

Web Design and Development

ACS-1809

Chapter 6

Working with Links

Working with Links

- 📄 Add Links to Other Web Pages
- 📄 Add Links to Sections Within the Same Web Page
- 📄 Add Links to E-Mail Addresses and Downloadable Files
- 📄 Style Links
- 📄 Customize Links by Setting the Tab Order, Keyboard Shortcuts, and Target Window

Links to Other Web Pages

 You can add links to other web pages whether they are part of your web site or someone else's

 To do so requires using the *a* tag.

Example:

```
<a href="http://www.google.com">Use  
this link to search Google</a>
```

“a” Tag

☞ The *a* tag itself doesn't serve much purpose without its attributes

☞ The most common attribute is : *href*

☞ *href* is short for *hypertext reference*

☞ It tells the browser where to find the information to which you are linking.

☞ Other attributes are : *name*, *title*, *accesskey*, *tabindex*, and *target*

“a” Tag – Cont’

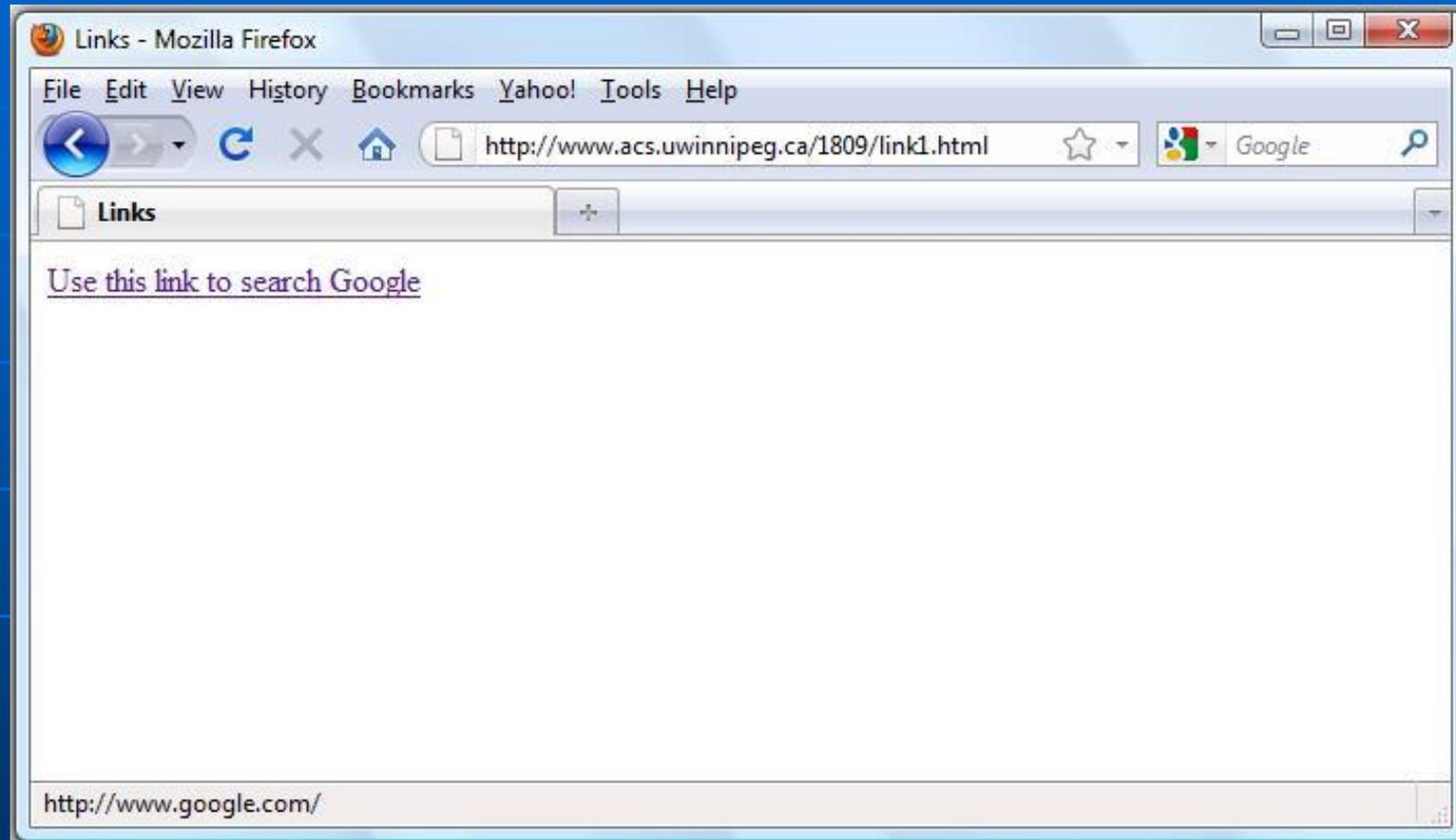
🖱️ Back to the example

```
<a href="http://www.google.com">Use this link to search Google</a>
```

