

Quality Control of the Website

Overview

Now that you have successfully constructed your website, you must check to be fully certain that the site is problem free before unveiling it to your client. This includes checking the site for broken links, bad HTML, browser incompatibilities, missing alt text, spelling errors, and similar issues that all fall under the heading of *quality control*.

Challenge

To find and correct any problems with the website that might have been overlooked during the design process.

Learner Outcomes

At the completion of this exercise, you will be able to:

- **Lesson 1** - use your web authoring tool's site management features to find and correct problems in your site.
- **Lesson 2** - use on-line validation tools to test your site for valid HTML, valid CSS, and accessibility.

Lesson 1 - Overview of Site Management Features in Dreamweaver

Few web pages exist in isolation. Most are part of larger websites, with complex webs of links between pages. Large organizations typically have web design teams - large groups of designers working on various components of a site simultaneously. Managing the design and maintenance of large websites can be organizationally challenging. However, web authoring software provides a variety of features that assist in this process. This lesson provides an overview of some of those features.

Learner Outcomes

At the completion of this exercise, you will be able to:

- describe the benefits of using web authoring software for managing websites.
- identify features within their web authoring software that facilitate site management.

What can you do with site management features?

The following is a list of some of the common site management features available in web authoring software.

- Check your entire website for broken links.
- Change links sitewide with a single command.
- Check your entire site for missing alt text and other accessibility problems.
- Check a single page or your entire site for common HTML errors.
- Check your pages for compatibility across multiple browsers.

Activities

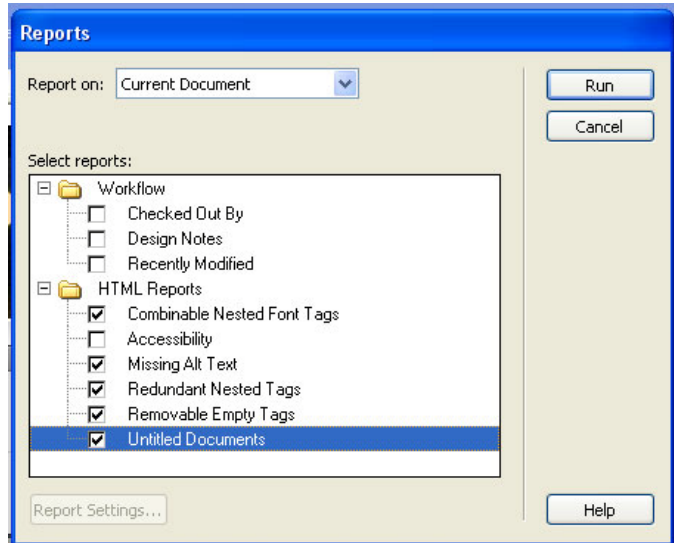
- Your instructor will lead you through a discussion of website management.
 - You will test the website management features from the above list on your own websites. Choose features that generate reports, and print those reports to hand in to your instructor. If the reports show problems (e.g., bad links, missing alt text, etc.) correct the problems and re-run the report.
- **Open Dreamweaver**
 - **Select your hobby website.**
 - **Open your all three of your html pages and your style css page.**
1. **Check your entire website for broken links**
 - a. **Site > Check Links Sitewide**
 - b. The reports window at the bottom will display any broken links on your site. You should fix any broken links before moving on the next check.
 - c. If you had to fix any broken links, run the test again to make sure it shows no errors.
 2. **Change links sitewide with a single command.**
 - a. If you changed the name of your gallery.html to photos.html you would need to change all links on your site as well.
 - b. You would select **Site > Change Links Sitewide** and enter the name of the page you want changed in the top box and the name of the new page in bottom box and click ok.

- c. You should once again check for broken links to make sure everything that was changed works correctly.

3. **Check your entire site for missing alt text and other accessibility problems.**

a. **Site > Reports > Under HTML Check the box for Missing Alt Text and other tests**

- b. Select the tests you want to run and click run. Your results will be displayed on the reports panel at the bottom. You can double-click any error to jump to it in your code.
- c. Fix any errors you have and rerun the report until no errors are displayed.



