

Links

Hyperlinks, or links, are the primary source of navigation on the web. Links afford users the ability to move between locations within a page, and to other websites.

In HTML, links are created with the **anchor tag**, `<a>`, which is generally accompanied by the "href" attribute and other attributes like the target page, ID (location), file, or site.

By default, all browsers underline HTML links and assign different colors depending on the link type.

Link Colors		
Type	Color	Example
Unvisited Link	Blue	Unvisited links are underlined in blue.
Visited Link	Purple	Visited links are underlined in purple.
Active Link	Red	Active links are underlined in red.

It is possible to change the default colors using CSS; however, this goes beyond the scope of this course.

HTML Link Syntax

The basic syntax for an HTML link is illustrated below:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Basic Link Syntax</title>
</head>
<body>
  <a href="url">This is proper HTML syntax for a link</a>
</body>
</html>
```

[This is proper HTML syntax for a link](#)

In a browser, all of the text placed between the opening `<a>` tag and the closing `` tag is the part of the link. The href attribute of the `<a>` tag stands for 'hyperlink reference' and defines the destination of the link.

In this assignment, we will discuss absolute and relative links, anchor links, using images as links, and other types of links.

Absolute Links

Absolute links point to a fully-qualified URL destination for your link. A fully-qualified URL is distinguished by a protocol (http, https, ftp, etc.) and a domain name (www.example.com).

```
offers.</p>  
</body>  
</html>
```

Exercise: Absolute Link

Let's practice creating an absolute link.

Instructions:

- Create an absolute link that points to MindEdge (www.mindedge.com).

When you have finished entering your answer, click the 'run code block' to see how your code renders

Run Code Save Export Reset

index.html

```
1 <!doctype html>  
2 <html>  
3 <head>  
4 <meta charset="utf-8">  
5 </head>  
6 <body>  
7   <a href="https://www.mindedge.com">MindEdge</a>  
8 </body>  
9 </html>  
10  
11
```

```

<head>
<meta charset="utf-8">
</head>
<body>
  <a href="https://www.mindedge.com/">MindEdge</a>
</body>
</html>

```

The following illustrates the correct code in the lab tool.

Run Code block

index.html

```

1 <!doctype html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4 <meta charset="utf-8">
5 </head>
6 <body>
7   <a href="https://www.mindedge.com
  /">MindEdge</a>
8 </body>
9 </html>

```

[MindEdge](https://www.mindedge.com/)

Relative Links

Relative links (or **local links**) resolve to local resources (files): they are located somewhere within the site relative to the HTML file that has the link. A relative link never includes the http:// or https:// prefix followed by a domain name. For example, a relative link looks like this:

```
<a href="filename.html">
```

```
<a href="../filename.html">
```

The syntax above tells us that "filename.html" lives in a directory that is one level above the file that contains this syntax is illustrated in the example below.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Relative Link Syntax: One level above current folder</title>
</head>
<body>
  <a href="../filename.html">file located one level above current folder</a>
</body>
</html>
```

If you want a link to point to a file that is in a different directory, but at the same level within the directory of your referring file, the directory name must be placed prior to the filename. For example, if the directory is named "pages," the href would be:

```
<a href="../pages/filename.html">
```

This code syntax is illustrated in the example below.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Relative Link Syntax: Different, folder same directory</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <a href="../pages/filename.html">File located in different folder, same directory</a>
  </body>
</html>
```

Lastly, if you want to point to a file in the **root folder** of your website's files, the href attribute must be

Setting Targets for Links

By default, all links will open in the current window or tab when it is clicked. By adding a target attribute, you can specify where to open the linked document. If you want the link to open in a new browser window or tab, you can use the `target="_blank"` attribute. Here is how to create a new browser tab as follows;

```
<a href="http://skyelearning.com"
target="_blank" >
```

For example, `` will open the Skye Learning homepage in a new browser tab. This allows the user to click on a link and reference it later without leaving the current page that they are on. This is illustrated in the example below.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Setting Targets for Links</title>
</head>
<body>
  <a href="http://skyelearning.com" target="_blank" >Skye Learning</a>
</body>
</html>
```

This is common practice when you provide a link that you believe is useful to your readers, but you don't want to leave your website to open the link.

