

Dreamweaver MX Workshop - Part 2



"Finally!! No more nightmares about Dreamweaver!"

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Section D: Working with templates

Creating a basic template

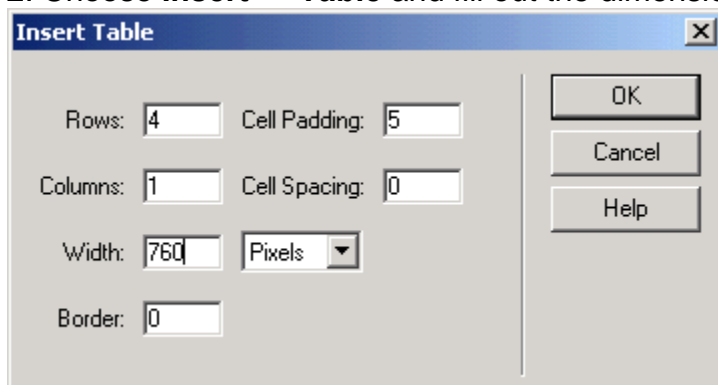
Professional websites are characterized by consistency. As you move from one page to another, the layout, the navigation, and look and feel remain the same while the content changes.

A powerful way to achieve this effect is to design your website using a template. Let's experiment with templates by building a new web site.

Step 1: Layout

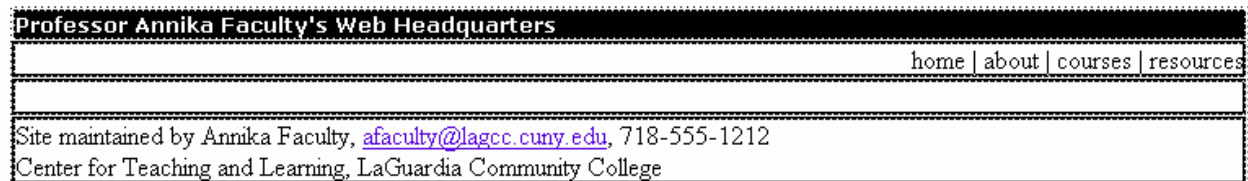
1. Start with an untitled document. If you don't have one already, go to **File**→**New**. Make sure that **Basic** and **HTML** are selected, then click **Create**.

2. Choose **Insert** → **Table** and fill out the dimensions shown below.



3. Type in a header, footer, and navigation, as shown below, using the **Properties** window to adjust background color/font where desired.

4. To create an email link, select the email address, then choose **Insert**→**Email Link**.



5. Choose **Modify** → **Page Properties**, and type in a title for your website, e.g., "Views From LaGuardia".

6. Choose **File** → **Save as Template**.

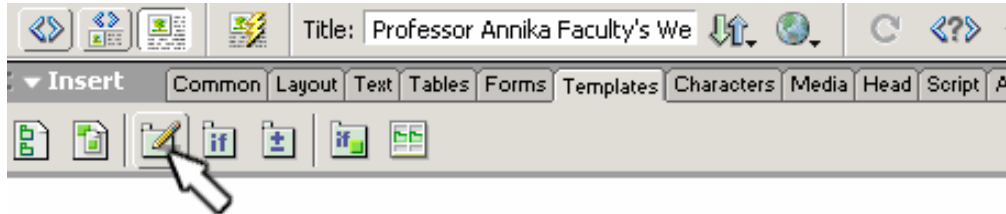
7. On the bottom of the window, under **Save As**, change the name to "main."

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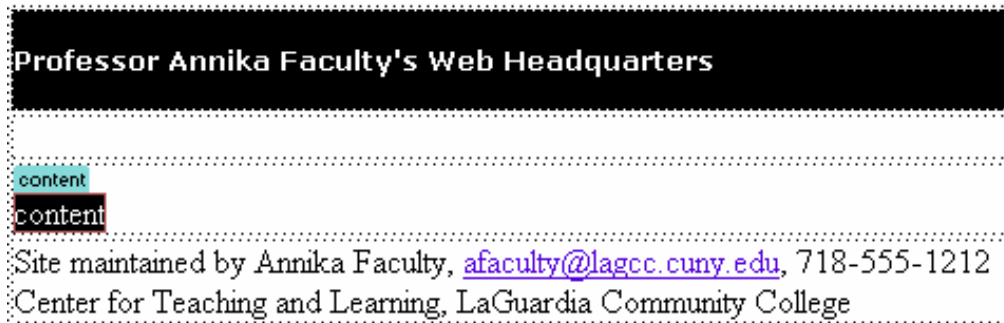
Creating the editable region of the template

Now we will create the editable part of the template, where the page content will go.

