

# Adobe Dreamweaver Essentials

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## Introduction

Adobe Dreamweaver is a program that allows users to create websites. The program makes it easy for users with limited knowledge of scripting languages to create their own site which allows them to focus more on visual aspects. The user can click and drag things into place or use the tools provided to create their own content, and Dreamweaver automatically writes the code that is needed to make it display properly in a web browser. It does not, however, limit those who are very familiar with coding and scripting languages to modify their sites by changing the code directly.

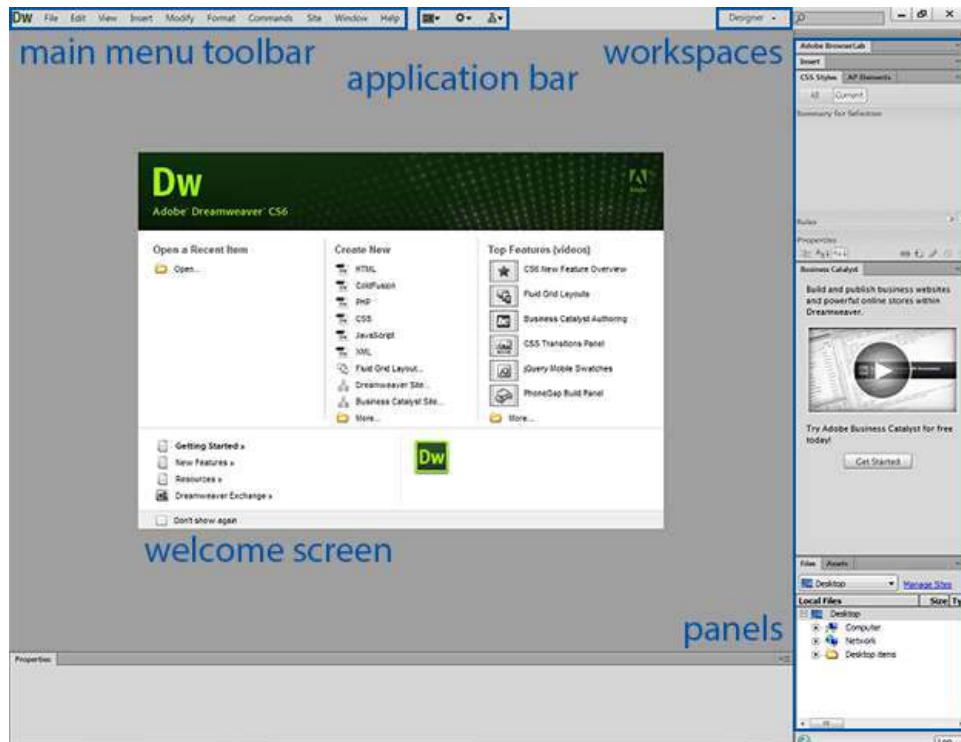
## Objectives

After reading this lesson plan, you will:

- Become familiar with the interface
- Design a home page
  - Work with CSS styles
  - Add Hyperlinks
- Customize multiple pages
- Create complex tables
- Apply CSS Transitions
- Link website to Plaza account

## Interface

We're going to start off by going through the interface before creating our website. Upon starting the Dreamweaver application, you should see a welcome screen like this:



You'll notice there are five main areas of this screen:

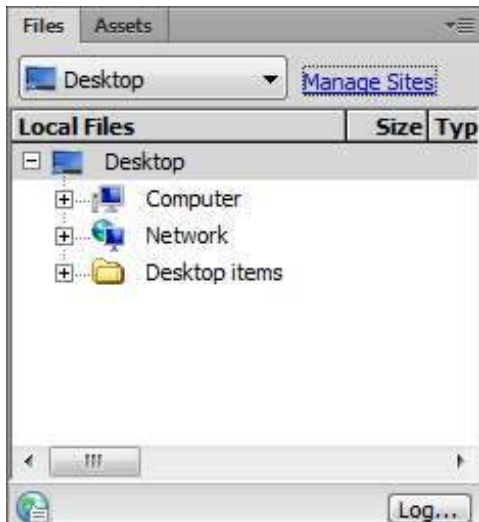
- a. Your main menu toolbar is located in the upper left-hand corner. From here you can control all Dreamweaver settings and window visibility.
- b. Next to your main menu is the application bar. Here you can control you layout, extensions and sites.
- c. Top right, before the search bar, is your workspace manager. We will be sticking the default Designer view.
- d. In the middle of your screen is a pop-up, providing you with the convenience of opening recent items, creating a new document or exploring the top features that are new to Dreamweaver CS6.
- e. Finally, on the right-hand side of our window are our panels. These can be customized to each user's personal preference, or easily changed overall by choosing a different workspace (item c)