🖱️ The text included in between the opening and closing a tags is what the person viewing your web page sees and can click on it

💾 In most cases this text has a different color from its surrounding text and is underlined

“a” Tag – Cont’



Link Types

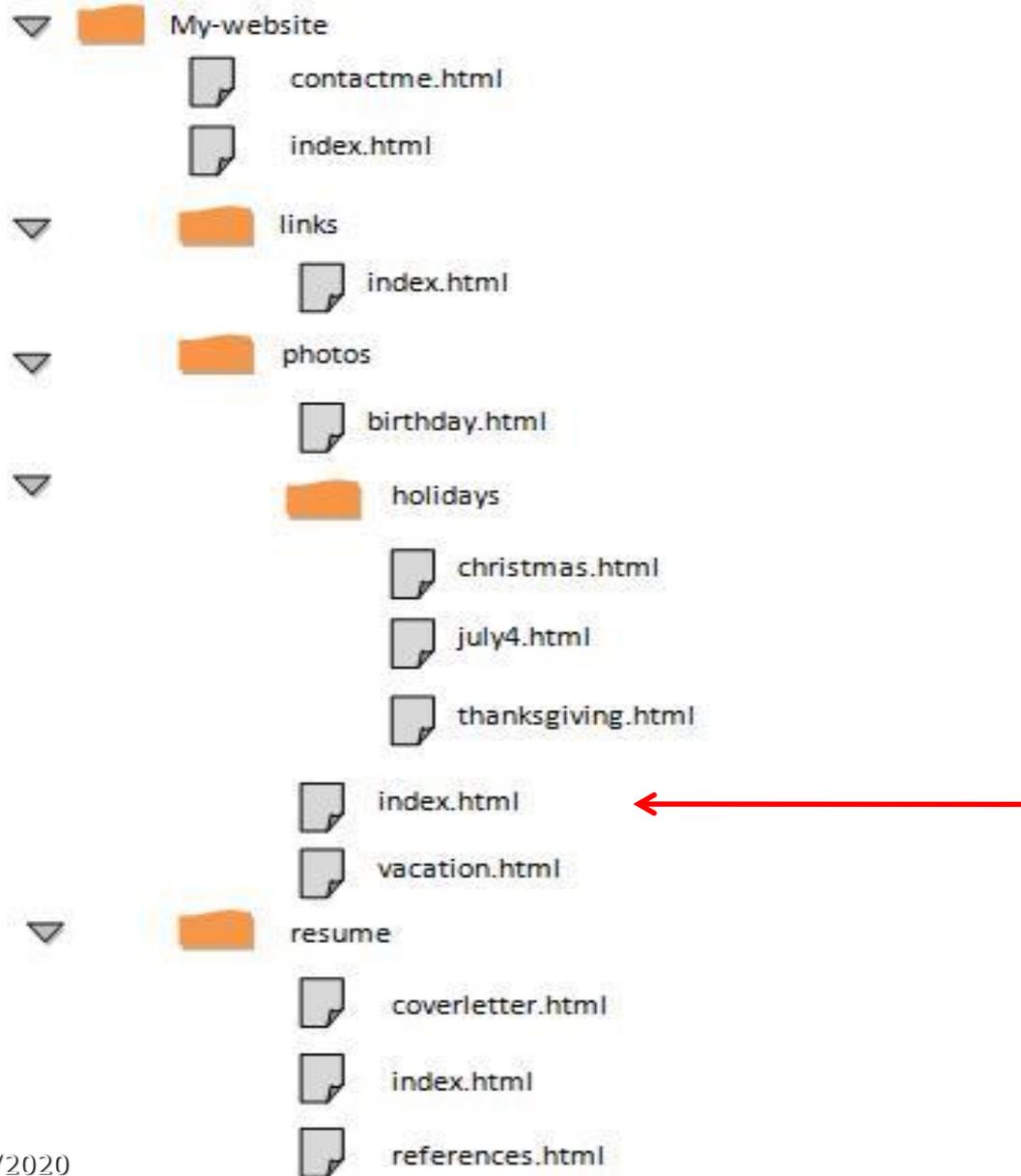
- 🖥️ When deciding what to use as the value of the *href* attribute, consider what type of link you want to use
 - 🖱️ There are two basic link types to use:
 - 🖥️ Absolute
 - 🖥️ Relative