1. Click inside the 3rd row of your template to select it.
2. Click the "**Templates**" tab.
3. Select the "**Editable Region**" icon.



4. In the dialogue box, name the editable region "content."
5. The new region appears on the page.



6. Choose **File** → **Save**, to save your work.

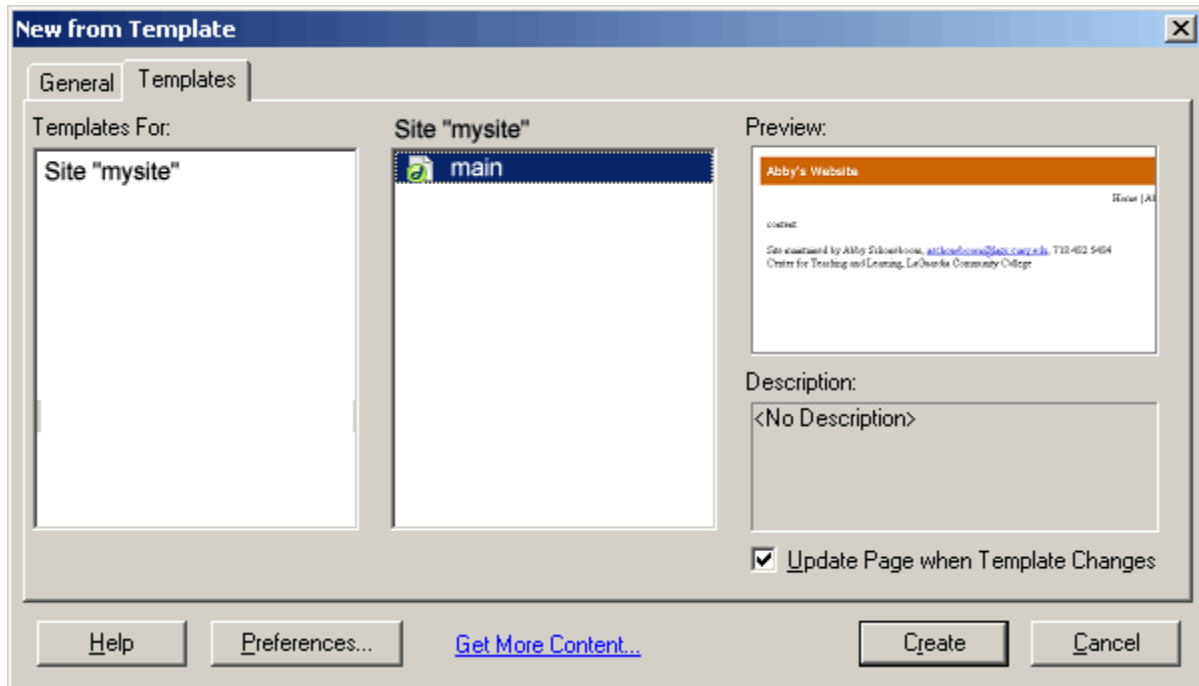
Congratulations! You have successfully created a template. Look at the site window and you will see that Dreamweaver has stored your template in a subfolder called "Templates." When you want to modify its design, you can simply open and edit it like a regular webpage. When you save it, Dreamweaver will adjust all the files you have created from the template.

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Creating additional webpages from the template

1. Choose **File** → **New...**

The following window will appear, asking you to choose the template you want to use.



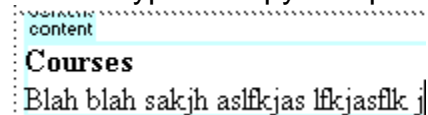
2. Select "main" and click "**Create**."

3. A new untitled page appears based on the template.

4. Highlight the lower box, which is the editable region (you'll notice you can't add text anywhere else).



5. Then type or copy and paste text into the editable region.



6. Choose **File** → **Save as** and save the file with a regular webpage name, e.g., "courses". For web files, it's a good idea to use short filenames with lowercase letters only and no spaces.