## Setting Up Our First Site

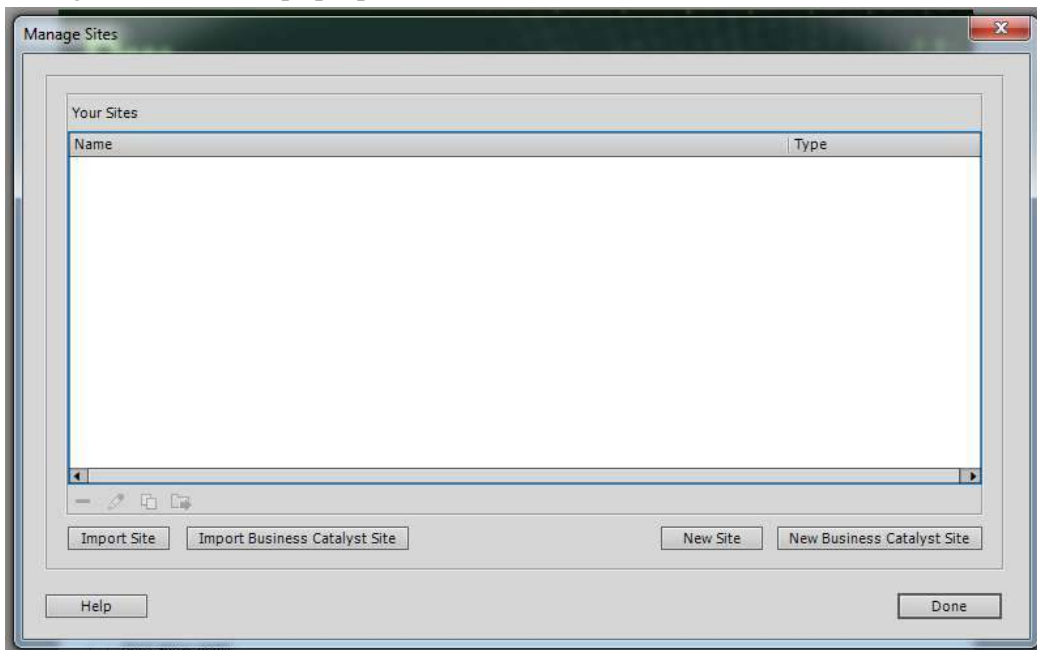
When beginning a new project, the first task you'll want to complete is the creation of a new site, where Dreamweaver will manage all you file. Let's take the project files we've downloaded, place them on our desktop and make this the main location of our first site.

1. Begin by clicking "Manage Sites" on our Files panel.

We also could have used the “Sites” button on our application bar



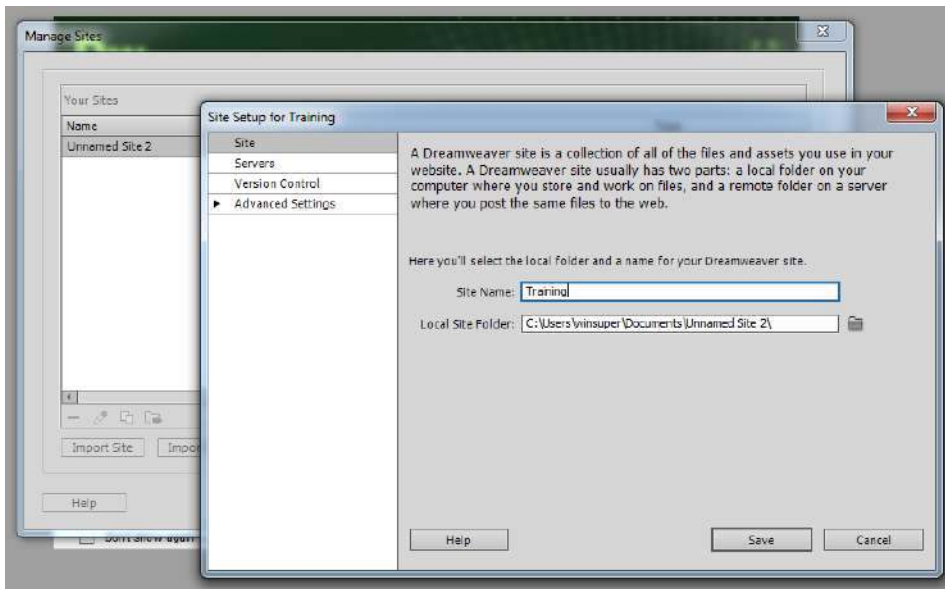
2. A large window will pop up with no sites listed. Click “New Site” to add a site.



