



Introduction To HTML



In this chapter, you will learn about :

- *Mark up Language and HTML* • *Other Mark up Languages* • *Features of HTML*
- *Terms In HTML* • *Attributes* • *Nesting Tags* • *Quotation Marks*
- *Special Symbols* • *Values* • *Editors*
- *Creating and Saving HTML Documents* • *Viewing an HTML Document*

You already know about Internet and website. Internet is the network of computer networks that connects millions of computers around the globe. It was estimated that in the year 2000, around 200 millions of computers were connected to the Internet. The number is ever growing. In 2005, the number of Internet users was estimated around 1, 61, 80, 57, 389.

The individual computers are connected to some powerful computers called servers. These servers store files and information. They store files in the form of website, which can be accessed by different users from anywhere in world using Internet connections.

Websites contain different pages called Webpages. The collection of all the websites on the Internet is called the 'World Wide Web' or WWW.

You are already familiar with these terms. In this chapter, you will learn about how to create webpages using a language called HTML.

Webpages are text documents having HTML commands with an extension .htm or .html.

MARK UP LANGUAGE AND HTML

The word Hypertext was first coined by Ted Nelson in 1960. He proposed the idea of non – sequential writing and called this field as Hyper world.

Markup Language is a technique to write documents, describing the general structure of the contents inside the documents and not its actual appearance on the page or on the screen.

The Markup languages are the subset of the general Markup Language or GML-Tim Burners Lee, the creator of WWW and his colleagues used the Standard Generalized Markup Language or SGML in 1990 to describe the rules for Hypertext Markup Language to build the first version of HTML Level 0 HTML. After level 0 HTML, new versions of HTML have been developed. Level 1 HTML was released in 1992 followed by Level 2 HTML, Level 3 HTML Level and Level 3.2 HTML.

The first original HTML standard was developed by CERN. The new versions are created from the analysis and discussions by holding online meetings. These meetings are open to anyone on the Internet. They are published by the W3 Consortium (W3C), led by the laboratory for Computer Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and INRIA, a French group, in Collaboration with CERN.



OTHER MARK UP LANGUAGES

There are several other Markup languages.

DHTML

DHTML stands for Dynamic Hyper Text Markup Language. It is a combination of technologies to create dynamic contents on webpages. It has many features that include cascading style sheets and a scripting language called Java script. All these act together to form a webpage whose contents can be changed even after it has been loaded into the web browser.

XML

HTML is a part of a more powerful language called SGML. Combining the simplicity of HTML and the powerful features of SGML, W3C developed Extensible Markup Language or XML. XML can be used to create your own Markup Languages, specifically suited to your topic.

FEATURES OF HTML

The main features of HTML are as follows :

1. It is a Markup Language and is different from conventional Programming Language.
2. It defines a set of common styles for webpages.
3. It does not say anything about the look of webpages.
4. It is a cross – platform language and HTML documents can be viewed on any type of computer platform.
5. It is text – oriented language.
6. There is no need of compiling or anything else like in case of other Programming Languages.
7. HTML documents are simple text file web browsers act as HTML formatters.

TERMS IN HTML

HTML Tags

HTML tag determines the way, the browser would display the text. The tags are always enclosed within a pair of Angle brackets, < and > and text is written after tags. For example, <title>

HTML tags are of two types

1. Non – empty tags.
2. Empty tags

Non – Empty Tags

They are also called as ‘Container Tags’. They require an opening or ‘ON’ tags and closing or ‘OFF’ tags.



ON tags are written within the angular brackets and OFF tags are also written within the angular brackets but, using a slash before the command.

For example : `<title> learning HTML </title>`
ON Tag Text OFF tag

ATTRIBUTES

Some tags have special attributes, which offer many options for the text contained. Attributes are written within angular brackets one after another with a space between each of them.

For example : ``

NESTING TAGS

You can use tags, which contains some other kinds of tags. The tags that effect the entire paragraph of text can contain tags, which affect individual words or letters. The opposite is not allowed while using closing tags it should correspond to the last unclosed opening tag i.e.

`<A> <C> </C> `

For example :

```
<HEAD>
<TITLE> Learning HTML </TITLE>
</HEAD>
```

QUOTATION MARKS

All values in HTML should be enclosed in straight quotation Marks (" ") and not in curly quotation marks (" "). You can delete the quotation Marks. Its value contains only letters (A-Z, a-z) digits, hyphen (-) or period (.).