7. When you look in the site window, you'll see the page you have created listed as courses.html or courses.htm.

8. Repeat this process to create the other pages of your website.

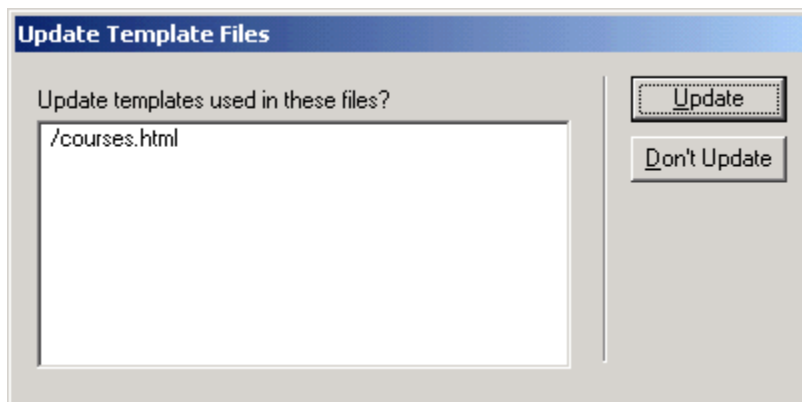
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Modifying the template

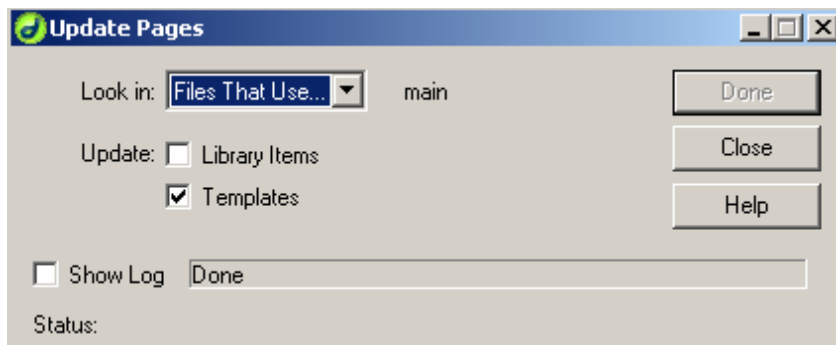
As you build out the site, you will need to go back and make modifications to the template.

1. In the Site window, go into the Templates folder and double-click on your template to open it (it should be called "main.dwt").
2. The template opens like a regular webpage.
3. Make a small change, e.g., change the background color of one of the cells or alter the footer text.
4. Choose File → Save.

Note: When you hit save after modifying a template, DW will ask you if you want to update all the files that are made from the template. Just click Update.



It will then show you another dialogue box. Click **Close**.

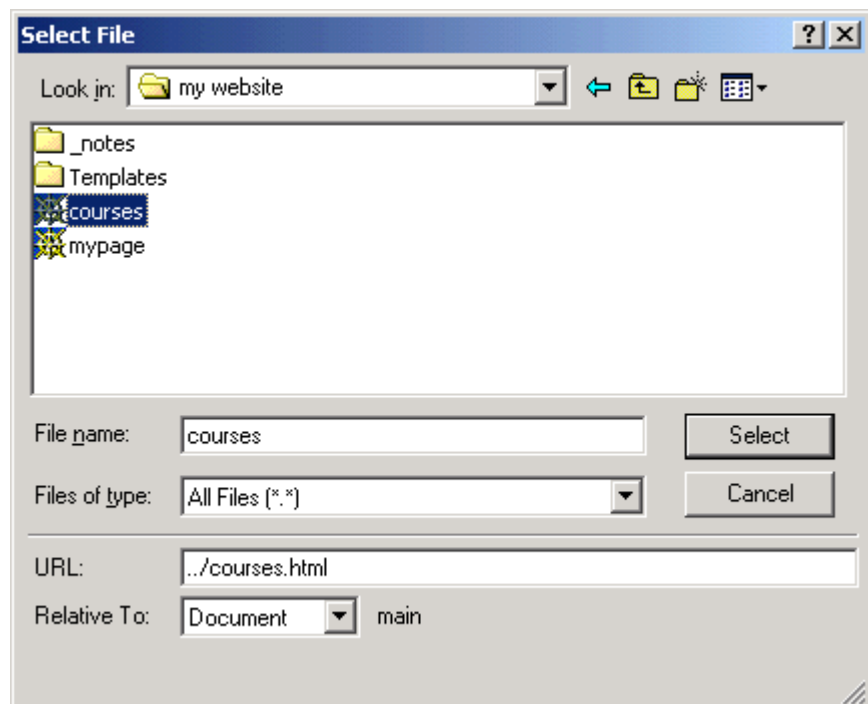


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Modifying the template: adding navigation links

Once you have created the webpages for the main sections of your site, even if your content is not yet fully developed, you can create links to these pages from the navigation bar.

