
Objectives

- Create your Web page in layout view
- Insert Flash Text and Flash Button objects
- Learn to use Cascading Style Sheet
- Create and Use Dreamweaver Templates
- Create Web Photo Album

Definitions

Layout View: Layout view is one of two visual design views in Dreamweaver. Layout view allows you to draw layout cells or layout tables into which you can add content such as images, text, or other media.

Flash Button: Flash buttons are created from Flash templates that ship with Dreamweaver. The Flash button has a rollover effect and you can easily customize a template button and add it to your Web pages.

Flash Text: Flash Text allows you to design Web pages that use nonstandard fonts without worrying about which fonts visitors to your site have available on their computers.

Cascading Style Sheets: A style is a group of formatting attributes that control the appearance of a range of text in a single document. A CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) style can be used to control many documents at once and includes all of the styles for a document.

Template: A template is a common structure of the web site that most of your web pages use. You can create the basic layout and navigation system once and use it as a template for each of your pages. Macromedia Dreamweaver templates can be modified at any time, and the changes will be updated on each template-based page.

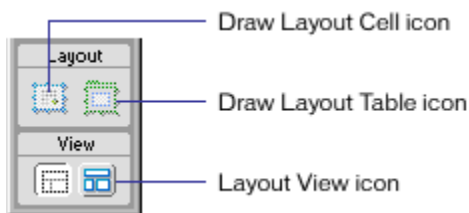
Designing Page Layout using layout cells and tables:

The term **page layout** refers to the way your page will look in the browser, such as where a menu or images will go. One common method for creating a page layout is with HTML tables. (Tables can be difficult to use, however, since they weren't originally created for Web page layout, but for displaying tabular data.)

To simplify the process of using tables for page layout, Dreamweaver provides Layout view. In Layout view, you can design your page using tables as the underlying structure, and you can easily draw cells (table cells) onto your page, then customize and move the cells where you want them.

To switch into Layout view:

Choose View > Table View> Layout View or click the Layout View button in the Objects panel.



If you have a table drawn in standard view, you might need to delete the cells before you can draw cells in it in the layout view.

Draw a layout table

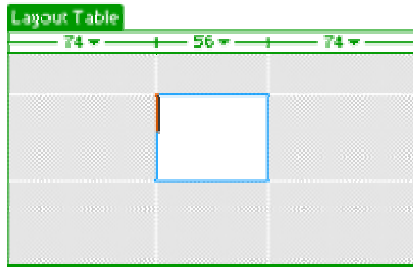
1. Position your cursor on your page.
2. Click on the Draw Layout Table button. Your cursor will turn into a cross
3. Drag your cursor to create the table.
4. Grab the table handles to resize the table



Draw layout cells

In Layout view you can draw layout cells and layout tables to define the design areas of a document. This task is easier to accomplish if you prepare a sample of the page you're creating before you begin laying out a page.

1. Position your cursor on your page.
2. Click on the Draw Layout Cell button. Your cursor will turn into a cross
3. Drag your cursor to create the cell.
4. Grab the cell handles to resize the cell.

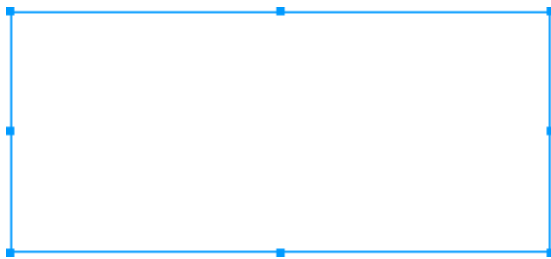


Adding content to a cell

You can add text, images, and other media to layout cells in Layout view just as you would in Dreamweaver's normal display (Standard view). Click in the cell where you want to insert content, then type text or insert other files.

To resize a cell:

Click the cell edge or hold down Control (Windows) or Command (Mac) and click anywhere in the cell. Selection handles will appear around the cell. Use the selection handles to drag the cell to your chosen size.

