

HTML, XHTML, and XML

3rd Edition

Tutorial 8

Designing a Web Site with Frames

Thanks to the author of the textbook for providing these slides. We will skip this chapter.

Turgay Korkmaz



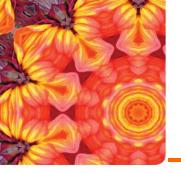
Objectives

- Explore the uses of frames in a Web site
- Create a frameset consisting of rows and columns of frames
- Display a document within a frame
- Format the appearance of a frame



Objectives

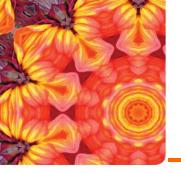
- Create links targeted at frames
- Direct a link to a target outside of a frame layout
- Format the color and size of frame borders
- Create an inline frame



Introducing Frames

 A frame is a section of the browser window capable of displaying the contents of an entire Web page





Disadvantages to Using Frames

- The browser has to load multiple HTML files
- Difficult to bookmark the Web site
- Don't work well with Internet search engines



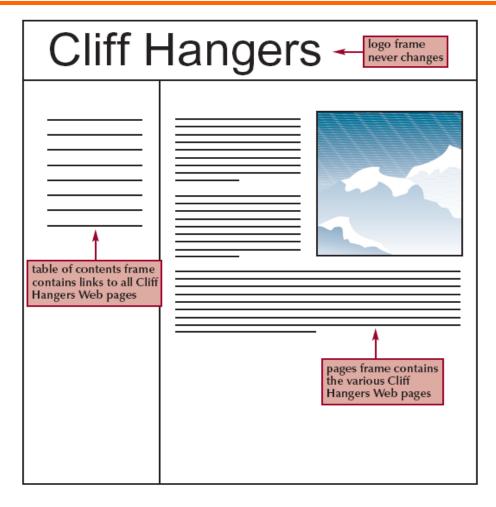
Planning Your Frames

- Before you start creating your frames, plan their appearance and how they are to be used:
 - What information will be displayed in each frame?
 - How do you want the frames placed on the Web page? What is the size of each frame?
 - Which frames will be static—that is, always showing the same content?
 - Which frames will change in response to links being clicked?
 - What Web pages will users first see when they access the site?
 - Should users be permitted to resize the frames to suit their needs? New Perspectives on HTML, XHTML, and XML, 6

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Planning Your Frames





Creating a Frameset

- A frameset describes the frame layout
- You must choose to layout your frames in either rows or columns
- To create a frame layout, you will use the rows and cols attributes of the <frameset> element
 - The rows attribute creates a row of frames
 - The cols attribute creates a column of frames



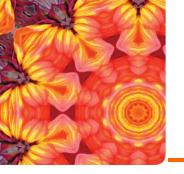
Creating a Frameset

- The <frameset> element is used to store the definitions of the various frames in the file. These definitions will typically include:
 - Size and location of the frame
 - Web pages the frames display
- The <frameset> code does not include an opening and closing <body> element
 - The reason for this is that this HTML file displays the contents of other Web pages; technically, it is not a Web page



Frames Defined in Either Rows or Columns

| | Frames laid out in columns | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| | The first frame | The second frame | The third frame | | |
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| ı | | | | | |
| Frames laid out in rows | | | | | |
| | The first frame | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | The second frame | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | The third frame | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



The Frame Syntax

The syntax for creating a row or column frame layout is:

```
- <frameset rows="row1,row2,row3, . . .">
  </frameset>
```

or:

- <frameset cols="column1,column2,column3, . .
."> </frameset>

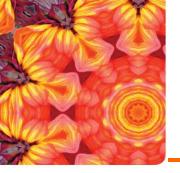


Specifying a Frame Source

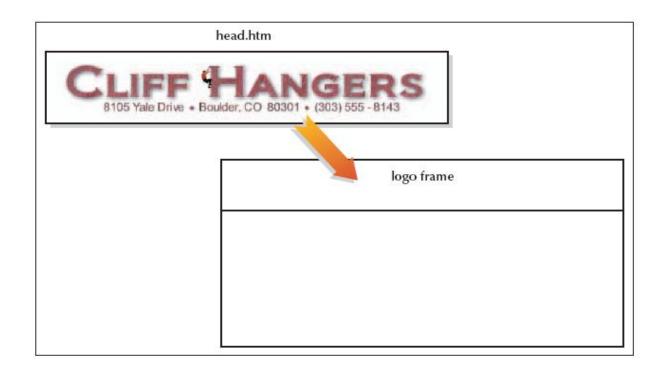
To specify a source for a frame, use the <frame>
element with the syntax:

```
<frame src="url" />
```