The most common reason to use `target="_blank"` is that it keeps users on your site longer, improving **session rate**, **conversion**, and **pages visited**.

Exercise: Setting a Target for a Link

Let's create a link using the target attribute.

At the bottom of the page, create a link using the target attribute that will take users to a Wikipedia page about dog breeds.

Instructions:

- Add the following sentence at the bottom of the page: "To learn more, head to Wikipedia to see a list of dog breeds."

11

12

`<p>Draft horses are tall, strong, and heavy as they were bred to carry a`
 The average draft weighs over 1600 lbs and can pull over twice their weight
 distances.`</p>`

13

`<h4>Examples</h4>`

Horses

Five Major Categories

Draft horses



Theme Select:

rubyblue

Click the following tab to check your answer.

Check Your Answer

The correct code for this lab is below.

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
<meta charset="utf-8">
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Horses</h1>
  <h2>Five Major Categories</h2>
  <h3>Draft horses</h3>
  
```

smooth pleasure riding and show ring flair.</p>

<h4>Examples</h4>

American Saddlebred

Tennessee Walking Horse

<hr>

<h3>Light horses</h3>

<p>Light horses are bred for agility, endurance, and speed and are used in every form of riding. A variety of horse breeds fall into this category. Horses of this type can vary greatly in build and color.</p>

<h4>Examples</h4>

American Quarter Horse

Appaloosas

Morgan

<hr>

<h3>Ponies</h3>

<p>Ponies are incredibly versatile and have been bred to do virtually anything imaginable. The definition of a pony is a horse that measures less than 14.2 hands high. There are over a hundred breeds of ponies.</p>

<h4>Examples</h4>

Hackney Pony

Shetland Pony

<hr>

<h3>Warmbloods</h3>

<p>Warmbloods are the cross of a cold blood draft horse and a hot blood horse. These breeds are known for their athleticism and sensible attitude. They are a top choice for dressage, jumping, harness and other equestrian sports.</p>

<h4>Examples</h4>

Dutch Warmblood

```

57     </ul>
58 <hr>
59     <p>To learn more, head to Wikipedia
    to see a complete list of <a
    href="https://en.wikipedia.org
    /wiki/List_of_horse_breeds"
    target="_blank">horse breeds.</a></p>
60
61 </body>
62 </html>

```

and sensible attitude. They are a popular jumping, harness and other equestrian sports.

Examples

- Dutch Warmblood
- Hanoverian
- Trakehner

To learn more, head to Wikipedia to see a [complete list of horse breeds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_horse_breeds).

Anchor Links

Anchor links go to another location within the same HTML document. Clicking on this type of link will take you to a specific location on the same page. This is a useful navigation feature that allows users to skip large sections of text. For example, anchors can be used to allow readers to conveniently navigate different locations on a page, such as an area further down the page.

Creating an anchor is a two-step process:

- First, you need to identify the targets (usually some headings) where you want the browser to go. This is accomplished by adding an identifying id attribute value to each target element.
- Next, in the location where you want to place the link on the page, use the same identifying id attribute value (sign (#) as the value of the href attribute of the opening <a> tag.

The two parts work together with the anchor serving as a marker that identifies where the link associates a user on the page when they click on the link.

The syntax for both the anchor and the link that points to the anchor is outlined in the table below.

	Syntax
Anchor:	
Link to an anchor:	content about the link

Example

A common example of the use of an anchor is the "back to top" link that is often placed at the bottom of a page. The code to create this type of anchor link is as follows.

the webpage.

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Anchor</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <a id="top"></a>
    <h1>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, conse
  <p>Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut
  <p>Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut
    <a href="#top">Back to top</a>
  </body>
</html>
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit consectetur adipisicing

Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation
ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute
reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolo
pariatur.

Sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation
ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute
reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolo
pariatur.

[Back to top](#)

To create an ID link that points to a specific id on a different page, add the hash symbol (#) and name of the URL of the target location (assuming there is an id attribute with the same value on the other page).

Exercise: Anchor Links

Let's create an anchor that brings us back to the top of the webpage.

At the bottom of the page, create a link using the target attribute that will take users to a Wikipedia page.

Instructions:

- Create an anchor entitled "top" and place it at the top of the webpage above the first header
- Create the link that will point to the anchor on the page and place this at the bottom of the page

When you have finished entering your answer, click the 'run code block' to see how your code renders.

Run Code

Save

Export

Reset

index.html

Horses

Five Major Categories

Draft horses



Theme Select:

rubyblue

Click the following tab to check your answer.

Check Your Answer

The correct code for this lab is below.

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
<meta charset="utf-8">
</head>
<body>
  <a id="top"></a>
  <h1>Horses</h1>
  <h2>Five Major Categories</h2>
  <hr>
  <h3>Draft horses</h3>
  
  <p>Draft horses are tall, strong, and heavy as they were bred to carry loads. The average draft weighs over 1600 lbs and can pull over twice its own weight.
```

```

        <li>Tennessee Walking Horse</li>
    </ul>
<hr>
<h3>Light horses</h3>
    

