

Changing from Frontpage to Expression Web

Monday, July 09, 2007
7:47 AM

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Start Date:

- July 3, 2007

Summary of changes made based on testing the 60 day trial version

1. Added new pages and updated existing pages using cascading style sheets
 - i. index.htm (home page)
 - ii. masters.htm (masters work)
 - iii. pad.htm (proofreading and learning disability...)
 - iv. dna.htm (genetic dragnet: constitutional?)
2. Changed the look and functioning of menus--still using Frontpage server extensions
 - i. index.htm
 - ii. borders/bottom.htm
3. After testing, upgrading is useful
 - i. Frontpage has been discontinued
 - ii. Expression Web
 - 1) Is standards based
 - 2) Uses cascading style sheets
 - 3) Should enable the production of a better website
 - 4) Ordered program July 3, 2007

After ordering Expression Web

- ✓ I viewed two webcasts to date
 - Creating cutting-edge web design
 - Using cascading style sheets
- ✓ Now, I am creating dynamic web templates to replace themes and borders
 - Reasons
 - ⇒ Achieving a better look
 - ⇒ To make the website standards based

End Date:

- August 16, 2007

Problems

1. The program is drastically different from Frontpage
2. While formatting is easier, there are still formatting issues to be dealt with
 - i. Formatting a dynamic web template
 - ii. Learning the cascading style sheet language

Questions

- ? How do dynamic web templates work?
- ? What is the most effective use of cascading style sheets?
- ? Should I call my web hosting company about removing the Frontpage server extensions?

Project observations

Tuesday, 7/10/2007, 3:08 AM

Day 7:

- ✓ I have spent the entire day (Monday) trying to create dynamic web templates with marginal success. It seems, I have forgotten some of the steps used in the process, which is understandable, but nonetheless frustrating.
- ✓ During the above process, I accidentally deleted my index page, and had to reconstruct its content. That is, due to the dynamic web template and the cascading style sheet, I did not have to rewrite the entire page from scratch. Unfortunately, in the process of attaching my DNA article to a dynamic web template, the page was so screwed up that I deleted it in order to start fresh.
- ✓ My homepage has been reconstructed and posted; however, it does have a Persian flaw. Hovering over the word 'resume,' the word 'new' appears in the button. I suppose it is due to a mistake in code. I will leave it as it is for the time being.
- ✓ I viewed a Microsoft webcast on the use of dynamic web templates and it appears I will have to view it again, for some of the steps that the presenter used did not work when I attempted to use them.
- ✓ It is necessary when using more than one cascading style sheet that all the IDs be unique. Duplication of IDs cause a problems in code execution.
- ✓ The best way to use dynamic web templates is to place the unique content on the page after the template has been applied. Attaching the template to a page that has complicated formatting and its own style sheets is just messy.

7/10/2007, 2:06 PM

- ✓ At this point, I have updated four pages using dynamic web templates of my own design. A list describing the templates is enclosed in these notes.
- ✓ I have one set of bottom border buttons complete, they are light blue. That leaves other button colors and backgrounds to create.
- ✓ I hope to complete the pages in the main directory by this coming Friday, July 13, 2007.
- ✓ The Launching of a New Constitution and United States, Japan, and Pearl Harbor will undergo refit, most likely, in stages. I have an uncomfortable feeling, I will run out of time.

Thursday, 7/12/2007, 8:47 AM

Day 9:

- ✓ Wednesday, I completed a new template and updated the Dr. Who links page. During the process, I discovered that the<bgsound> tag is not supported in XHTML code, and I do not know how to write the use of a background sound on a page into a cascading style sheet. Additionally, the<bgsound> tag is not recognized by all browsers. For example, an older age using the<bgsound> tag will not render correctly in Firefox, it ignores the<bgsound> tag. However, I did find a solution to the problem and the code to make it work. By using the <object> tag, setting parameters the background sound will play in browsers, and can be controlled by the user.

