

Adding a Favicon or Favorites Icon

http://webdesign.about.com/od/favicon/a/adding_a_favicon.htm

Reading

Have you ever noticed the little icon that shows up in your bookmarks and in the tab display of some Web browsers? That is called the favorites icon or favicon.

Using a graphics program, create an image that is 16 x 16 pixels. This is small, so try out many different versions until you create the image that will work for your site.

Save the image as a GIF or BMP file with 256 colors or less. Icon files, like Web images, have to display on computer monitors, so they can't reliably display millions of colors. However, since an icon file is for Windows displays only, it can be 256 colors, rather than the Web standard 216.

Once you have an acceptable image, you need to convert it to the icon format. There are many icon editors available, and Sue Chastain, the Graphics Software Guide, has a [list of some good ones](#). I used IconForge by CursorArts. Be sure to save the file as **favicon.ico**.

It is simple to publish the icon, simply upload it to the same directory as the file you want bookmarked.

You can also put a different icon on every page of your site (if you like), or point to one icon in many folders. To do this, you add a link reference to the head of every HTML document that you want the favorite icon associated with. e.g.

```
<link rel="shortcut icon" href="path to icon/favicon.ico">
```

Now try to fill the blanks!

Have you ever _____ the little _____ that shows up in your bookmarks and in the tab _____ of some Web browsers? That is called the _____ icon or favicon.

First Create Your Image

Using a _____ program, _____ an _____ that is 16 x 16 pixels. This is small, so try out many _____ versions until you _____ the image that will _____ for your site.

Save the _____ as a GIF or BMP file with 256 _____ or less. Icon files, like Web images, have to _____ on computer _____, so they can't reliably display _____ of colors. _____, since an icon file is for _____ displays only, it can be 256 colors, rather than the Web standard 216.

Converting it to an Icon

Once you have an _____ image, you need to _____ it to the icon format. There are _____ icon editors _____, and Sue Chastain, the Graphics Software _____, has a list of some good ones. I used IconForge by CursorArts. Be _____ to save the file as favicon.ico.

Publishing the Icon

It is simple to _____ the icon, simply _____ it to the same _____y as the file you want bookmarked.

You can also put a _____ icon on every page of your _____ (if you like), or point to one icon in many _____. To do this, you add a link r _____ to the head of every HTML _____ that you want the favorite icon associated with. e.g.

```
<link rel="shortcut icon" href="path to icon/favicon.ico">
```

Discussion Questions

1. What does favicon stand for?
2. How can you create an image?
3. How can you convert it to the icon format?
4. How can you publish the favicon?

Fill in the blanks

Which word is this the definition of?

1. The term is commonly used for when some kind of document editing application program writes the current document from RAM to a file on hard disk at the request of the user
2. It is composed of pixels arranged in a rectangular array with a certain height and width
3. It gives some means of viewing the contents of nodes (or "pages") and of navigating from one node to another.

Listening

Please spell the pronounced word or abbreviation correctly!

Vocabulary

A small picture intended to represent something (a file, directory, or action) in a graphical user interface.

Data representing a two-dimensional scene.

To change from one system, use, or method to another, or to make something do this

A program which allows a person to read hypertext.

One of a sequence of copies of a program, each incorporating new modifications.

a book about a particular subject or type of activity

To copy data to a more permanent form of storage.