

# Introduction to Webdesign

Grad Forum  
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# > What's a website?

# › HTML: HyperText Markup Language

```
Source of: http://www.ufl.edu/ - Mozilla Firefox
File Edit View Help

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en">
<head>
<title>University of Florida</title>
<meta name="description" content="One of the nation's five largest universities, the University of Florida is a m..."/>
<link rel="icon" href="favicon.ico" type="image/x-icon" />
<link rel="shortcut icon" href="favicon.ico" type="image/x-icon" />
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" media="screen" href="basic.css" />
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" media="print" href="print.css" />
<style type="text/css" media="screen" title="Default">
@import "_priNew.css";
</style>
<link rel="alternate" type="application/rss+xml" title="University of Florida News" href="http://news.ufl.edu/feed" />
<link rel="search" type="application/opensearchdescription+xml" title="UFL Search" href="opensearch.xml" />
</head>
<body>
<div id="header">
  <h1 class="replace" id="logo"><a href="/">University of Florida<span></span></a></h1>
  <span id="assist"><a href="/disability/">accessibility assistance</a></span>
  <form action="http://search.ufl.edu/search" method="get" name="search" id="search">
    <label for="source">Search Web, Phonebook or Text Only</label>
    <select id="source" name="source">
      <option value="web" selected="selected">UF Web with Google</option>
      <option value="phonebook">UF Phonebook</option>
      <option value="textonly">UF Text Only</option>
    </select>
  </form>
</div>
<div id="content">
  <h2>UF Web with Google</h2>
  <p>Search the UF Web with Google. This search engine provides access to the University of Florida's web pages, as well as other web pages from around the world. The search results are displayed in a clean, easy-to-read format, making it easy to find what you're looking for. You can also refine your search by selecting a category from the dropdown menu or by using the search filters on the left side of the page. If you need assistance with accessibility, please visit the accessibility assistance page.</p>
  <div id="search-form">
    <form action="http://search.ufl.edu/search" method="get" name="search" id="search">
      <label for="source">Search Web, Phonebook or Text Only</label>
      <select id="source" name="source">
        <option value="web" selected="selected">UF Web with Google</option>
        <option value="phonebook">UF Phonebook</option>
        <option value="textonly">UF Text Only</option>
      </select>
      <input type="text" name="q" placeholder="Search..." value="UF Web with Google" />
      <input type="submit" value="Search" />
    </form>
  </div>
  <div id="category-menu">
    <ul>
      <li>UF Web with Google</li>
      <li>UF Phonebook</li>
      <li>UF Text Only</li>
    </ul>
  </div>
  <div id="filter-menu">
    <ul>
      <li>All Categories</li>
      <li>UF News</li>
      <li>UF Events</li>
      <li>UF Sports</li>
      <li>UF Dining Services</li>
      <li>UF Health Services</li>
      <li>UF Student Life</li>
      <li>UF Academic Services</li>
      <li>UF Research</li>
      <li>UF Administration</li>
      <li>UF Faculty & Staff</li>
      <li>UF Students</li>
      <li>UF Alumni</li>
      <li>UF Parents</li>
      <li>UF Guests</li>
    </ul>
  </div>
  <div id="refinement-menu">
    <ul>
      <li>Refine by Category</li>
      <li>Refine by Date</li>
      <li>Refine by Type</li>
    </ul>
  </div>
  <div id="results">
    <h3>Search Results</h3>
    <ul>
      <li>UF Web with Google</li>
      <li>UF Phonebook</li>
      <li>UF Text Only</li>
    </ul>
  </div>
</div>
<div id="footer">
  <ul>
    <li>About</li>
    <li>Contact Us</li>
    <li>Feedback</li>
    <li>Privacy Policy</li>
    <li>Terms of Use</li>
  </ul>
  <small>Copyright © 2023 University of Florida. All rights reserved.</small>
</div>
```

# > What's a website?

## › Server

- » Computer: where files are stored
- » Software: handles request from users



server

## › Web Browser

- » Mozilla Firefox
- » MS Internet Explorer
- » Safari
- » Opera



user

# > What can you put on a web page?

- › Text
- › Images
- › For everything else, you need plug-ins
  - » Adobe PDF
  - » Adobe Flash
  - » Java
  - » ...
- › Static vs dynamic