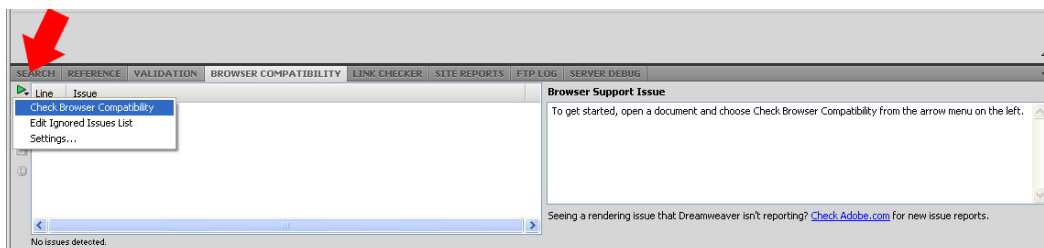
4. **Check a single page or your entire site for common HTML errors.**

- a. Select **File >Validate > Mark Up**.
- b. This will check the HTML code on the page you are on
- c. You can double-click any error to jump to it in your code.
- d. To check all pages in the site at the same time, select the green arrow and choose validate entire local site.
- e. Fix any errors you have and rerun the report until no errors are displayed.



5. **Check your pages for compatibility across multiple browsers**

- a. Select **File > Check Page >Browser Compatibility**.
- b. This will check the Browser Compatibility issues of the page you are on.
- c. You can double-click any error to jump to it in your code.
- d. To check all pages in the site at the same time, select the green arrow and choose validate entire local site.



- e. Fix any errors you have and rerun the report until no errors are displayed.

Lesson 2 - Overview of Website Validation

Validating a website is the process of ensuring that the pages on the website conform to the norms or standards defined by various organizations. Validation is important, and will ensure that your web pages are interpreted in the same way (the way you want it) by various machines, such as search engines, as well as users and visitors to your webpage.

Conforming to standards and regulations is one of the many ways you can make your website universally understood. Make sure your codes and styles validate across the board. That means they have to meet the "strict" standards set by the W3C Organization and pass a variety of validations for CSS and XHTML.

Not all validators check for the same things. Some only check CSS, others XHTML, and others for accessibility. If you are sincere in presenting standardized pages to the public, test them with several validators. The World Wide Web Consortium sets the standards and also hosts a variety of web page validators.

In simple terms, validation ensures that your website complies with the standards accepted by most web designers. That also means that it will be accessible to more people, across more web browsers and operation systems. Having an accessible website is also regarded as good web design practice. As you can see, having a validated website has its definite plus points.

Validators detect problems in your web page and style sheet. It could be a tag that was opened and never closed. It could be a misspelled piece of code or forgotten element the tag or style requires to work properly. You become a detective, hunting and solving the little problems occurring in your web page. The resources and articles on validation below will help you learn more about validating your web page.

Validation doesn't just mean putting your pages through some web driven testers. It also means test-driving it with friends, relatives, co-workers, and strangers. Everyone has a different system and way of working, so ask for others to test-drive your styles or themes before you make them public.

We Will:

- Use an online HTML Validator to validate the html pages in your site
- Use an online CSS Validator to validate the css style file for your site.

HTML Validation

In this lesson, you will have an opportunity to use the W3C HTML Validator, and to correct invalid code based on validation tool feedback. An invalid web page might look fine in your browser, but someone accessing the page in another browser might have an entirely different experience with the same content. Valid HTML or XHTML assures that all standards-compliant browsers will display the page reliably.

Learner Outcomes

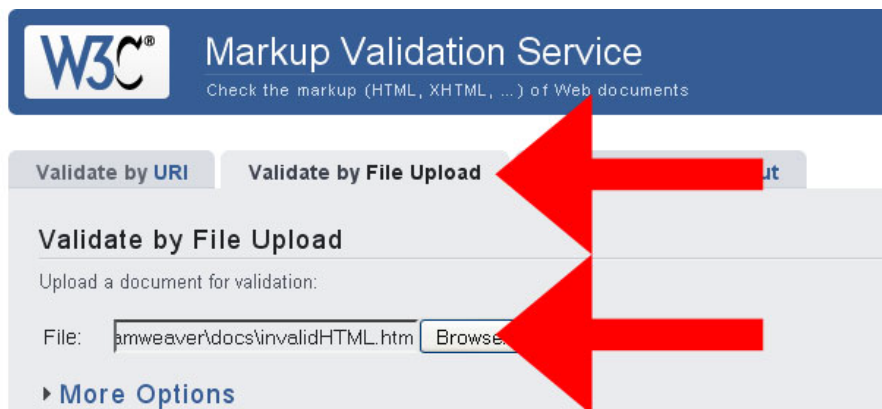
At the completion of this exercise:

- you will be able to test a web page using the W3C HTML Validator.
- you will have gained practice interpreting the Validator results and applying them toward correcting invalid XHTML code.