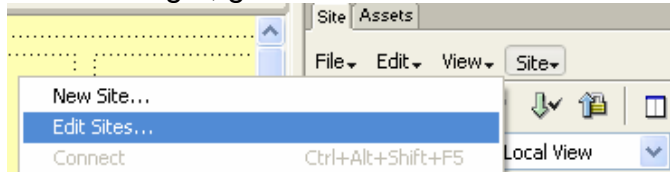
1. Open the template (main.dwt).
2. Highlight the text for one of the links in the navigation bar
3. In the Properties click in the Link field and click on the folder icon to "Browse for File".
3. Select the appropriate webpage, and click OK.
4. Repeat for the other webpages that comprise the website.
5. When you're done, save the template by choosing File → Save.



Section E: Publishing Your Site Setting the remote site information

Let's enter the remote site information so that we can upload our files to the server.

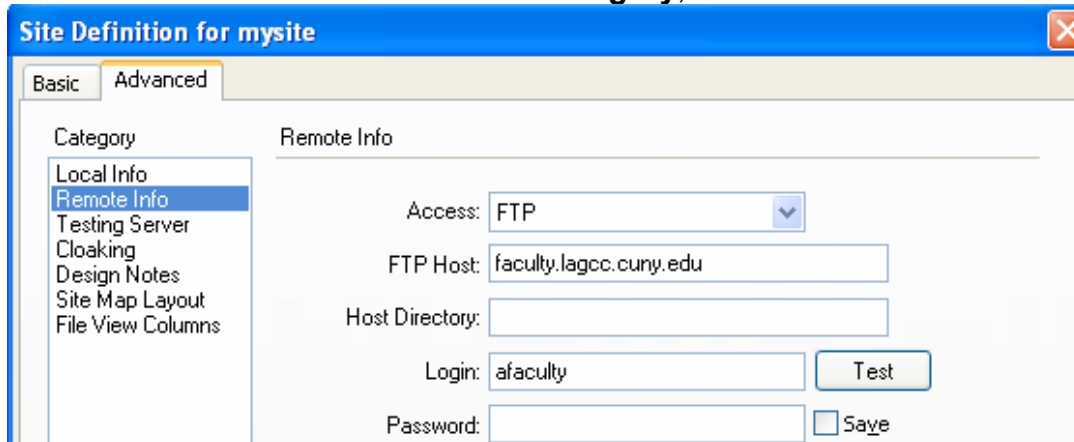
1. On the right, go to **Site> Edit Sites**.