# > What is an URL?

- › URL: Uniform Resource Locator
- › Structure of an URL
  - » <http://zoology.ufl.edu/zgsa/gradforum.html>

# > What is an URL?

## › Structure of an URL

» `http://zoology.ufl.edu/zgsa/gradforum.html`



**Main domain**

# > What is an URL?

## › Structure of an URL

» `http://zoology.ufl.edu/zgsa/gradforum.html`

**Sub domain**



# > What happens when you type an URL?

## › Structure of an URL

» `http://zoology.ufl.edu/zgsa/gradforum.html`



# > What is an URL?

## › Structure of an URL

» **http://zooology.ufl.edu/zgsa/gradforum.html**

**Protocol**



# > What is an URL?

## › Structure of an URL

» `http://zoology.ufl.edu/zgsa/gradforum.html`

What is your  
computer  
supposed to do  
with this file?

Where is the  
computer?

Which file on this  
computer?

Physical location

`http://64.233.187.99/` equivalent to `http://www.google.com`

# > What is an URL?

## › Case sensitivity

» <http://zoology.ufl.edu/zgsa/gradforum.html>

Case insensitive

Case sensitive

**http://ZOoIOgY.UFl.EDU/zgsa/gradforum.html**

# > Fonts

- › Fonts **MUST** be on the hard-disk of your visitors
- › Three types of fonts
  - » Serif: Times New Roman, Georgia
  - » Sans-serif: Arial, Verdana, Trebuchet
  - » Monospace: Courier
- › Use styles to provide alternative fonts

# > Colors

- › Use contrast
- › Be sober, things to avoid: ex1, ex2, ex3
- › No blinking/animations
- › About 10% of men are colorblind...
- › RGB Hexadecimal system
- › Use tools to choose your colors
  - » <http://www.colorsontheweb.com/>

# > Graphics: drawings and photos

- › Use PNG for drawings (SVG best)
- › Use JPG for photos
- › Resize to display sizes
- › Examples
- › Text is text, images are images
- › Always provide alternative text
- › Respect case of extensions
  - » photo.JPG vs photo.jpg

Avoid doing this

# > HTML

- › HyperText Markup Language
- › 74 words, only 15 commonly used
- › Hard on spelling but loose on grammar
- › Different dialects
- › Basic structure of a HTML document

# > Diversity of your visitors (and of their computers)

- › Size of the screen/resolution
- › Dial-up connexions
- › Disabled
- › Different browsers
- › Standards
  - » <http://www.w3.org/>
  - » <http://www.webstandards.org/>

# > Standards

- › Validate your HTML
  - » <http://validator.w3.org/>
  - » Web-developer toolbar extension
  - » Some examples (non-biased)
- › Layout: no frames, no tables, just <div>
- › Why should I bother? After all, my website look the way I want...