- The URL is the filename and location of the page that you want to load
- You must insert the <frame> element between the opening and closing <frameset> elements



Logo and Placement





Nesting Framesets

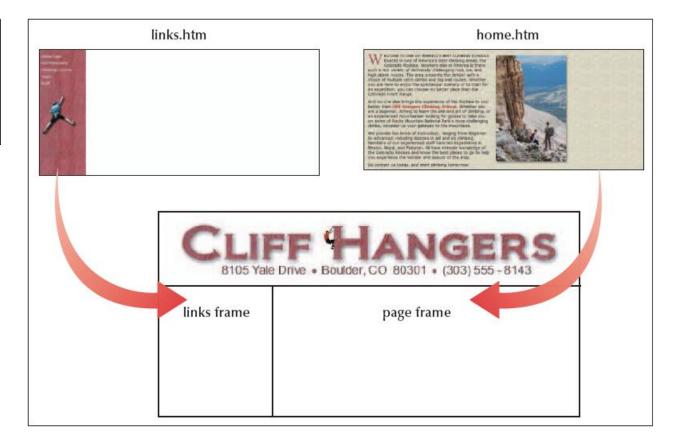
- To create frames using both rows and columns, one frameset must be nested inside another
- The interpretation of the rows and cols attributes changes slightly
 - For example, a row height of 25% does not mean 25% of the display area, but rather 25% of the height of the frame into which that row has been inserted (or nested)



Creating a Nested Set of Frames in the Second Frame Row

```
<frameset rows="85,*">
    <!-- Company Logo -->
    <frame src="head.htm" />

<!-- Nested Frameset -->
    <frameset cols="140,*">
    </frameset>
</frameset>
```





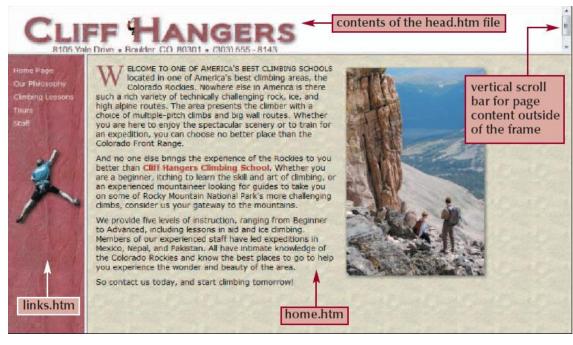
Inserting Frame Columns

```
<frameset rows="85,*">
    <!-- Company Logo -->
    <frame src="head.htm" />

    <!-- Nested Frameset -->
    <frameset cols="140,*">
        <!-- List of Links -->
        <frame src="links.htm" />

        <!-- Cliff Hangers Web Pages -->
        <frame src="home.htm" />
        </frameset>

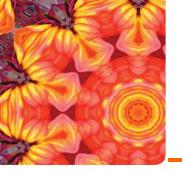
</frameset>
```





Formatting a Frame

- You can control three attributes of a frame:
 - Scroll bars
 - The size of the margin between the source document and the frame border
 - Whether or not the user is allowed to change the size of the frame

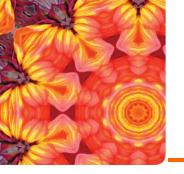


Hiding and Displaying Scroll Bars

- By default, scroll bars are displayed when the content of the source page cannot fit within the frame
- You can override the default setting using the scrolling attribute
- The scrolling syntax is: scrolling="type"
 - scrolling can either be "yes" (to always display scroll bars) or "no" (to never display scroll bars)



Removing the Scroll Bars from the Logo Frame



Setting Frame Margins

- The following should be consider for frame margins:
 - The browser determines the amount of space between the content of the page and the frame border
 - Occasionally, the browser sets the margin between the border and the content too large
 - The margin should be big enough to keep the source's text or images from running into the frame's borders
 - The margin should not take up too much space, because you typically want to display as much of the source as possible

