

10.8 Tables and Basic HTML

<http://www.websuburb.com.au/HelpDesk/Content/HTMLTags/tabid/755/Default.aspx>

The easiest way to add text content to your website is to use the Rich Text Editor in the Text/HTML module. From time to time you will feel that you would like a little more control on the layout provided and this is where knowing some basic HTML will come in handy.

There are some great resources on the internet describing HTML code. A simple Google search will reveal thousands of these or else most reputable bookshops have a few books on HTML.

10.8.1 HTML Tags*

HTML is an acronym for Hyper Text Mark-up Language.

- **Hyper Text** – refers to the ability of a webpage to contain a pointer or link to another page.
- **Mark-up** – refers to the ability of HTML to display the style of the text specified. Its origins are from newspaper editors “marking up” story copy for the typographer/printer, eg. “Bold”, “Headline”, etc.
- **Language** – HTML is not a programming language but rather a small collection of letter combinations and words used to specify styles such as bold and italic.

Relevant text in the web page is surrounded with the appropriate tags. In general, tags use the following format:

```
<TAG>sample content</TAG>
```

For example, the tag for bold font is . So to make a phrase appear in bold on the page it is created like this:

```
<B>Sample Phrase</B>
```

And this will display in the browser as: **Sample Phrase**

Tags are sometimes referred to as tag pairs because they require a pair of elements. An element is simply the tag description encapsulated by a ‘<’ and ‘>’ sign. E.g. <TAG>. The closing or end element is distinguished from the opening element by a ‘/’.

* Extracted from “The Complete Idiots Guide to Creating an HTML 4 Web Page” 3rd Edition, Paul McFedries

10.8.2 Image Maps



Image maps are “hotspots” on an image that display comments when the user scrolls their mouse over an image and enables the user to click to follow the link.

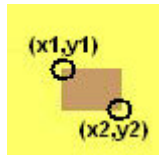
1. Add the image in the text/HTML module.
2. Add the map name to the img tag, eg. ``
3. Add the following text in the HTML window:

```
<MAP name=MyMap>
<AREA etc.>
<AREA etc.>
<AREA etc.>
</MAP>
```

“Hotspots” come in 3 shapes and “co-ords” refer to the co-ordinates that define the shape. Add an AREA tag for each hotspot that you wish to create, specifying the shape and co-ordinates for each shape.

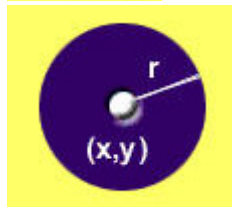
ALT attribute is optional but recommended.

HREF attribute is optional but required for navigation purposes.