Background sound code:

```
<object type="audio/x-wav" data="../who/sound/tlv.wav" width="20" height="20">  
<param name="src" value="../who/sound/tlv.wav">  
<param name="autoplay" value="true">  
<param name="autoStart" value="1">  
alt : Tardis  
</object>
```

7/14/2007, 11:05 AM

Day 11

- ✓ Friday, I attempted to update the new series of Dr. Who Page. It was designed in Frontpage; therefore, it is not standards based using outdated tags and other HTML elements. In an effort to save myself time, content, and links, I tried to remove the useless elements of code line by line. That was a mistake, for the code was so old that I should have realized it wasn't worth saving on start from scratch.
- ✓ My goal was to change the look of the page. What I should have done is take the content of the page pasted into Notepad and then Microsoft Word. That insurers the text has absolutely no formatting. Word is used to change content or check grammar.
- ✓ The Links should have been saved in an Excel spreadsheet listing URL and title of each link. This process would have saved time in the long run and is necessary if you want to update the page's code. However, if you want to retain the page format and add to the existing content there is a way to do that.
- ✓ Trying to change code line by line is a fundamentally stupid thing to do! It takes hours and more often than not, does not work at all ever!
- ✓ An entire day was lost; however, the mistake does serve as an object lesson on the importance of backing up your website.

Clean HTML Code

```

<!--#include virtual="/css" -->
<!-- #BeginEditable "css" -->
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href=".../style/botbasic.css" />
<!-- #EndEditable -->
</head>
<body onload="FP_preloadImage('/main1/.../buttons/redrebot/button2E.gif','/main1/.../buttons/redrebot/button2F.gif','/main1/.../buttons/redrebot/button33.gif',)
<!-- #BeginEditable "head" -->
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />
</meta>
<!-- #EndEditable -->
<!-- #BeginEditable "content" -->
<h1>The Doctor Who Episode Guide</h1>
<table style="width: 88%; height: 97px" id="tableformat" align="center">
<tr>
<td style="width: 392px" valign="top">
<div class="caption">
Simon Irvine <a href="http://www.giant.net/~scope/~/http://www.giant.net/~scope/c/aa"></a>
</div>
<p class="para">In the spring of 1994 Simon Irvine compiled the best Doctor Who episode guide on the Internet. The guide includes all twenty-six seasons of the series. In effort to keep the guide from being lost to fans of The Doctor, I asked his permission to reproduce the guide here.</p>
<p class="para">I have updated it where necessary, and added my work on The Doctor to round out the guide.</p>
<p class="para">Thank You, Simon.</p>
<p class="para">I do not lay claim to any copyrighted work here; however, I do lay claim to the page layout.</p>
</div>
<div class="para">
</div>
<div class="para">
</div>
</div>
<div class="para">
<h2 class="toppara">Introduction</h2>
<p class="para">This page and the pages that follow are dedicated to one of the best Science Fiction Programs in the history of television. That program is, of course, Doctor Who. The other number one Science Fiction Program is Star Trek.</p>
<p class="para">Why is Doctor Who equal to Star Trek?</p>
</div>
</div>
</table>
</tr>
</table>

```

- ✓ The importance of clean HTML code, I suppose, can not be exaggerated. Cascading style sheets are standard and should be used! Any webpage worth keeping is worth rewriting and it's not worth rewriting get rid of it. Rewriting your webpage, in terms of style provide options and renders better results.

Sunday, 7/15/2007, 9:46 PM
Day 12

- ✓ Today I completed two pages, the Dr. who episode guide and Mr. Sherlock Holmes. Additionally, I created my fifth template consisting of bottom menu tabs and a black background.
- ✓ I have reached the point where I'm starting to make good progress. Hopefully, I will complete most of the work I have left before beginning of the fall semester.
- ✓ I have enough templates now, it should just be a matter of re-coding the pages that are left, which is no small task.

Tuesday, 7/17/2007, 9:38 AM
Day 13

- ✓ Yesterday, I completed the prisoner page. Instead of using tables, I used the <div> tag to format page content. During the process one thing became abundantly clear, I do not understand how to use the <div> tag. I have read it should be used instead of tables because tables add extra code to a page. Additionally, tables can only be used for spreadsheet-like data and not for page layout.
- ✓ That is all well and good; however, setting up <div> tags is time consuming and frustrating at best, at worst formatting doesn't work, and the page looks like shit. Furthermore, tables in the and of themselves do not add unneeded code to a page when used in combination with separate cascading style sheets. On the contrary, tables are a quick way to ensure accurate formatting. I have read nothing yet that has convinced me otherwise.

Wednesday, 7/18/2007, 11:10 PM
Day 14

- ✓ Yesterday evening, I completed the portfolio page.
- ✓ Today, I discovered in order for Expression Web dynamic web templates to update the pages they are attached to properly, the program must do so to a mirror site on the hard drive or some other mass storage device, work cannot do so live on the server I am using.
- ✓ Thus to take advantage of dynamic web templates, I must keep an active mirror site on the hard drive. This is somewhat annoying, for I had gotten used to working on the website live.
- ✓ The above notwithstanding, completed the Sherlock Holmes links page and my resume except for the link to the pdf file.

