Introduction to (x)html

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Adding links, images and comments

The world wide web is connected together by links between web pages. Today, we shall make links to other web pages, and include images on our pages.

Links

- 1. Create a folder for your website called myname-html.
- 2. Inside that folder, make a web page called index.htm. This will be your main (home) page.
- 3. Type the following code into your file:

index.htm

- 4. Open your file with a web browser, and try clicking on the link.
- 5. Try to make a link to the wikipedia page on Malpas, so you can visit it by clicking on 'Malpas'.

How does it work?

from http://www.w3.org/People/Berners-Lee/Kids.html#What1

When you are reading a web page, the computer isn't showing you everything about the link. Behind the underlined or colored bit of text which you click on is an invisible thing like http://www.w3.org/. Its called a URL. This is the name of the web page to which the link goes. Behind each link, hidden from you, is the URL of the other web page, the one you'd get to if you followed the link.

When you click on a link, your computer takes this URL, and gets a copy of the web page (by asking the server—this is the bit between the http:// and the next /—for a copy).

Comments

Did you notice the extra line you typed into the html source code above, which didn't appear on the web page?

```
<!-- Below is my first hyperlink! -->
```

This is called a *comment* and will not appear on the displayed web page in a browser¹. It is always a good idea to comment any computer code (html and other languages) you may want to reuse, which will help you understand how the code works when you come back to it and want to change it another time.

Images

Now we are going to include an image on our homepage. We do this by using a special image tag, which tells the browser where to find the image, and how big it is.

1. First find a JPEG image or reasonable size (something fairly small), and save it as myimage.jpg

```
myimage.jpg
```

- 2. Find the width and height of your chosen image and note them down. I am going to use a square image of size 42×42 pixels for an example.
- 3. Now add the following line to your index.htm page:

```
<img src="myimage.jpg" alt="A picture I have chosen for my homepage" height="42" width="42" />
```

4. Refresh the page in your browser to see the result!



¹Though it is still sent to the viewer's computer by the server, and can be viewed by viewing the page source (not a good way to hide things!)