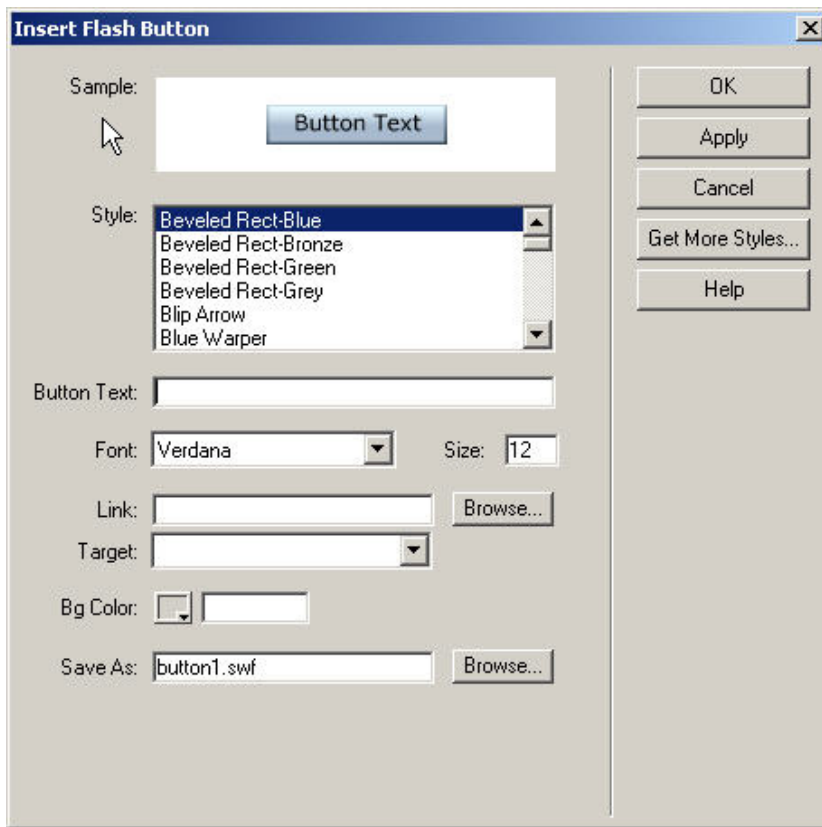


Inserting Flash Button

Dreamweaver comes with a variety of button styles (including navigation tabs, playback controls, and ecommerce buttons), or you can create your own.

1. From the Dreamweaver menu bar, select: Insert > Interactive Images > Flash Button.

2. The Insert Flash Button window will open. Select a button style, text, font, font size, link, target window, background color, and file name. The preview window displays each button as you select it.



3. Click Apply to view the button on your page. Make desired changes, clicking Apply to see the results.

4. Click OK to add the Flash button to your page.

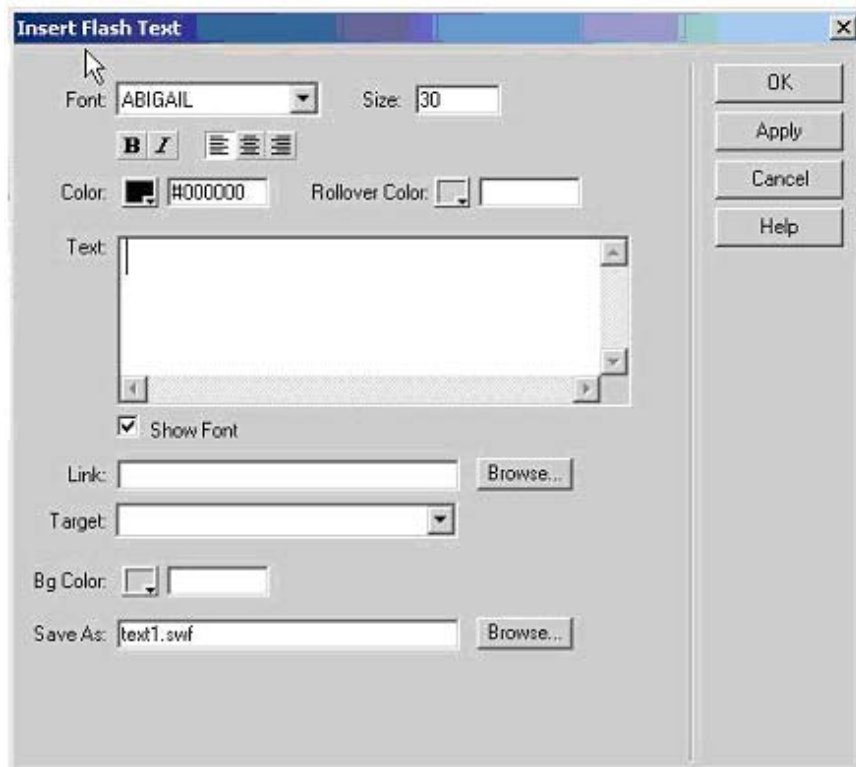
The Flash button you inserted has a rollover effect, now you'll play the button to see how it looks.

1. In the Flash button Property inspector, click Play to play the button in the document.
2. In the Document window, roll the pointer over the object to see the Flash button's rollover effect.
3. To stop playing the object, click Stop in the Property inspector.

Inserting Flash Text

You can create editable vector graphics directly in Dreamweaver with the Macromedia Flash Text feature. In the Document window, place the insertion point where you want the object to appear.

