

# Lessons on HTML

## Getting the tools.

You will want to have a tool that you can use to enter and test your lessons. For the most part, small sections of HTML code can be placed on practiceboard.com. This is not very easy to use on a complete section like those you would place in an HTML Block on your website. I recommend that you download a free program just suited for this type of work. It will also make these lessons easier to enter and preview. The program is called HTML-Kit 292 and can be downloaded from <http://www.chami.com/html-kit/> . Download the program and install it. You will not need any of the tools for these lessons. They could help if you get into some advanced programming. We will not get into any of that here in these 7 lessons.

One thing about the lessons is that I used things on a site in the instructions so you would have to work around that. One place is where I used a couple of slideshows from a site. You may have to improvise with something from your site. I also draw reference to a Class Administrator code that is on the site I was using and the registration information is from it. I have instructions included in how I accessed this but the lesson shows the text copied from that site.

Be sure to save each lesson as they will be the basis of some of the future lessons. I will call each Lesson 1 and so forth in the lesson where I want you to reuse an earlier lesson's code.

HTML-Kit makes saving the lesson easy, If you use the practiceboard, you will have to save the lesson with Notepad or some other text editor.

Another tool that you need is really the address of a website in your links. The Website has a very good display of the colors that you may want to use on your website. You will want to use the bolder colors for borders and the pastel colors for backgrounds. The website is <http://www.computerhope.com/htmcolor.htm>. There may be others but I have found this site to have an excellent selection of colors and with a little playing with the color codes, you can make a custom color for your displays.

# Lesson 1.

What we want to accomplish in Lesson 1 is to get this display:



Once you have HTML-Kit installed, open it and select Create a new file.

The display will have the common parts of a Web page but with our uses in Classreport.org we will not have need for all of that.

Also for the lessons, we can delete all that is on that page and start with a clean slate.

Let us start out very simple. Enter Hi! My name is Debbie

Down at the bottom of the page are 4 tabs, Editor, Preview, Output & Split View. We will use just the first two for a while.

Select Preview and you will see the statement. Select Editor to continue.

Let us move it down a line and center it. Remember that most tags require that they be closed.

Put a `<br>` and `<center>` before the text and a `<br>` and `</center>` after the text. Select Preview. Then select Editor to continue.

Make it look like:

```
<br><center>
```

Hi! My name is Debbie.

```
<br></center>
```

Let us make the text colored and larger.

Put `<font face="verdana" size="3" color="blue">` just above the text and close the font after the text.

Select Preview and you will see the display. Note the changes. Select Editor to continue.

Play with the size= number from 1 to 5 and preview each. Play with the color= with "white", "red", "black" and back to "blue", previewing each.

You can change face= to "arial", "courier", "times new roman" and "wingdings"

Depending on your font you ended with is should look something like this.:

```
<br><center>  
  <font face="arial" size="3" color="blue">  
    Hi! My name is Debbie.  
  </font>  
<br></center>
```

I added spaces at the front to define the tag sections. Not necessary but much easier to read.

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Now let us look at a box around the present display. Lower the text by pressing enter above the `<br>` tag. This will give us some room above to work in. It will not affect the display when you preview it.

We will first define the table. `<table>` The table tag is the easiest way to accomplish this. We need to add the attributes of the table, border, cellpadding, border color, the width of the proposed box and background color. It will look like:

```
<table border="4" cellpadding="0" bordercolor="red" width="440" bgcolor="white">
```

Preview this and you will see a red line below the text. Let us center it with a center above the `<table ..>` line.

Did you remember to close the table and center tags in reverse order at the bottom of the page?

We now need to finish the box. We will do this with the table Row and Table Data tags, `<tr>` and `<td>`.

First enter the `<tr>` tag and close it at the proper place near the end. The open must be under the `<table>` tag. The preview of this shows that there is a box but with nothing in it and under the text, all you see is a fine white line in the middle. The text we have in the code will be some the data so let us put the defining parts of the box itself together. We know that it will be the `<td>` tag. We now have the box with the text centered.

Let us make the box bigger. As the box size varies in height as text is added and the width is set at 440 Pixels, we could type more information. Let us instead just put some line breaks in with the `<br>` tag. Put 5 above and 5 below the text.

Now it is time to play. Change the width in the table tag Attributes. Change each of the attributes in the table tag. For the bgcolor, use the chart and select some of the pastel colors. Then find a dark color in the same hue to be the border color.

You now have a box that you can enter text in and vary the border and background colors.