Activities

Validate a Sample Page


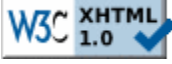
1. Go to the calendar and save **invalidHTML.htm** to your folder.
2. Open the sample invalid web page. Does this page display ok in your browser?
3. View the web page's source code. (if IE choose View > Source if Firefox choose View > Page Source)
Can you find the HTML errors?
4. Now we will try testing this using the W3C HTML Validator.
 - a. You can click the *HTML Validator* link on the calendar or type <http://validator.w3.org/>
 - b. Click Validate File by Upload.
 - c. Click the Browse button, find the **invalidHTML.htm** in your folder and click the validate button.



5. What HTML errors does the validator find? Did it find any errors that you overlooked?
6. Open the page in Dreamweaver. Correct any problems found by the Validator, then save the web page, and retest until the document passes the validity test.

Validate Your Own Pages

1. Validate all web pages you have created in your hobby using the W3C HTML Validator.
2. Correct any problems found by the Validator, then retest until the document passes the validity test.
3. After the page passes the validity test, the W3C validator will provide you with some source code for adding a W3C icon at the bottom of your page. Paste this into the body of the document wherever you think it looks best. This is your trophy for creating a valid web page!

Image	Code
	<pre><p> </p></pre>
	<pre><p> </p></pre>

CSS Validation

In this lesson, you will have an opportunity to use the W3C CSS Validator, and to correct invalid style definitions based on validation tool feedback. Just like with HTML, a web page that has invalid CSS might look fine in your browser, but someone accessing the page in another browser might have an entirely different experience with the same content. Since CSS is newer than HTML, browsers are even pickier about requiring that developers get it right.

Learner Outcomes

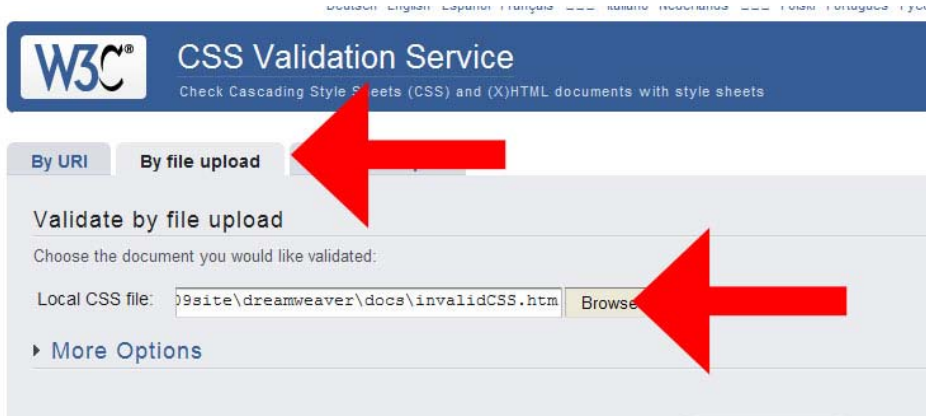
At the completion of this exercise:

- you will be able to test a web page using the W3C CSS Validator.
- you will have gained practice interpreting the Validator results and applying them toward correcting invalid CSS code.

Activities

Validate a Sample Page

1. Go to the calendar and save **invalidCSS.htm** to your folder.
2. Open the sample page with invalid CSS. Does this page display ok in your browser?
3. View the web page's source code (if IE choose View > Source if Firefox choose View > Page Source). Can you find the CSS errors?
4. Now try testing this using the W3C CSS Validator. You can click the link on the calendar or type <http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/>



5. What CSS errors does the validator find? Did it find any errors that you overlooked?
6. Correct any problems found by the Validator, then save the web page, and retest until the document passes the validity test.

Validate Your Own Pages

1. Validate your style.css from your hobby web using the W3C CSS Validator.
2. Correct any problems found by the Validator, then retest until the document passes the validity test.
3. After the page passes the validity test, the W3C Validator will provide you with some source code for adding a W3C CSS icon at the bottom of your page. Paste this into the body of the document wherever you think it looks best - This is your trophy for creating a valid web page!

Image	Code
	<pre> <p> </p> </pre>
	<pre> <p> </p> </pre>