1. From the Dreamweaver menu bar, select: Insert > Interactive Images > Flash Text.
2. The Insert Flash Text window will open. Select font, font attributes and colors; type desired text in the available box; fill in link, target, background color, and save as fields.



3. Click Apply to view the text on your page. Make desired changes, clicking Apply to see the results.
4. Click OK to add the Flash text to your page.
5. Preview the page in your browser to see it in action.

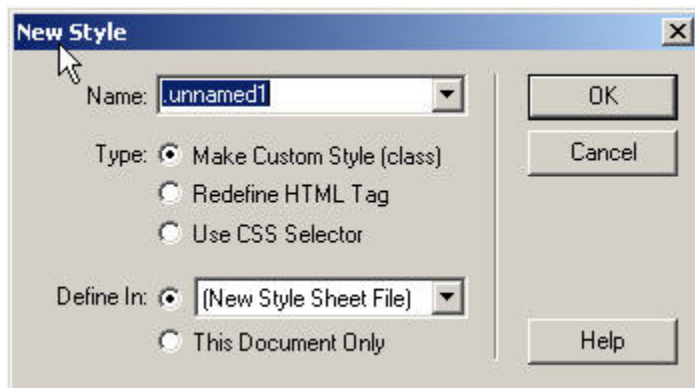
Using Cascading Style Sheets (CSS):

CSS allow you to apply consistent fonts, size attributes, colors or other style elements to your document.

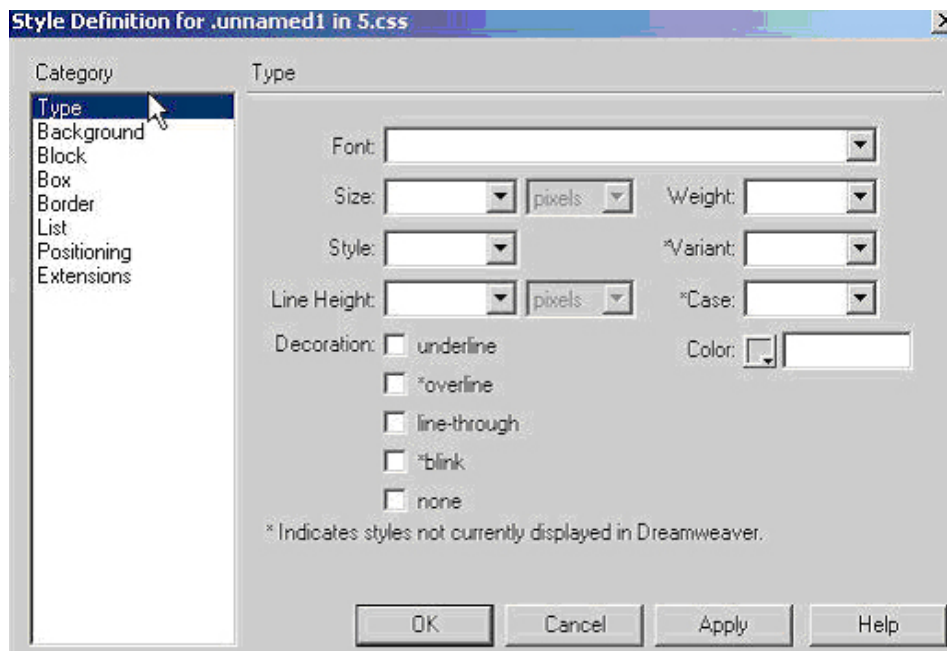
Open your page and click on Window > CSS styles.



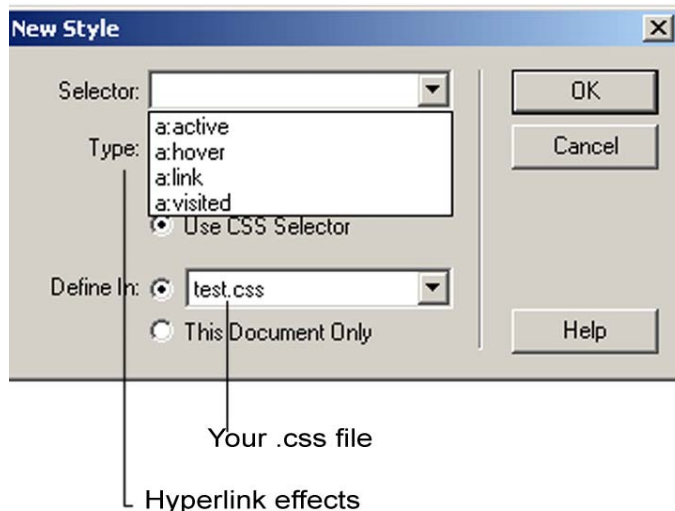
Click the New Style icon in the lower right of the dialog box and select “Make Custom Style” and “(New Style Sheet File)” in the window that opens up. Name the style. Click OK and Save the **.css** file.