Absolute Links

- 🖥️ *Absolute links* are those that include the entire URL
 - 🖱️ Use absolute links when linking to pages or sites that are not a part of your own web site.
 - 🖱️ They must include the protocol (`http://`) at the beginning of the link
`Visit Yahoo!`

Relative Links

- ▣ In *relative links* you don't include the entire pathname of the page to which you are linking
 - ☞ Instead, the pathname you use is relative to the current page
 - ☞ Relative links are most commonly used when you want to link from one page in your web site to another page on the same site



You are here

Relative Links – Cont'

Example 1 : Same folder

```
<a href="birthday.html">Birthday Pictures</a>
```

Example 2: Linking to a file in another folder, one level below the current one

```
<a href="holidays/christmas.html">Christmas Pictures</a>
```

Example 3: Linking to a file in a folder one level above the folder your page is in.

```
<a href="../contactme.html">Contact me</a>
```

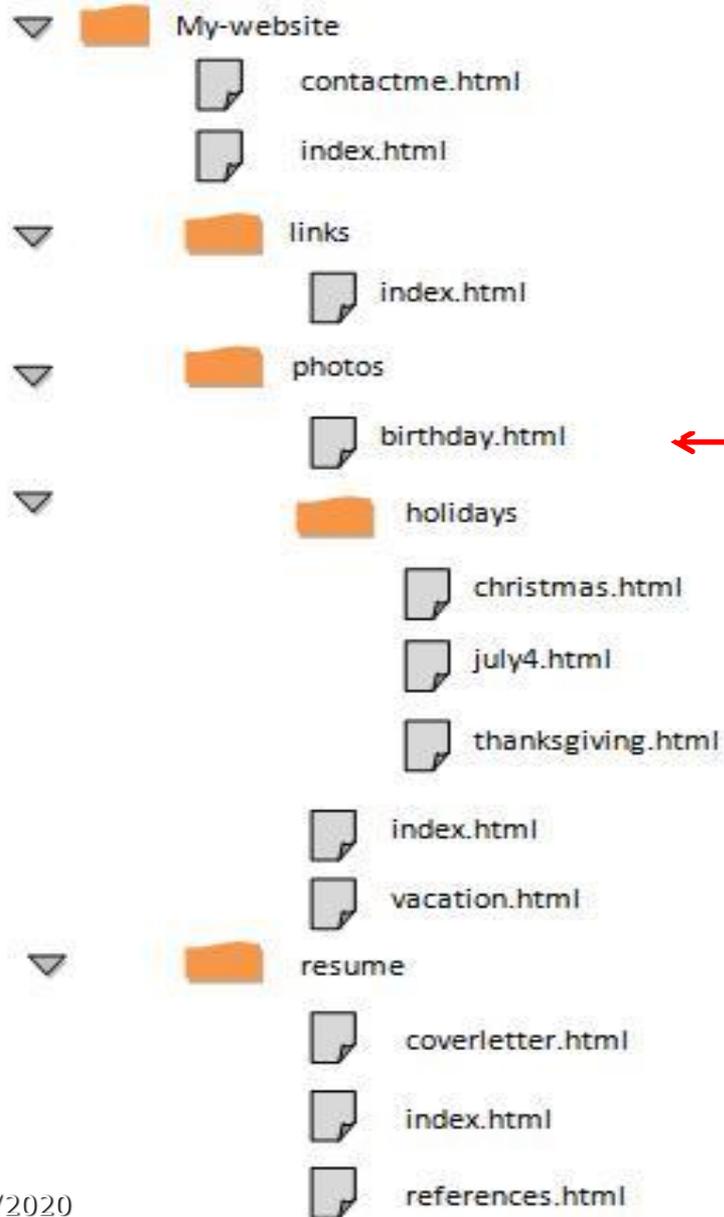
Example 1

 **../** tells the browser to go up one level.

 Assuming you are in the page of birthday.html

 If you want to refer to the index.html file on the top:

```
<a href="../index.html">Return Home</a>
```



here

Example 2

 From the same birthday.html file again

 If you want to refer to the thanksgiving.html file

```
<a href="holidays/thanksgiving.html">Check out this photos from Thanksgiving.</a>
```

 Folder name + " / " + file name

Links Within the Same Web Page

- 🖥️ When linking to a page, browser looks for the page name.
- 🖥️ To link to a section of a web page, you must first give that section a name.
 - 🖱️ You can use an *anchor* to name sections of a page.

Anchor, In HTML 4.01

📁 An *anchor* is a place within a page that is given a special name, enabling you to link it later.

📁 `Section 1`

The value of the name attribute is the name of your section. Use easy to remember section names without any space or punctuation.

This is what actually is displayed on the screen of the browser window.

This attribute of the `a` tag enables you to name a section of your web page.

Anchor

- 📖 If you prefer not to include a displayed “label” for your anchor, you can leave the space between opening and closing a tag blank.

