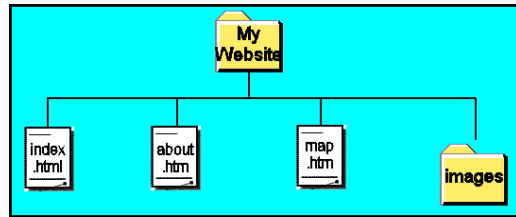
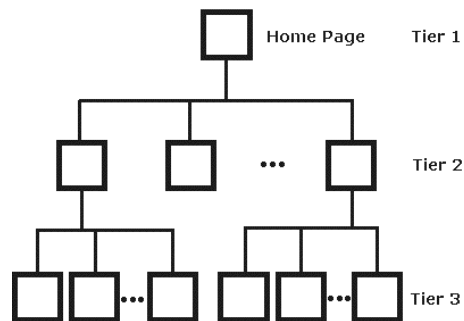


Structuring your site

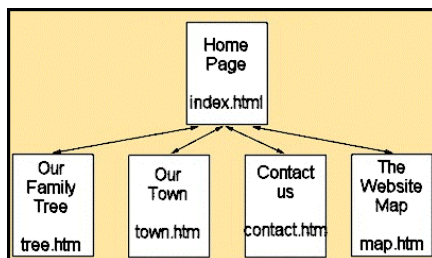
As with many tasks a bit of planning saves time later. Begin by setting the structure on your hard drive ready to build in. Create a folder "My Website" and inside that create a folder "images". Other folders can be added later, but your main web pages will be saved to this folder.



As your website grows you will need to add more folders to allow an easy to follow hierarchical structure, each folder containing its own section and possibly its own images folder. Your home page should link to Tier 2 pages, both within the body copy, and from within a text or graphic navigation bar. Each of these pages can themselves link to 5-10 Tier 3 pages.



Planning your site



Sketch out a plan of what your site might look like. Your site's home page is starting point of origin for all traffic going into your site and should link to all your sections.

Create the web text files you will need and save the files on your computer in

the "My Website" directory.

Create any graphics you will need by scanning in photos or creating graphic images and save them in the "images" folder.

Navigation

Web site navigation is such an important part of any Web site that you need to think about it from the very beginning. Good Web site navigation should allow your visitors to know where they are, where they can go, and how they can get back to where they came from. Site maps or tables of contents work for Web site navigation just as well as they do on paper. Site maps are usually pages that contain links to all (or most) of the pages on a site. People understand these conventions, so they find them easy to use since they provide a one-stop location to access anything on the site. The bad thing is you have to get them there in the first place. This should be your supplemental method of navigation, not the primary one.

A navigation bar can be created using a table and positioned at the top or bottom of side of the page ..



You can create your own "button" images – or find free buttons on the Internet



Web site navigation should be consistent from page to page, so your visitors do not have to work out how to progress every time they encounter a new page. Do not rely exclusively on a navigation bars, include appropriate text links.

You are welcome to print this off for personal use
– but it is still mine!
© Steve Walker2005
www.swalkon.co.uk