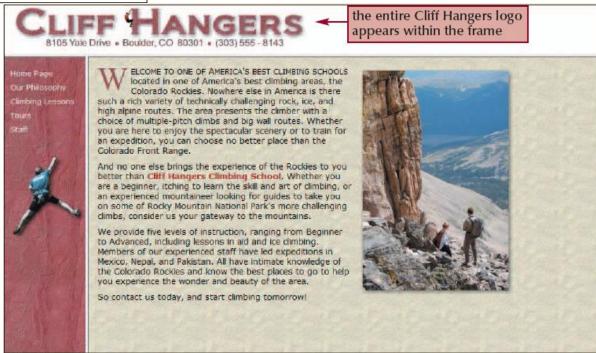


Specifying Margins Syntax

- The syntax for specifying margins for a frame is:
 marginheight="value" marginwidth="value">
 - marginheight is the amount of space, in pixels,
 above and below the content of the page in the frame
 - marginwidth is the amount of space to the left and right of the page
- If you specify only one, the browser assumes that you want to use the same value for both
- Setting margin values is a process of trial and error as you determine what combination of margin sizes looks best



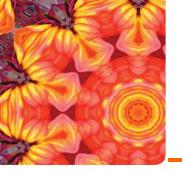
Specifying the Margin Sizes for the Frames





Controlling Frame Resizing

- By default, users can resize frame borders in the browser by simply dragging a frame border
- Some Web designers prefer to freeze, or lock, frames, so that users cannot resize them
 - This ensures that the Web site displays as the designer intended
- The syntax for controlling frame resizing is: noresize="noresize"
- The noresize attribute is included within the <frame>
 element to prevent users from modifying the size of the
 frame

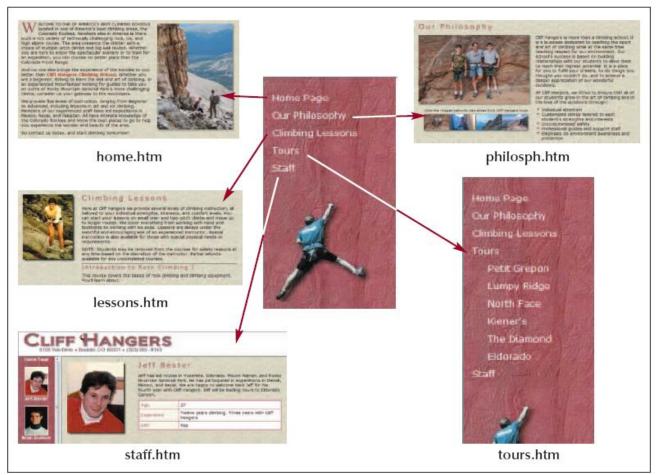


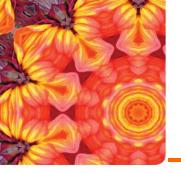
Working with Frames and Links

- By default, clicking a link within a frame opens the linked file inside the same frame
- You can display hyperlinks in many ways:
 - In a different frame
 - In a new window
 - In the entire window
- When you want to control the behavior of links in a framed page, there are two required steps:
 - Give each frame on the page a name
 - Point each hyperlink to one of the named frames



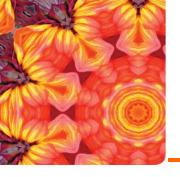
Working with Frames and Links





Assigning a Name to a Frame

- To assign a name to a frame, add the name attribute to the frame element
- The syntax for this attribute is:
 <frame src="url" name="name" />
 - Case is important in assigning names: "information" is considered a different name than "INFORMATION"



Setting the Frame Names



Specifying a Link Target

- You can use the target attribute to open a page in a specific frame
- The syntax for this is: target="name"
- When a page contains dozens of links that should all open in the same frame, HTML provides a way to specify a target frame for all the hyperlinks within a single page



Specifying a Link Target

```
    <a href="home.htm" target="pages">Home Page</a>
    <a href="philosph.htm" target="pages">Our Philosophy</a>
    <a href="lessons.htm" target="pages">Climbing Lessons</a>
    <a href="tours.htm">Tours</a>
    <a href="staff.htm">Staff</a>
```



