

Legacy Web Pages: Converting from HTML to XHTML

Scenario: you are a university web person who inherited a legacy Web site full of deprecated code, with multiple tables nested in tables, etc. and want to bring it up to current code specifications

I. Why make the move from HTML to XHTML?

A. History of HTML Code

B. Definitions

1. "Legacy"
2. Deprecated code

C. Benefits

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

D. Hands-on Activity: convert file from HTML to XHTML and clean up.

1. Dreamweaver Preference Settings

- a) Image tag ALT Attribute Prompt
- b) Copy/Paste
- c) Preview in Browsers

(1) University supported browser

(2) Why We Like Firefox

d) Use CSS instead of HTML

2. Syntax differences

a) DOCTYPE statement

b) tags in lower case

c) all tags must close (even stand-alone tags)

d) attributes in quotes

II. How to Wire-frame your Web Pages to Guide Content Markup

A. Separate Content from Presentation

B. Review Markup/Semantics/Structure

C. Examples of what you can do with CSS:

1. Presentation

2. Behaviors

a) Link Hovers/rollovers

b) Multi-level Fly-out Menus

3. Positioning

a) Horizontal Menus (lists)

b) To Use or Not Use Tables

D. Benefits of CSS

1.

2.

3.

E. New Way to “Slice and Dice” Presentation

1. Analyze design and define unique areas
2. Common containers divs (IDs)
 - a) wrapper
 - b) header
 - c) navigation
 - d) content
 - e) footer

III. How to Write CSS Rules to Match the Wire-framed Structure

A. CSS: External, Internal and Inline

B. Style Sheet rules, selectors and declarations

C. CSS Rules

1. Dreamweaver's CSS Panel
 - a) Redefining existing HTML tags
 - b) Custom Class Styles
 - c) Advanced selectors (IDs, pseudo-class selectors)
2. CSS Shorthand
 - a) Color Values
 - b) Multiple Properties
 - c) Box Dimensions

D. How to Name IDs and classes

1. Avoid appearance and location descriptions, which may change
ex. id="leftgreenbox"
2. Keep in mind purpose, which should never change ex. id="nav"

E. Tips and Tricks

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

IV. Dreamweaver Trial Version

<http://www.adobe.com/downloads/>

V. References

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http://realworldstyle.com/environmental_style.html

B. Veerle Pieters "*The XHTML/CSS template phase of my new blog, part 2*"

http://veerle.duoh.com/blog/comments/the_xhtml_css_template_phase_of_my_new_blog_part_2/

C. Andy Budd, "*An Objective Look as Table Based vs, CSS Based Design*" (2004)

http://www.andybudd.com/archives/2004/05/an_objective_look_at_table_based_vs_css_based_design/index.php

D. Dave Shea, "*Gasp! Tables*" (2004)

http://www.mezzoblue.com/archives/2004/05/13/gasp_tables/index.php

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Why Make the Move from HTML to XHTML?

- History of HTML Code
 - "Legacy"
 - Deprecated code
- Definitions
- Benefits
- Hands-on Activity: convert file from HTML to XHTML and clean up

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How to Write CSS Rules to Match the Wire-framed Structure

- CSS: External, Internal and Inline
- Dreamweaver's CSS Panel
- CSS Shorthand
- CSS Rules
- How to Name IDs and Classes
- Tips and Tricks

How to Wire-frame your Web Pages to Guide Content Markup

- Separate Content from Presentation
- Review Markup/Semantics/Structure
- What You Can Do With CSS:
 - Presentation
 - Behaviors
 - Positioning
- Benefits of CSS
- New Way to "Slice and Dice" Presentation