2. Make sure your site is selected, then click the **Edit** button.



3. Click on the **Advanced** tab. Under **Category**, select **Remote Info**.



4. Under Access choose **FTP**

5. Under FTP host, type **faculty.lagcc.cuny.edu**


6. Type in your Login, e.g., **afaculty**.

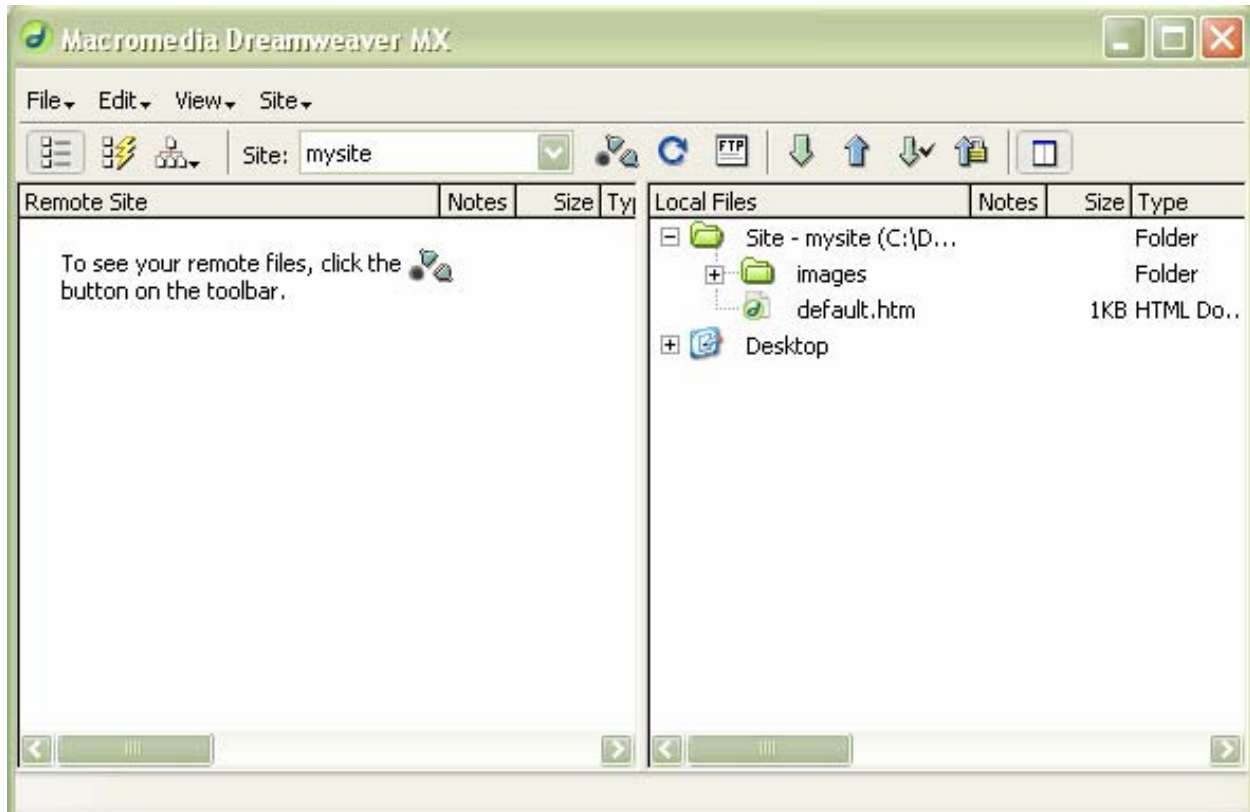
7. Leave the password field blank unless you are working on your own computer.

8. Click on OK.



9. Back in the **Edit Sites** dialogue box, click

Section E. Publishing Your Site The site window

We use the site window to manage and publish our files. To move back and forth between the site window and the main interface by clicking on the site icon: 



To familiarize yourself with the site window, notice the following features:

- Split-screen, **Local** site on the right and **Remote** site on the left. Remote means the server where you'll upload your files so they can be seen on the web.
- Folder icon indicating the **mysite** folder.
- File icons showing the file(s) that are in the folder (double-click on a file to open it). Icon to connect to remote host: 
- Put/Get icons: 

Try closing the site window and opening it again by clicking the site icon: 

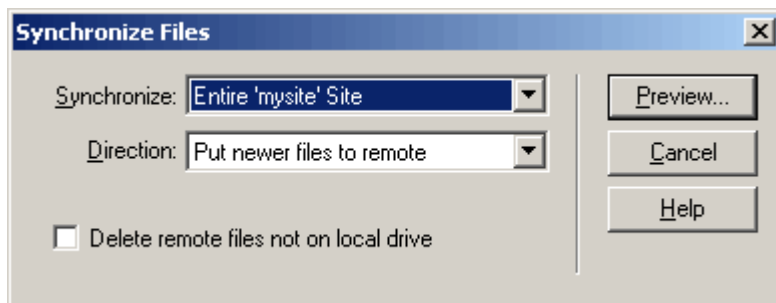
Section D. Publishing Your Site

Uploading your files to the server

At any time, you can upload your files to the faculty server. When a file is moved to the server, anyone can see it provided they know the URL.

There are several techniques for uploading files. I recommend that you use the **synchronize** technique as follows:

1. From the Site pull-down menu choose Synchronize.
2. In the Synchronize field choose "Entire 'mysite' Site."
3. In the Direction field choose "Put newer files to remote."
4. Click Preview, then hit OK.



Once your website files are uploaded, you can look at them from any computer, using the following URL:

<http://faculty.lagcc.cuny.edu/yourusername/filename>
e.g., <http://faculty.lagcc.cuny.edu/afaculty/mypage.html>

If your file is named "default.htm" you only have to type in **<http://faculty.lagcc.cuny.edu/yourusername/>** and it will take you to that page automatically!

Uploading files to the server is also an excellent way to store your work and move it from one computer to another.

Try This!

Check back in the **Site Window**. To see your pages on the remote server, click

