

Turning a Dreamweaver Page into a Template

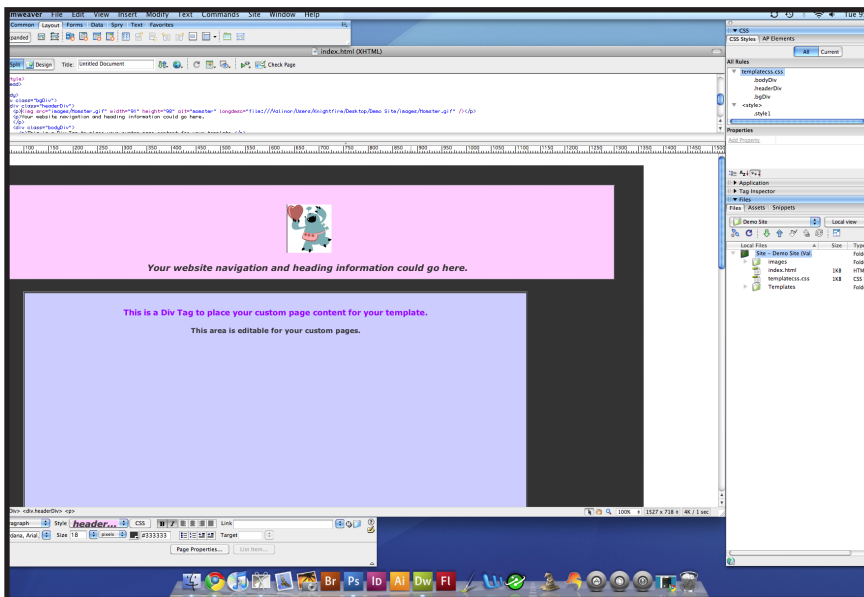
Zachary Porter – 9/22/10

Tutorial Overview:

This tutorial is meant to show the simple process in which a page layout can be converted to a template and utilized within a website for creating new pages based on consistent content.

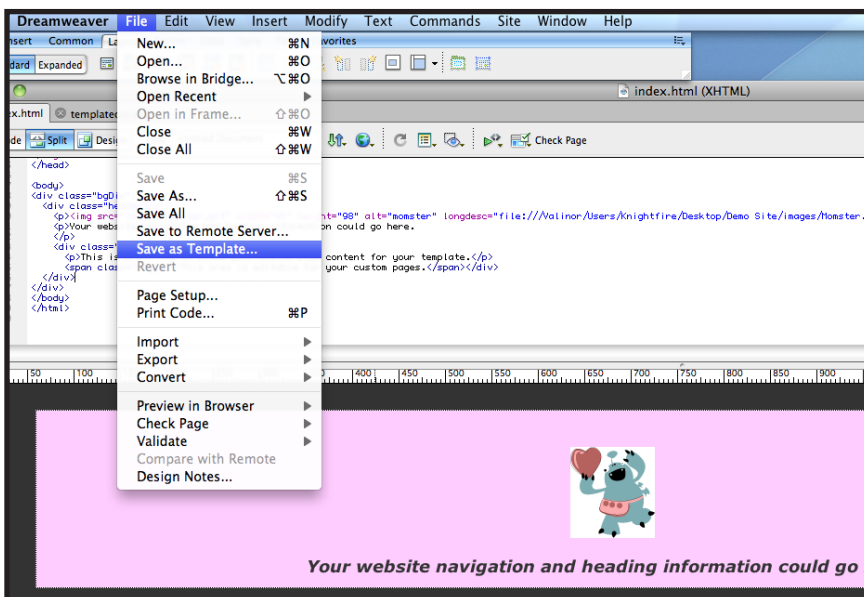
Advantages to Using Page Templates:

- You can quickly create multiple pages using your one design.
- Any design changes you make to the template will be reflected on every page within your site that is based on that template. This saves A LOT of time when you decide to change consistently used content on many pages.
- Utilizing templates make it easier to keep consistency in your designs.
- Templates can be linked to CSS files and can be used for multiple sites. Simply copy the template into a new site root folder and apply CSS styles.