Spacing

You can use as many spaces between texts as possible while writing an HTML document, but the extra spaces will be automatically ignored by the browsers.

SPECIAL SYMBOLS

HTML supports an ASCII set of characters and some other characters too.

Four symbols are generally reserved in HTML.

Greater than (>)

Less than (<)

Straight double quotes (" ")

Ampersand (and).

VALUES

Attributes can have values. Most of the attributes have defined values, which will be accepted only by that attribute.

EDITORS

Different text editing programs are used to compose HTML documents.

For example, Notepad, Wordpad, Ms Word, Ms Front page, etc.

CREATING AND SAVING HTML DOCUMENTS

HTML documents are also called webpages. Now you will learn to create a new HTML document or a webpage using a text editor such as Notepad. To create a new HTML document, follow the given steps :

Step 1: Open a text editor, (say, Notepad)

Step 2: Type the following text

```
<HEAD>
<TITLE> Learning HTML </TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<H1> Welcome to HTML </H1>
<P> I am trying to learn HTML </P>
</BODY>
</HEAD>
```

step 3: To save the document, Click the Save As option in File menu. The Save As dialog box appears.

Step 4: Type the name of file followed by a suffix .html or .htm (e.g my first) .html). Choose the folder in which it would be saved in save in box.

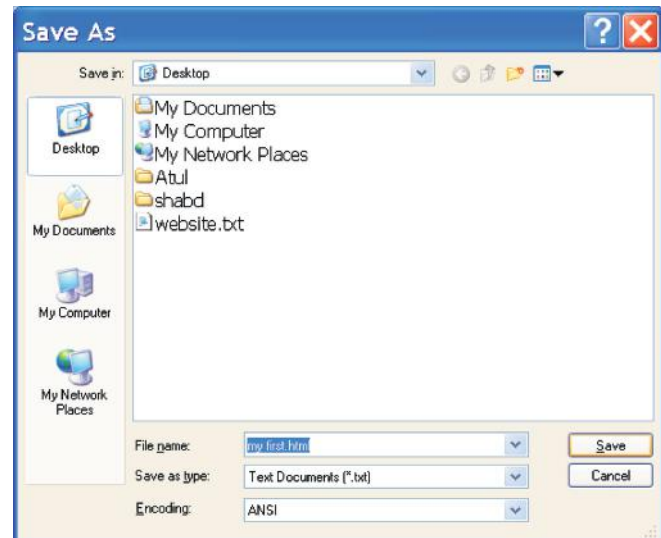
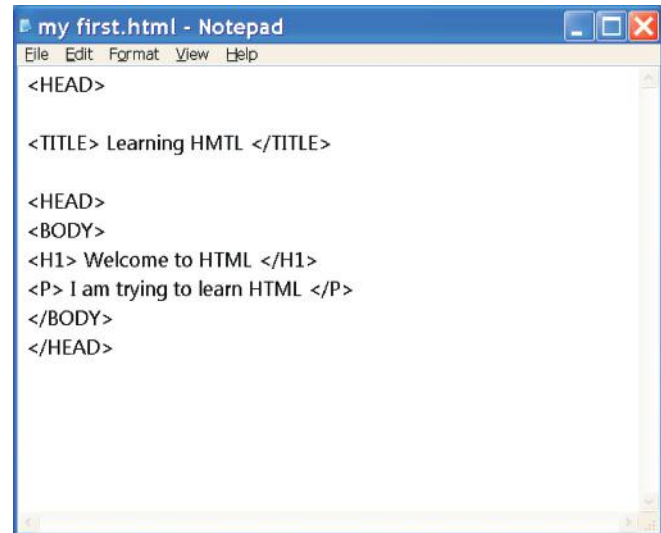
Step 5: Click the save button.