Using Reserved Target Names

- Reserved target names are special names that can be used in place of a frame name as the target
- They are useful in situations:
 - Where the name of the frame is unavailable
 - When you want the page to appear in a new window
 - When you want the page to replace the current browser window
- All reserved target names begin with the underscore character (_) to distinguish them from other target names
- Reserved target names are case-sensitive, they must be entered in lowercase



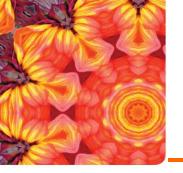
Using Reserved Target Names

| Reserved Target Name | Function in a Frameset |
|----------------------|---|
| _blank | Loads the target document into a new browser window |
| _self | Loads the target document into the frame containing the link |
| _parent | Loads the target document into the parent of the frame containing the link |
| _top | Loads the document into the full display area, replacing the current frameset |



Using the _self Target

```
        <a href="home.htm" target="pages">Home Page</a>
        <a href="philosph.htm" target="pages">Our Philosophy</a>
        <a href="lessons.htm" target="pages">Climbing Lessons</a>
        <a href="tours.htm" target="_self">Tours</a>
        <a href="staff.htm">Staff</a>
```



Using the <noframes> Element

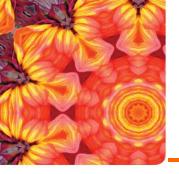
- Use the <noframes> element to allow your Web site to be viewable using browsers that do or do not support frames
- When a browser that supports frames processes this code, it ignores everything within the <noframes> elements and concentrates solely on the code within the <frameset> elements
- When a browser that doesn't support frames processes this code, it doesn't know what to do with the <frameset> and <noframes> elements, so it ignores them
- When you use the <noframes> element, you must include <body> elements, this way, both types of browsers are supported within a single HTML file



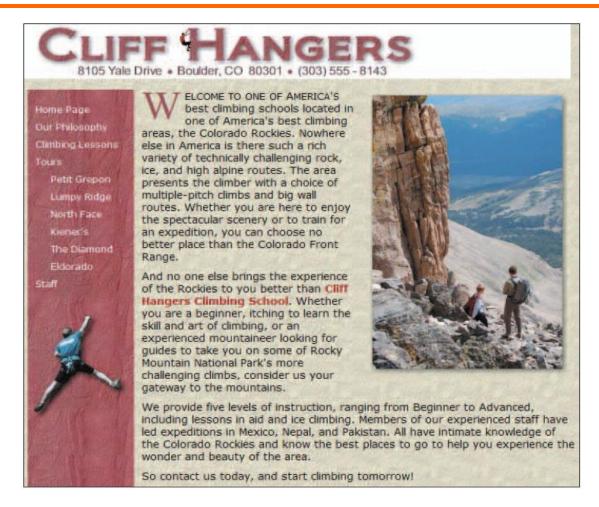
The <noframes> Syntax

The syntax for the <noframes> element is:

```
<html>
<head>
<title>title</title>
</head>
<frameset>
    frames
   <noframes>
       <body>
          page content
        </body>
    </noframes>
</frameset>
</html>
```



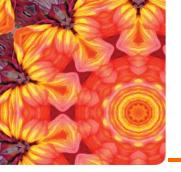
Frameless Version of a Web Site





Working with Frame Borders

- There are additional attributes you can apply to the <frame> element that allow you to change border size and appearance. For example:
 - You can remove borders from your frames to free more space for text and images
 - You can change the color of the frame border so that it matches or complements the color scheme for your Web site