```

<p>Light horses are bred for agility, endurance, and speed and are used in every form of riding. A variety of horse breeds fall into this category. Horses of this type can vary greatly in build and color.</p>

```

    <h4>Examples</h4>
    <ul>
        <li>American Quarter Horse</li>
        <li>Appaloosas</li>
        <li>Morgan</li>
    </ul>
<hr>
<h3>Ponies</h3>
    

```

<p>Ponies are incredibly versatile and have been bred to do virtually anything imaginable. The definition of a pony is a horse that measures less than 14.2 hands high. There are over a hundred breeds of ponies.</p>

```

    <h4>Examples</h4>
    <ul>
        <li>Hackney Pony</li>
        <li>Shetland Pony</li>
    </ul>
<hr>
<h3>Warmbloods</h3>
    

```

<p>Warmbloods are the cross of a cold blood draft horse and a hot blood horse. These breeds are known for their athleticism and sensible attitude. They are a good choice on for dressage, jumping, harness and other equestrian sports.</p>

```

    <h4>Examples</h4>
    <ul>
        <li>Dutch Warmblood</li>
        <li>Hanoverian</li>
        <li>Trakehner</li>
    </ul>
<hr>

```

```

60 <p>To learn more, head to Wikipedia
   to see a complete list of <a
   href="https://en.wikipedia.org
   /wiki/List_of_horse_breeds"
   target="_blank">horse breeds.</a></p>
61 <a href="#top">Back to top</a>
62 </body>
63 </html>

```

- Dutch Warmblood
- Hanoverian
- Trakehner

To learn more, head to Wikipedia to see a [list of breeds.](#)

[Back to top](#)

Linking Tips

- The value inside the "href" attribute is not limited to html files; it can point to *any file*.
- The value inside the "href" attribute may point to an email address by using the mail-to attribute. This type of link opens a user's default email application and goes to a new message window with the email address already included.

For example, the following code will create an HTML link that will open your default email application with a new message addressed to customersupport@mindedge.com

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Pointing links to email addresses</title>
</head>
<body>
  <a href="mailto:customersupport@mindedge.com">Email MindEdge Customer Support</a>
</body>
</html>

```

- The title attribute lists additional information about the purpose of a link. A tooltip appears and displays the title information if a user hovers a mouse over the HTML link.

For example, the code illustrated below creates an HTML link where the title attribute "Search for products" appears when you hover your mouse over the link.

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

```



1. Which types of files can links point to?

a. other webpages only

Incorrect. Try again.

b. Only .pdf files

Incorrect. Try again.

c. Other webpages and .pdf files only.

Incorrect. Try again.

d. Links may point to any file.

Correct. Links may point to any type of file

2. What is the correct HTML syntax for creating a basic hyperlink?

a. `/a>`

Incorrect. Try again.

b. `Skye Learning`

Correct. `Skye Learning` is the correct syntax for creating an HTML hyperlink.