

# Web Site Development

## AN INTRODUCTION

### HTML – Productivity – Building a 3 Page Site

#### Exercise #15

In your travels around the World Wide Web you've likely noticed that most of the pages within a particular website all share a common layout. Besides being important for navigation purposes (the user quickly understands that the links, content, etc are always in the same place) it is also much simpler to develop a site using a common page structure for your HTML documents. This common structure can be thought of as a template. Once built, the developer only needs to change the content of that particular page.

Take for example, the Edgar Allan Poe page you have been working on (Exercise 13). If you were to create a web site about Horror Authors, you could quickly add additional pages by inserting new author information in place of the Poe information. Specifically, you would need to change the image, change the bio text, add a list of stories, and finally a list of related links.

1. Go to [http://www.digitalvertebrae.com/webdev/horror/authors\\_info.htm](http://www.digitalvertebrae.com/webdev/horror/authors_info.htm)
  - a. Save the 3 author images into your **images** folder within the **horror\_authors** folder. *You may already have the **poe.gif** image saved from a previous exercise.*
2. Go to [www.digitalvertebrae.com/webdev/horror/authors\\_poe.htm](http://www.digitalvertebrae.com/webdev/horror/authors_poe.htm) – *This page is like the one you've been working on. Major difference is that it is using a containing table for the layout.*
  - a. View the source for this page
  - b. Save the source into **horror\_authors** as **authors\_poe.htm**
3. You will use this page as a template for the other two pages of the site. To do this effectively, you will want to include as many common elements used on each page as possible. Most of these are already present within the content; however there is no navigation that will allow the user to move from page to page.
  - a. Locate the table data cell that is under the cell that has the dark red (#990000) background color, and to the left of the cell containing the author information (name, bio, picture, etc.).
  - b. Add the following within the cell you located in **a.** above.  
Edgar Allan Poe <br>  
Bram Stoker <br>  
Mary Shelley <br>
  - c. Add the correct relative hyperlink required to link to each document. Each link should open in the SAME window, NOT a new window. The document file names you need to know for linking are:  
authors\_poe.htm  
authors\_stoker.htm – *you'll create this page in Step 5.*  
authors\_shelley.htm – *you'll create this in Step 10.*
4. Save your work and load the page into Internet Explorer to check the first page. Make any adjustments you feel are required. Ensure the links are in the correct place and appear as hyperlinks.
5. Once you are satisfied that the starting file **authors\_poe.htm** is correct, save it as **authors\_stoker.htm**
6. Replace the Poe image with that of the Stoker image you downloaded in Step 1a.
7. Replace the Poe biography with the Stoker biography. The text for the biography is at [http://www.digitalvertebrae.com/webdev/horror/authors\\_info.htm](http://www.digitalvertebrae.com/webdev/horror/authors_info.htm)

8. Format the biography text so it is consistent with the Poe page.
9. Save your work and load the page into Internet Explorer to check the second page.
10. Save the page as **authors\_shelley.htm**
11. Replace the Stoker image with that of the Shelley image.
12. Replace the Stoker biography with the Shelley biography
13. Format the biography text so it is consistent with the other two pages.
14. Save your work and load the page into Internet Explorer to check the third page. You should now have 3 HTML documents, one for each author in the web site.
15. In Internet Explorer, click on all the relative links on all three pages to ensure your navigation is working correctly. Correct any errors you discover. Ensure all pages open within the same browser window.
16. Once you are satisfied that the links work, remove the link for the page that is the current page. In other words, since the user may be on the authors\_poe.htm page, there is little sense in having a link to it available. IMPORTANT – Remove the link to the page only, but not the text for the link. Instead, make the text for that page bold. This will provide an additional clue to the user as to where they are within the site.
17. On all three pages, set the border attribute to 0 on every table. Table borders are seldom visible on sites as web designers generally regard them as being "ugly".
18. Add this exercise to your list from **Exercise 14**. The link should go directly to **authors\_poe.htm**. As with the others, this page should open in a NEW window.
19. Check your pages against the sample below (authors\_poe.htm shown only – note borders are visible, when complete set yours to 0) for consistency.