VIEWING AN HTML DOCUMENT

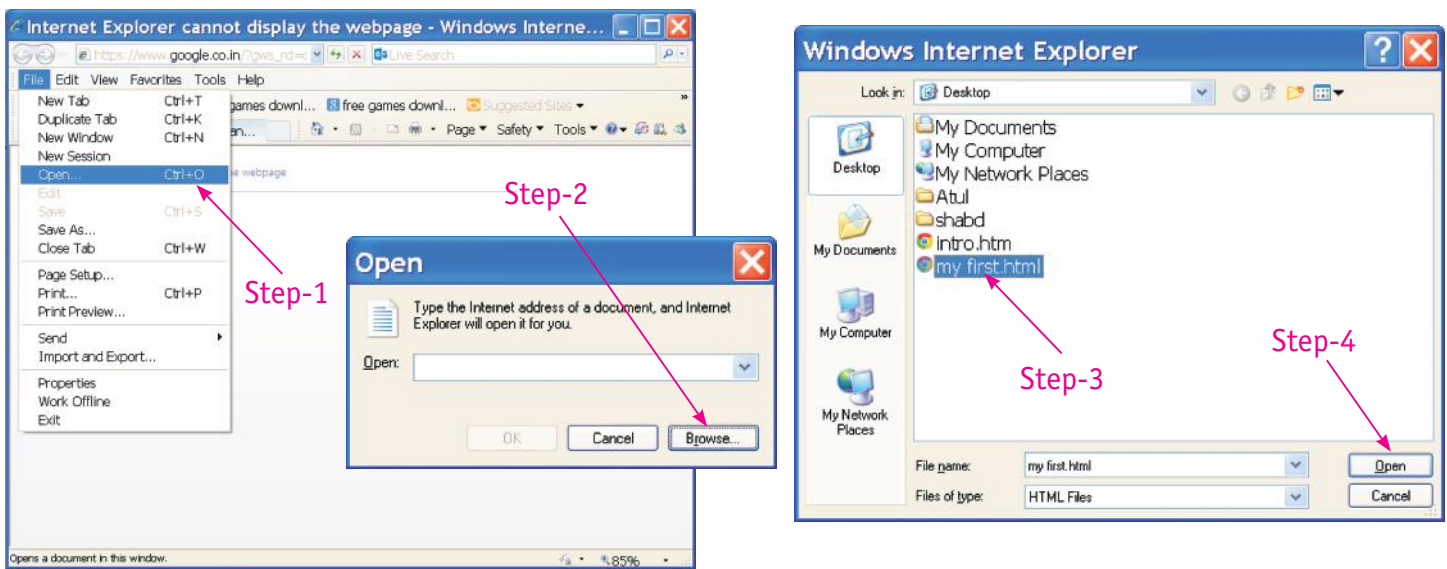
Once, you have created a document, you can view it in any web browser. For example, MS Internet Explorer, Netscape Navigator, Mozilla Firefox etc.

To view HTML document (web page), open your browser software, say Internet Explorer and follow the given steps :

Step 1: Click the open option in File menu. The open dialog box appears.



Step 2: Type the complete path of the file and its name in the open box otherwise click the Browser button. Another dialog box appears.