# > Standards

## › Accessibility

### » Software/machines

- Search engines
- Old browsers
- Conversion

### » People

- Disabilities

## › Stability

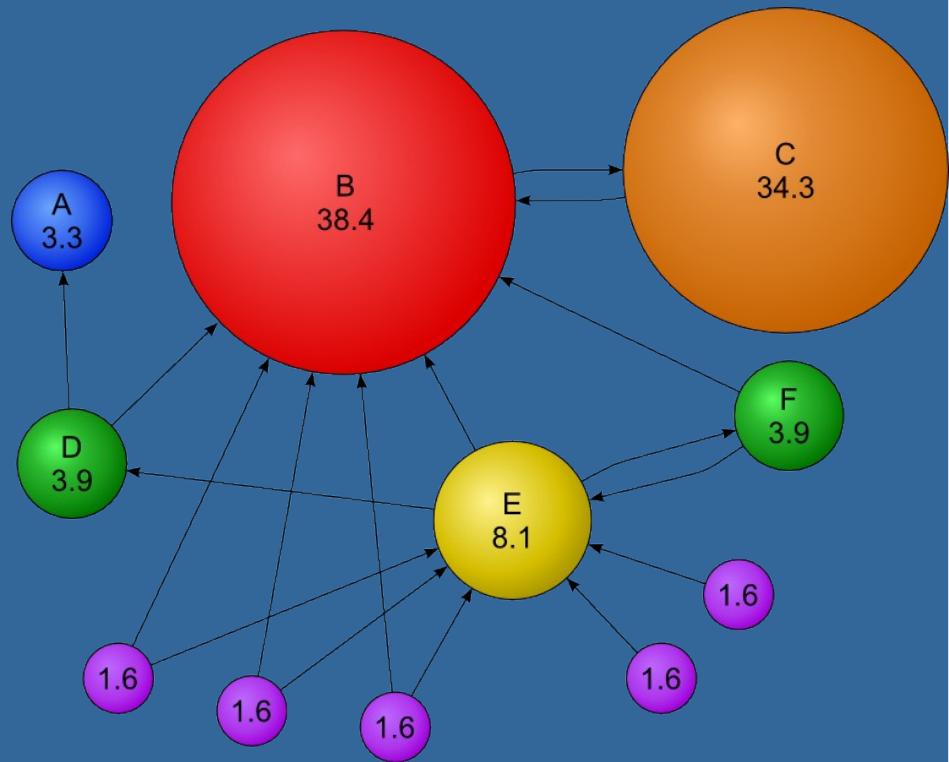
## › Example with zoology website

See <http://www.webstandards.org/learn/faq>

# > Google and Search engines

## › Google algorithm

- » Google PageRank (TM): example
- » Number of occurrences of the words
- » Where the words occur in the page (url, title)
- » Context of the word
- » What link to the page
- » Frequency of the updates



# > CSS

- › Cascading Style Sheets
  - » Decouples content and look
  - » Standards friendly
  - » Easier to maintain/update your website
  - » Possibility of introducing a little bit of dynamism
- › Real time examples
  - » <font> vs CSS
  - » Changing colors on ZGSA website
- › Things to avoid

# > Links

## › Relative and absolute paths

### » Absolute

- `http://zoology.ufl.edu/zgsa/officers.html`
- `file:///c://Documents and Settings/John Doe/Desktop/`

### » Relative

- `../images/button.png`

### » Make sure you know what your software do

## › New window

### » `<a href="index.html" target="_blank">`

# > Links

› What can you link **from**?

- » Text
- » Images

› What can you link **to**?

- » Another page
- » Same page but different location
- » File
  - Be careful with default associations
- » Example

## > Easy navigation

- › Be consistent
- › Always provide an easy way to go back home

# > What to use to make a website?

- › Text editor (syntax coloration may help)
- › Open-source and cross-platform software
  - » Kompozer
  - » Amaya
- › Non-open
  - » FrontPage, iWeb
  - » Dreamwaver
- › I would avoid
  - » Publisher, Word

# > Hosting options

## › Non-UF

- » Free, nothing to worry about, not very flexible
  - <http://pages.google.com>
  - <http://pages.yahoo.com>
- » Your own domain name and hosting options
  - <http://godaddy.com>
  - Things to look for: bandwidth, amount of hard-disk space

# > Hosting options

## › UF

### » ex-zoology/botany website:

- Address: <http://www.zoology.ufl.edu/yourgatorlink>

### » University:

- Address: <http://plaza.ufl.edu/yourgatorlink>

# > Transferring files to the server

- › FTP (File Transfer Protocol)
  - » FileZilla
  - » FireFTP (extension for Firefox)
- › Windows share
  - » Instructions at:  
[http://www.zoology.ufl.edu/faq/#Zoo\\_Resources](http://www.zoology.ufl.edu/faq/#Zoo_Resources)

# > Copyright

- › Clearly state the copyright and the license for the content of your website
- › ... in particular if you use content that you took somewhere else
- › There are no safe ways to protect your pictures
- › If you are concerned: read [this](#)
- › Learn more about Creative Commons
  - » <http://creativecommons.org/>

## > Advices

- › Keep your website updated
- › Check your links (in particular external) often
- › Don't delete/rename your pages
- › Be curious

# > Resources

- › HTML
  - » <http://www.w3.org/>
- › CSS
  - » Lists, menus: <http://css.maxdesign.com.au/>
- › Other useful site:
  - » <http://www.w3schools.com/>
- › Google is your friend