Select the required font, font size, color etc in the dialog window to define the content of your web page and click OK.



So far, you have defined the content attributes of your web page. If you want to define the hyperlinks on your page, click on “New Style” icon again on the new style window and choose “Use CSS Selector”, you will see the different selector choices and your css file name appeared as default.



Choose “a:link” to define the hyperlink in your css file, “a:hover” to define the mouse over effect, and so on.

Attach CSS file

To apply the .css file that you just defined, go to Text > CSS Styles > Attach Style Sheet. Then, highlight the text that you want to use the CSS, go to Text >

CSS Styles, click your .css file name. You can find that all the content and the hyperlinks are changed to what your .css file defined.

To preview in a browser, just press F12 on PC keyboard.

Creating and Using Dreamweaver Templates

Making a Template in Dreamweaver

Step 1: Make your web page as usual with the basic structure of the site. This should be common to most of the pages in your site. Note: Don't put unique content in this page.

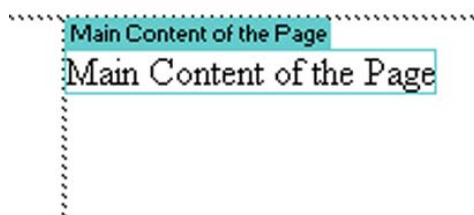
Step 2: Once you have created the structure go to **File** and click on **Save As Template**, give a name to the template and click on **Save**.

Step 3: Notice the blue bar on top says <<Template>>. You now are in the Template. The template is automatically saved under a folder called templates. Note: You can create as many templates as you like. If you are using different layouts for different sections of your site you can use different templates for each of the sections.



Step 4: Now you need to make parts of the template editable so that you can put in content and add information that is unique to parts of the site. As the main content of the pages will keep changing let's make that region editable. E.g.

To make an area editable you need your cursor to be in that location, and then right-click (Mac users Control + Click) inside of the body column, select **Templates > New Editable Region**, give an appropriate name and if you are successful you will notice a light blue with the name of the editable region in your cursor's location.



You can continue to make changes, try different layouts, add new stuff etc. in the Template.

Using a Template in Dreamweaver

Once you have successfully made your Template your job is not yet over. You still need to make sure that all the pages are using the Template so that when you update the Template the pages using the Template will automatically get updated. Here are the steps to apply a template to a page.

Step 1: Once you have created a page which with the same structure as the template all you need to do is, Go to **Modify >Template > Apply Template to page**

Step 2: Once you have applied the specified template to the page you will see a window 'Choose editable region for orphaned content', choose the editable region that you want the content to go into and click on OK. You will see that the template is in yellow and cannot be edited. The only region that is editable is the editable region you have specified in the template.

Note: You can apply the template before writing any content or after it. If you do it after writing content you need to choose an editable region where the content will go.

Updating a Template in Dreamweaver

Once you have made the template and applied it to all the necessary pages, the last step you need to know is how to update a template. This is the magic of using Templates.

Any changes that you need to make in the basic structure of the site, you need to do in the Template. So go ahead and make the changes and click on save. If you have applied the Template to any of your site pages you will get a window asking you if you want to 'Update Templates used in the following files'. You must click on **Update**. If you click on Don't Update, none of the pages using the Template will get updated.

Create an on-line photo album

Dreamweaver provides a function to create an on-line photo album with ease.

1. To begin, make sure you have all of your pictures in a new folder on the desktop.
2. In Dreamweaver, from the main toolbar, choose Commands > Create Web Photo Album. A window will appear.

Create Web Photo Album

Photo Album Title:

Subheading Info:

Other Info:

Source Images Folder: Browse...

Destination Folder: Browse...

Thumbnail Size: 100 x 100 ☒ Show Filenames

Columns: 5

Thumbnail Format: JPEG - Better Quality

Photo Format: JPEG - Better Quality Scale: 100 %

☒ Create Navigation Page for Each Photo

OK
Cancel
Help

3. Choose an album title and subheading. Then browse for the folder you created on the desktop for your photo album images.
4. The "Destination" folder is where you would like Dreamweaver to put the finished files. Choose the folder on your desktop you created for your site's local files. Click OK.
5. Dreamweaver will open Fireworks automatically and batch process your photos. When it is done, your web page will appear. Preview it in a browser.
6. You may make any edits to the color, text, or fonts in the photo album Dreamweaver has created for you.
7. When uploading it to your public_html folder, be sure to include the page itself (it will default as "**index.htm(l)**"), the **thumbnails** folder, the **images** folder, and the **pages** folder, so the entire album is viewable.