. such as making dashboards with python and Dash or Panel.

- What are some good resources for HTML?
  - https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn
  - https://www.w3schools.com/html/default.asp

- What browser can I use to view HTML?
  - A few options include:
    - Google Chrome
    - Firefox
    - Edge
    - Safari

- What are some good text editors to use to write HTML?
  - Visual Studio Code
  - Sublime Text
  - Atom (Atom is going away on December 15, 2022)
  - Brackets
  - Online Options (easy way to get started with basic syntax without downloading anything):
    - https://replit.com
    - https://jsfiddle.net
    - https://codepen.io
    - https://phcode.dev/

- How do I run HTML code (markup) on my computer?
  - Drag HTML file to a web browser icon (Mac)
  - Double click the html file
  - Right click on the html file, Open with the web browser of your choice

- From Terminal on Mac, change directory to location of file, then type "open index.html"
- From Windows Command Prompt, change directory to location of file, then type "start index.html"
- In Visual Studio Code, Go to menu bar, Run, Run Without Debugging
- Live Server Extension from Visual Studio Code

- How does HTML work with CSS and JavaScript?
  - HTML=content, CSS=style, JavaScript=interactivity/logic/behavior

- What is the common naming convention for a HTML file?
  - index.html is a common naming convention for the home HTML page

- How do I make a comment in HTML markup?
  - comments are not recognized as part of the code and serve as a reminder or provide extra details
  - HTML comments syntax - <!-- comment here -->

- What are HTML elements (tags)?
  - HTML elements are the basic building blocks of a HTML web page.
  - Syntax: <opening tag>content</end tag>
  - Some HTML elements have slightly different syntax
  - Examples:
    - header - <header></header>
    - paragraph - <p></p>
    - link -
    - list -
    - break (line break) -

- How is a HTML page setup?
  - The basic structure for a HTML web page includes the head and body wrapped inside a html element with <!DOCTYPE html> at the top.

- What goes in the HTML head element?
  - Links to CSS and sometimes JavaScript files, the document title, and Metadata can go in the HTML head.

- What are meta elements inside the HTML head?
  - When search engines index your site and make it findable or discoverable, they look at the description and keywords, etc. using the meta elements. Meta elements can help search engines understand the purpose of your site.
  - Meta tags serve other purposes as well.

- What goes in the HTML body element?
  - The HTML elements that provide the web page content goes in the HTML body. Also, often the link to JavaScript files go in the body.

- How do I see the HTML for a web page in a web browser?
  - Normally, you can right click on a web page and click inspect to see the code
  - In Safari, go to Preferences, Advanced, Show Developer menu in menu bar, then go to menu bar, Develop, Show Web Inspector
  - In Google, go to View, Developer, Developer Tools
  - In Firefox, look for wrench icon, Web Developer Tools
  - In Edge, go the menu bar, Tools, Developer, Developer Tools

- How do I create placeholder text and images?
  - Placeholder text and images can help you layout your mock website if you are not exactly sure what you want to put in that space at that time.
  - In Visual Studio Code, use the Emmet Abbreviation lorem to create Lorem ipsum placeholder text.
  - Search the web for a lorem ipsum placeholder text generator.
  - https://placeholder.com and https://dummyimage.com are two example resources for image placeholders. For more placeholder options visit: https://loremipsum.io/21-of-the-best-placeholder-image-generators/

- How can I check my HTML markup for errors/bugs, etc.?
  - HTML validators can be used to check for errors:
    - https://validator.w3.org
    - https://infohound.net/tidy/
  - Note that one error can cause a list of errors messages, so don't worry if you see this.

- What are some quick and easy ways to get my site on the internet?
  - Netlify
  - GitHub Pages

Key Visual Studio Code Keyboard Shortcuts (Mac)
- Emmet Abbreviation for HTML boilerplate markup is shift+! (or type html:5)
- command + / to comment out a line
- Set proper indentation for code by using keyboard shortcut shift + option + f