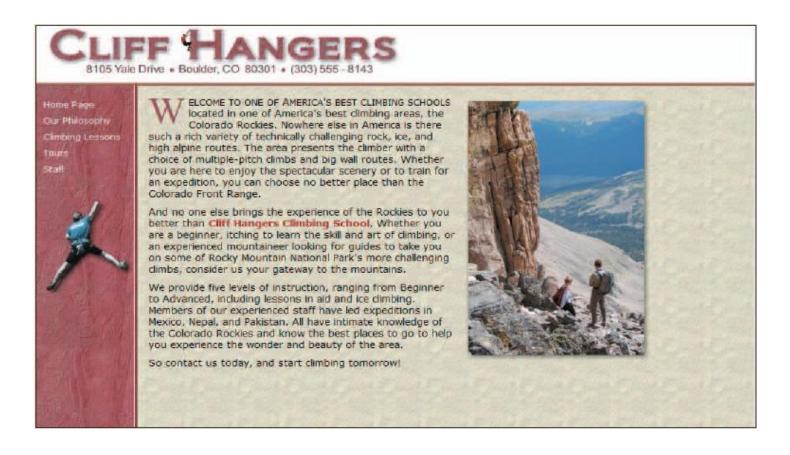


Setting the Frame Border Color

- To change the color of a frame's border, use the bordercolor attribute
- The attribute can be applied either to an entire set of frames, using the <frameset> element, or to individual frames, using the <frame> element
- The syntax for this attribute is:
 - bordercolor="color">



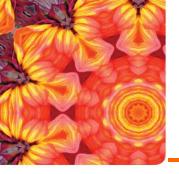
Web Site with Brown Frame Border



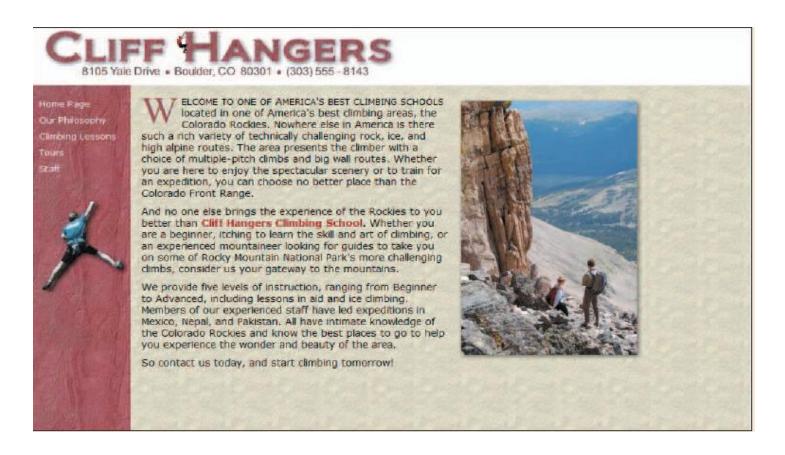


Setting the Frame Border Width

- Another way of modifying frame borders is to change their widths using the **border** attribute
- The border attribute can be used only in the <frameset> element, and not in individual <frame> element
- The syntax for the border attribute is: <frame
 frameborder="value">
 - value is the width of the frame borders in pixels



Removing the Frame Borders





Creating Inline Frames

- Another way of using frames is to create a floating frame
- An inline frame is displayed as a separate box or window within a Web page
- The frame can be placed within a Web page in much the same way as an inline image



The Floating Frames Syntax

The syntax for a floating frame is:

```
<iframe src="url">
    alternate content
</iframe>
```

- URL is the name and location of the file you want to display in the floating frame
- The alternate content is the content you want displayed in the browser that don't support inline frames



Attributes of inline Frames

| Attribute | Description |
|----------------------|---|
| align="position" | Aligns the inline frame with the surrounding content (deprecated) |
| border="value" | Sets the size of the border around the frame in pixels (deprecated) |
| frameborder="1 0" | Specifies whether to display the inline frame border (1 = display; 0 = no frame border) |
| height="value" | Sets the height of the frame in pixels |
| hspace="value" | Sets the horizontal margin around the frame in pixels (deprecated) |
| marginheight="value" | Sets the vertical margin within the frame in pixels |
| marginwidth="value" | Sets the horizontal margin within the frame in pixels |
| name="text" | Specifies the name of the frame |
| scrolling="yes no" | Specifies whether or not to display scroll bars around the frame |
| src="url" | Sets the source of the document within the inline frame |
| style="styles" | Provides inline styles to be applied to the frame |
| vspace="value" | Sets the vertical margin around the frame in pixels (deprecated) |
| width="value" | Sets the width of the frame in pixels |



Creating an inline frame

```
the size and
          <div id="leftCol">
            the source
frame-blind
                                                          of the inline
browsers will
              <img src="philosph1.jpg" alt="" width="380" height="260" />
                                                          frame match
still display the
                                                          the size and
            </iframe>
inline image
                                                          source of the
            inline image
```