```
<a name="top"></a>
```

- 🖱️ This is an invisible anchor.
- 🖱️ You can use it at the top of your page and then link to it from the bottom of your page.
- 🖱️ This helps the visitor to return to the top of a long page easily.

Link to an Anchor

- ▢ To create the link to an anchor, use *a* tag and *href* attribute.

```
<a href="#top">Return to the top of the  
page.</a>
```

Anchor name

- ☞ The hash mark (#) tells the browser that we are linking to a specific section of a page.

Linking to an anchor - Example



The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window titled "HTML Template - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar contains "Search Bookmarks and History" and the Google logo. The page content includes a "Title" section, a list of links to sections 1 through 6, a "Section1" section with a "Back to top" link, and a "Section2" section.

HTML Template

Title

[Jump to section 1](#)
[Jump to section 2](#)
[Jump to section 3](#)
[Jump to section 4](#)
[Jump to section 5](#)
[Jump to section 6](#)

Section1

text for this section goes here.text for this section goes here.

[Back to top](#)

Section2

text for this section goes here.text for this section goes here.

Link to an Anchor – Cont'

📁 If you need to create a link to a specific section with another page (not the one you are working on), then you use

🖱️ The page file name

🖱️ and the anchor name, separated by a #

```
< a href="genealogy.html#intro">View names beginning  
with an "A" on our genealogy page.</a>
```

In HTML 5

- 📁 The "name" anchor is not valid any more
 - 🖱️ Its function is replaced by a universal id attribute
 - 📁 To mark the position in a page as a placeholder
 - 🖱️ Then you refer to the id just as the anchor name
 - 📁 Still led by a #

```
< a href="genealogy.html#intro">View names beginning  
with an "A" on our genealogy page.</a>
```

Links to E-Mail Addresses

- ☞ Causes the default email program (if there is any that has been set up) on the user's computer to be launched and opens a new message where the email address is placed in the box.

```
<a href="mailto:name@emailaddress.com">
```

```
  The text that is related to the email address
```

```
</a>
```