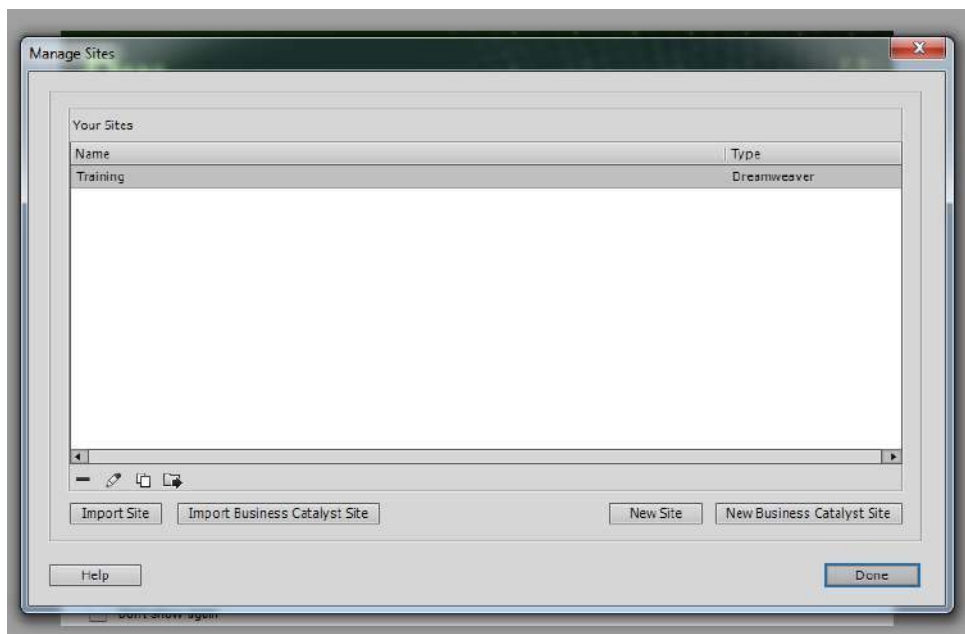
3. Name your site and give it a location.

For now we're just creating our local site. I name mine Training, and then clicked on the file icon to the right of the “Local Site Folder.” Browse for the folder we placed on the desktop, and select

*that as our local site folder. Then click “Save.”*



4. Now we can see that our site has been added to the list. Click the “Done” button to

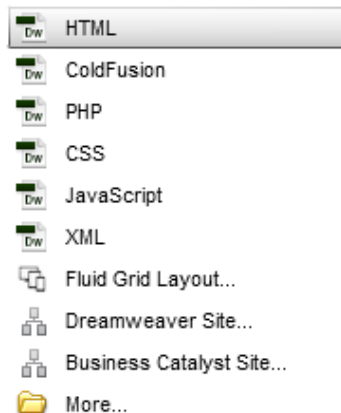


continue.

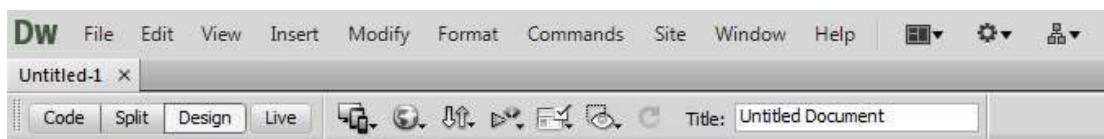
5. On our welcome screen, under “Create New”, choose “HTML.”

*This will create our first document and close the welcome screen.*

## Create New



- Now we see a new window. This shows our document toolbar, which allows us to edit our page in four different modes (code, split, design, or live) and view our page through a variety of methods (multiscreen preview or through browsers), as well as a number of other tasks.



## Document Toolbar

- Go ahead and save this blank document using File>Save As and name it “index”

*The default save location for our documents is within the site folder we’ve just defined. Saving our file as “index.html” will define it as our default page once we upload it on a server.*

## Designing a Homepage

### Starting with CSS

*Now we’ve gotten our site ready to start working on, we’re going to take this completely empty document, and make a front page for our personal site. We’re going to begin by defining a set of CSS rules for our page. CSS stands for Cascading Style Sheets. These differ from HTML, which stands for Hyper Text Mark-up Language. HTML is a web-design language which is responsible for the construction of a page. CSS, on the other hand, is responsible for how the page renders, or the design of it. HTML can be thought of as the bones for your page, while CSS is the skin, or face, of it.*

- In our “Properties” panel, at the bottom of our window, select “CSS” and click “Edit Rule”

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