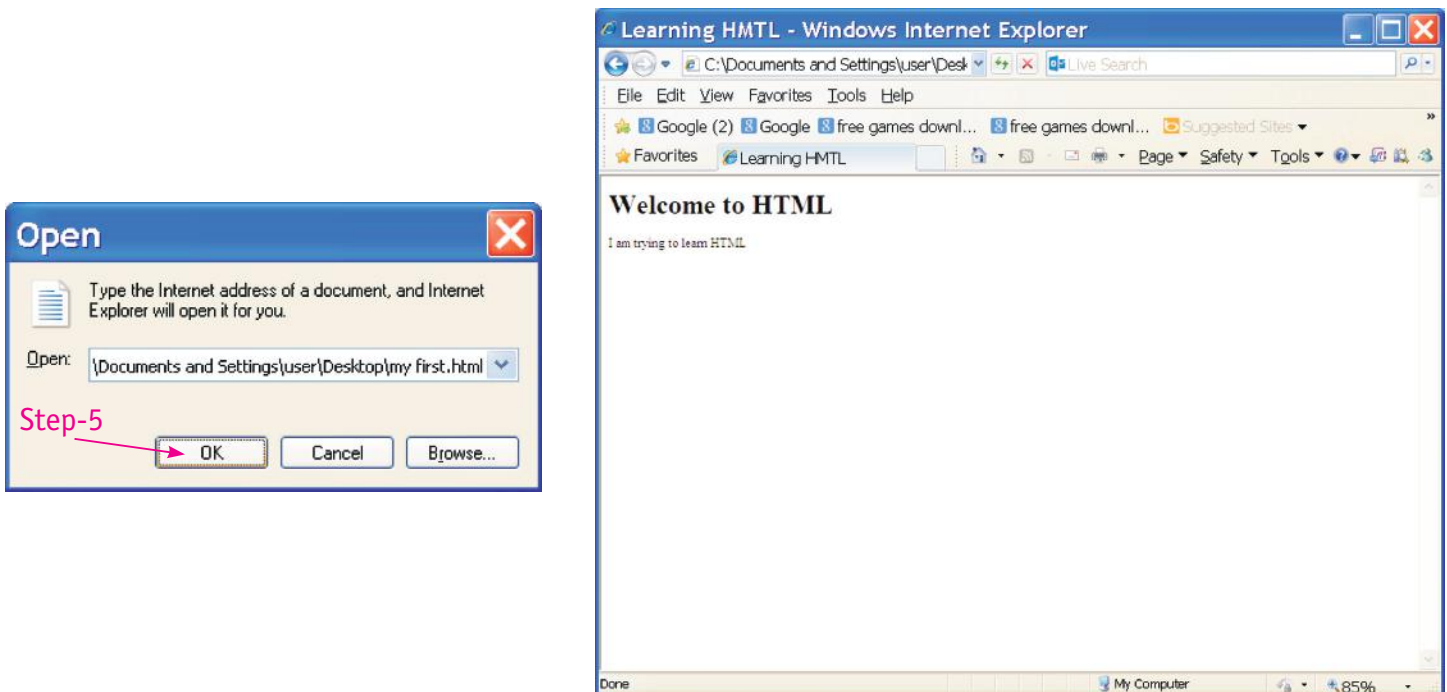


Step 3: Select your file from appropriate folder.

Step 4: Click the open button.

Step 5: Click the Ok button.

The HTML document gets displayed as webpage.



Points to Remember

- Internet is a network of computer networks that connects millions of computers around the globe.
- Individual computers are connected to some powerful computers called servers.

- Websites contain different pages called Web pages.
- The collection of all the websites on the internet is called the World Wide Web or WWW.
- Webpages are text documents having HTML commands with an extension .htm or .html.
- Hypertext was first coined by Ted Nelson in 1960.
- HTML is a markup language used to create webpages.
- HTML was released in 1992.
- HTML uses commands called Tags.
- Text editors are used to compose HTML documents.
- HTML documents are viewed in web browsers.

EXERCISE



A. Tick (✓) the correct option :

- Hyper text was first coined by _____ in _____.

(a) Ted Nelson, 1960's <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Tim Burners Lee, 1990's <input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Ted Nelson, 1992 <input type="checkbox"/>	
- Level 1 HTML was released in _____.

(a) 1960 <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) 1992 <input type="checkbox"/>	(c) 1990 <input type="checkbox"/>
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- The first original HTML Standard was developed by _____.

(a) MIT <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) CERN <input type="checkbox"/>	(c) INRIA <input type="checkbox"/>
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- HTML tags are of _____ types.

(a) two <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) three <input type="checkbox"/>	(c) four <input type="checkbox"/>
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B. Tick (✓) the correct statements and cross (X) the wrong ones :

- Internet is the network of computer networks that connects millions of computers around the globe.
- In 2005, the number of internet users were estimated around 200 million.
- Level I HTML was released in 1992.
- The collection of all the websites on the internet is called World Wide Web.
- EHTML stands for Extensible Markup Language.

C. Fill in the blanks :

- Websites contain different pages called _____.
- The word hypertext was first coined by _____ in _____.
- The individual computers are connected to some powerful computers called _____.
- The first original HTML standard was developed by _____.
- Internet is the network of _____.



D. Write down the full forms of the following :

1. HTML _____
2. XML _____
3. SGML _____
4. DHTML _____

E. Write short notes on the following :

1. Mark up Language
2. DHTML
3. XML
4. HTML Tag

F. Answer the following Questions :

1. What is Internet?
2. What is a server?
3. What do you mean by website and a web page?
4. What is HTML? Write down the features of HTML.
5. How are HTML documents viewed in web browsers?



ACTIVITY

- What is a homepage? Collect the pictures of some homepages. Paste them in your scrap book.