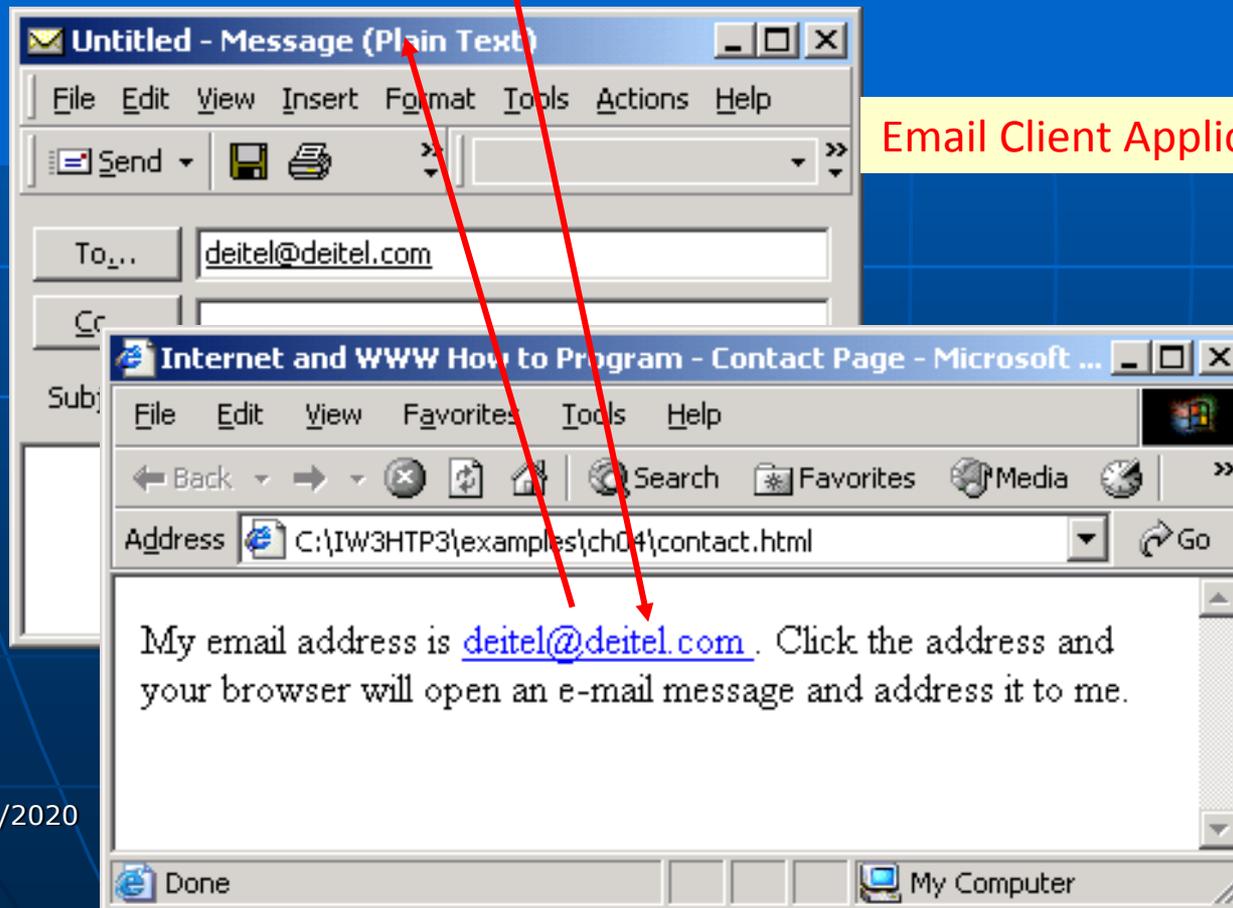
Example: Linking to an e-mail address

<p> My e-mail address is

 deitel@deitel.com

. Click the address and your browser will
open an e-mail message and address it to me.

</p>



Email Client Application

Customize the email message

```
<a  
  href="mailto:name@domain.com?Subject= HTML Book&cc=info@domain.com">  
  Email me! </a> ....
```

.... Email me!

- ☞ No space should be in the value of href attribute except in subject of email.