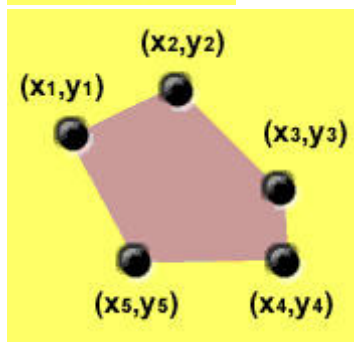
Rectangle

`<AREA shape=RECT coords=x1, y1 x2, y2 etc.`



Circle

`<AREA shape=CIRCLE coords=x, y r etc.`



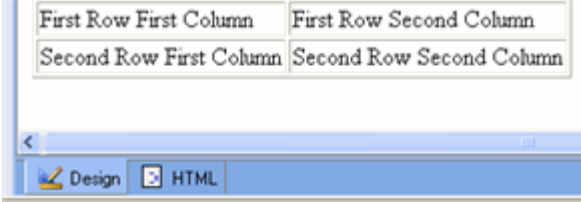
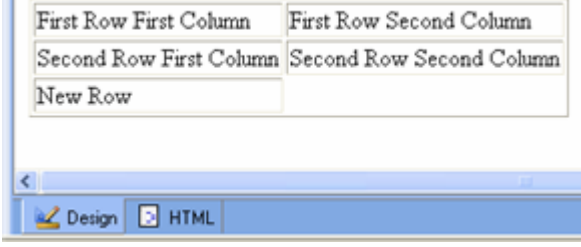
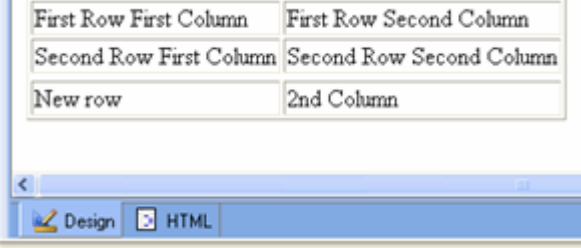
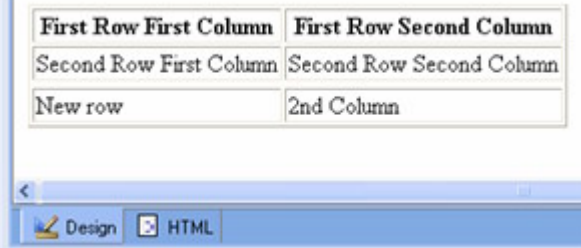
Polygon

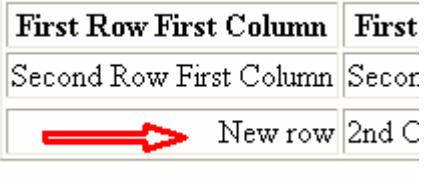
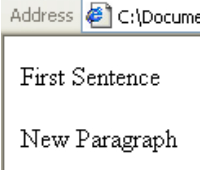
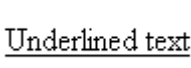
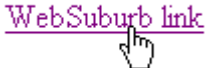
`<AREA shape=POLYGON coords=x1,y1 x2,y2 x3,y3 x4,y4 x5,y5 etc`

10.8.3 Tables

Tables were designed to hold tabular data but web developers soon discovered their ability to more easily plan and control page layout. Tables are a good way to start layout management. Once you have mastered updating of the website you may wish to think about learning CSS to achieve the same result with smaller file sizes.

Table formatting options

HTML view	Browser view:
<code><TABLE></TABLE></code>	Used to create the table
<code><TR></TR></code>	Defines a row to the table
<code><TD></TD></code>	Defines a column in the table
<p>Simple Table:</p> <pre> <TABLE> <TR> <TD>First Row First Column</TD> <TD>First Row Second Column</TD> </TR> <TR> <TD>Second Row First Column</TD> <TD>Second Row Second Column</TD> </TR> </TABLE> </pre>	 <p>Figure: Simple Table in Browser view</p>
<p>Adding a row: Switch to HTML view and insert</p> <pre> <TR><TD>New row</TD></TR> </pre> <p>Before the <code></TABLE></code> tag NB! Cells in a table need both a <code><TR></code> and a <code><TD></code> tag to display</p>	 <p>Figure: New row added to table</p>
<p>Adding a column: Switch to HTML view and amend the last 2 rows of HTML code as follows:</p> <pre> <TR><TD>New row</TD> <TD>2nd Column</TD></TR> </TABLE> </pre>	 <p>Figure: New column added to table</p>
<p>Headers: <code><TD></code> is replaced with <code><TH></code> i.e. <code><TR><TH> First Row First Column</TH> ...</code> NB! Headers are important for search engine optimisation.</p>	 <p>Figure: Formatting first row of table as header</p>

<p>Horizontal Alignment <code><TD align=right></code>New Row ... Options are right, left, center</p>	 <p>Figure: Right align content in cell</p>
<p>Vertical Alignment <code><TD valign=TOP MIDDLE BOTTOM></code></p>	
<p>Spanning Columns <code><TD colspan=Number Of Columns></code></p>	
<p>Spanning Rows <code><TR rowspan=Number Of Rows></code></p>	
<p>10.8.4 Paragraphs use <code><P>...</P></code> tag to create a new sentence</p>	 <p>Figure: new paragraph with <P> tag</p>
<p>10.8.5 Underlining use <code><U>...</U></code> tag to create underlined text</p>	 <p>Figure: Text underlined with <U> tag</p>
<p>10.8.6 Links Use <code>WebSuburb link </code> tag to create link to another page. Note the text display and hyperlink detail components.</p>	 <p>Figure: Hypertext link created with <a> tag</p>