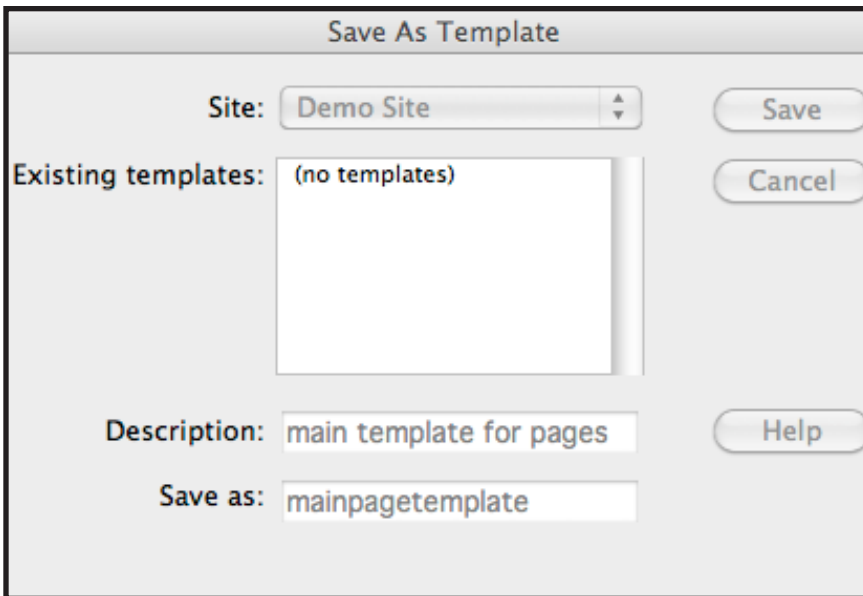


Begin by creating your page layout in Dreamweaver.

Here I've created a page using CSS only for basic editing. I've placed editable regions and I want this page to become a template for future pages.



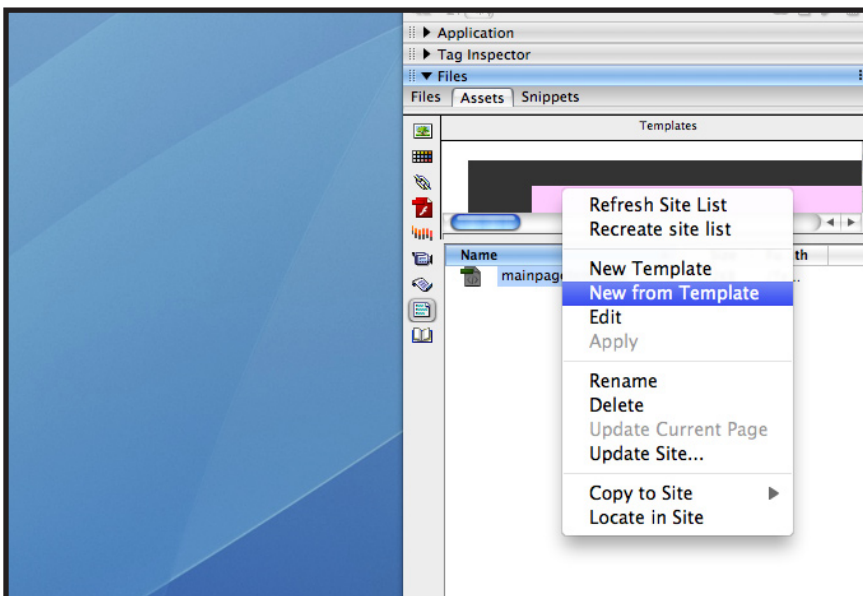
With your page layout established, choose File>Save as Template as shown to the left.



Upon “Saving as Template”, a dialogue box will appear.

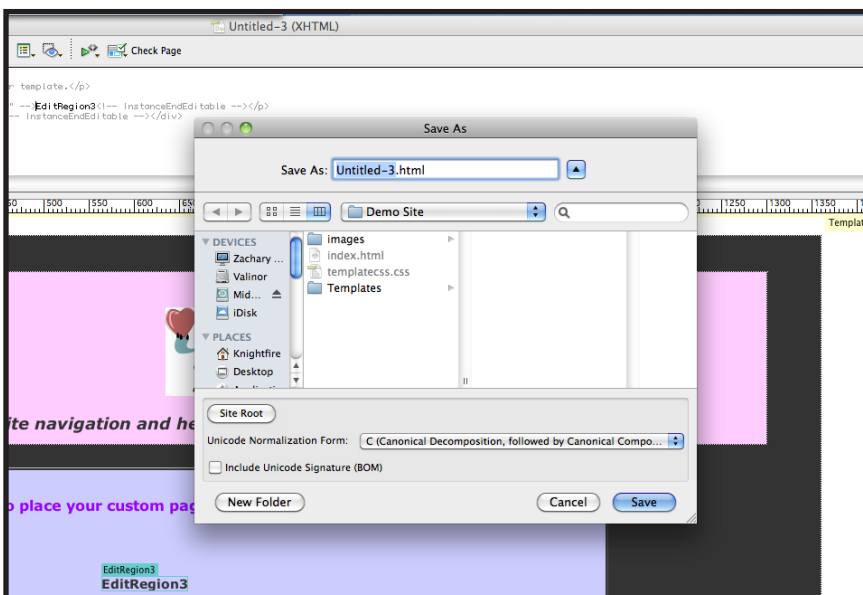
Be sure to select your current site if you have multiple sites on your system.

Give a simple description and name your template (in the “save as” box).



Feel free to close your current page. In your Assets panel on the right of your screen, right click on the template file you just made, and select “New from Template”.

You may need to refresh this panel if you manually moved your template file around in your root folder on your system.



Finally, be sure to save your page as a new HTML file.

If you begin working and use the CMND+S (CTRL+S on windows) function, you may accidentally override your template and alter other pages in your site.