Wednesday, 7/25/2007, 7:53 AM
Day 21

- ✓ Yesterday, I completed the Cherokee Nation and Andrew Jackson, the fourth in my series of research papers, and am now working on the last in the set, History of Scotland Yard.
- ✓ I have discovered that the text inside a <div> tag wraps automatically, thus I am now using the <div> tag instead of tables. However, it is best to create content in another program such as Notepad or Word.
- ✓ Time is running out, I have less than two weeks to complete this refit, and I have not started the United States, Japan and Pearl Harbor, nor the Launching of a New Constitution. Each is a small site in itself.

Friday, 7/27/2007, 10:19 AM
Day 23

- ✓ With 14 days left to complete the project, I have five pages and two folders, which I suppose I should call subsites, to complete.
- ✓ Is important to remember not to change the names of your files or their extensions, for if one changes made that change will screw up the link structure of your website. For example, without thinking I changed copyright.html to copyright.htm. Now, all the pages that I have on other servers that link to the copyright.html get a 404 error code from the site because the file no longer exists. This is complicated by the fact that a majority of the pages now link to copyright.htm. The easiest way to correct the problem is to write to redirect file.

Monday, 7/30/2007, 10:52 AM
Day 26

- ✓ Early this morning, around 3:00 AM, I completed all web updates except for The Launching of a new Constitution and the United States, Japan and Pearl Harbor. I will start editing the ed folder today. My hope is to complete the work by this coming Friday.

Monday, 8/16/2007, 10:07 AM
Day 41

- ✓ After 40 days, and a break the site is now complete, including the United States, Japan and Pearl Harbor. It has been an interesting experience, and overall the site better for the effort.

List of updating pages:

7/10/2007, 2:01 PM
Day 7

File Name	Page Title
1. index.html	Keegan's Site
2. masters.htm	Master Work
3. dna.htm	Genetic Dagnet Constitutional?
4. copyright.htm	Copyright
5. req/index.html	Request Use of Content

7/30/2007, 11:09 AM
Day 26

File Name	Page Title
1. index.html	Keegan's Site
2. masters.htm	Master Work
3. dna.htm	Genetic Dagnet Constitutional?
4. copyright.htm	Copyright
5. req/index.html	Request Use of Content
6. rpapers.html	Research Papers
7. who/drwl.htm	Doctor Who Links
8. who/drwg.html	The Doctor Who Episode Guide
9. sh/holmes2.html	Mr. Sherlock Holmes
10. num6.htm	The Prisoner
11. port/index.html	Portfolio
12. resum.html	Résumé
13. sh/index.html	Sherlock Holmes Links
14. news/new.htm	In the News
15. cpi.htm	Physical Disability and Independence
16. pad/pad.htm	Proofreading and Learning Disability
17. education.htm	Education Links
18. crhb.htm	Homebound
19. papers/eman.htm	Emancipation
20. papers/paper1.htm	Inclusion at the High School Level
21. papers/cholera.htm	Cholera: The Work of William Farr and John Snow
22. papers/jai.htm	The Cherokee Nation and Andrew Jackson
23. papers/paper3.html	History of Scotland Yard
24. winxp.htm	Reinstalling Windows XP
25. id/id.htm	Intelligent Design is not Science
26. id/idl.htm	Intelligent Design Links
27. eweb.html	Webpage Creation
28. pad/winvista.htm	Microsoft Reader as a Proofreading Tool: Windows Vista Update
29. sh/forsicl.htm	Forensic Science Links
30. groucho.html	Groucho Marx: The Writer
31. startrek.htm	Star Trek Links
32. who/drwdvd.html	Doctor Who DVD
33. ed/	The Launching of a New Constitution
34. ph/	United States, Japan and Pearl Harbor

List of templates

7/10/2007, 2:02 PM

Day 7:

File Name	Description
1. layoutix.dwt	Template for homepage; homepage menu
2. layoutf.dwt	Left menu; and changeable content background
3. layoutblu.dwt	Bottom menu, blue buttons; Alpha background

7/30/2007, 11:23 AM

Day 26

File Name	Description
1. layoutix.dwt	Template for homepage; homepage menu
2. layoutf.dwt	Left menu; and changeable content background
3. layoutblu.dwt	Bottom menu, blue buttons
4. redrecbot.dwt	Bottom menu, red buttons
5. tabs.dwt	Bottom menu, tabs
6. greybotmenu.dwt	Bottom menu, gray buttons