Spam-Proofing

- ▣ There are special programs named harvesting bots used by spammers to spider the world wide web and gather email addresses.
 - ☞ The spidering process is also called web crawling.
 - ☞ They look for the “at” sign: @ !!!!!
 - ☞ The email addresses gathered will be used and even sold to other spammers in order to send unsolicited emails, advertisements and scams.

How to spam-proof?

❏ Avoid using @ both when you display the address and when you link to it.

☞ To display the address, use [at] instead of @ or use an image that displays @ or the entire address)

☞ Use decimal code equivalent of @ and .

```
<a href="mailto: me@ mail .com">
```

```
<a href="mailto: me&#64; mail&#46;com">
```

Example

Click on 'contact webmaster' to email to websuggest@uwinnipeg.ca

Upcoming Events

[View full calendar »](#)

SEP 10 Public Art Exhibition -
Dominique Rey »

SEP 30 Fall Into Freud »

OCT 01 Building Bridges, Crossing
Borders: Gender, Identity, and
Security in the Search for
Peace »

Download the
UWinnipeg Toolbar



APPLY NOW

SUPPORT OUR

HAITIAN STUDENTS

<mailto:websuggest@uwinnipeg.ca>

3B 2E9

[Emergency Guidelines](#) | [Contact Webmaster](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

```
<a  
href="mailto:w#101;#098;#115;#117;#103;#103;#101;#11  
5;#116;#064;#117;#119;#105;#110;#110;#105;#112;#101;#  
#103;#046;#099;#097;"> Contact Webmaster </a>
```

How to spam-proof?

📁 Using JavaScript to hide the address

```
<script language="JavaScript">
<!--
var name = "me"
var domain = "mail"
Var ext = "com"
document.write('<a href="' + 'mail' + 'to:' + name + '@' + domain +
'.' + ext + '">E-mail Me</a>');
//-->
</script>
```

📁 Another way is to use a web form for user to send you messages

<http://edublogs.org/contact/>

FTP and Downloadable Files

- Using FTP (*File Transfer Protocol*) is a way of sending/receiving files over the internet.
- An ftp server is a place for providing and receiving files the same way that an HTTP server is the place for web pages.
- Accessing an ftp site is possible through the ftp command and may or may not require a password depending on the site:
`ftp://ftp.cc.umanitoba.ca/`

example



| Name | Size | Date Modified |
|--|------|----------------------|
|  [parent directory] | | |
|  Linux | 0 B | 7/5/06 12:00:00 AM |
|  X11/ | | 1/25/05 11:00:00 PM |
|  academic/ | | 2/5/04 11:00:00 PM |
|  archives/ | | 1/30/05 11:00:00 PM |
|  docs/ | | 11/14/07 11:00:00 PM |
|  electronic-publications/ | | 1/30/05 11:00:00 PM |
|  gnu | 0 B | 7/6/06 12:00:00 AM |
|  historic-linux/ | | 10/3/03 12:00:00 AM |
|  languages/ | | 2/12/06 11:00:00 PM |
|  linux/ | | 10/6/10 10:11:00 AM |
|  micro/ | | 1/30/05 11:00:00 PM |
|  mirrors/ | | 2/28/10 11:00:00 PM |
|  multimedia/ | | 7/21/09 12:00:00 AM |
|  packages/ | | 4/20/05 12:00:00 AM |
|  solaris | 0 B | 7/6/06 12:00:00 AM |
|  sun-info/ | | 6/7/01 12:00:00 AM |

Creating a link to an ftp site

HTTP:

```
<a  
href="http://www.acs.uwinnipeg.ca/1809/chapter%201  
.pdf">chapter 1</a>
```

FTP:

```
<a href="ftp://sunsite.unc.edu/pub"> Visit the  
sunsite ftp site</a>
```

Style Links

☞ Specify the properties of the links using CSS

```
<style type="text/css">
body {background-color: white;}
a:link{color: blue;}
a:visited{color: purple;}
a:hover{color: orange;}
a:active{color: red;}
</style>
```

Style Links- Cont'

- ▢ To adjust only certain link's color property, use class attribute.

```
<a href="link.html" class="navlinks"> Home  
</a>
```

- ▢ Then in the style tag,

```
a.navlinks:link {color: white;}  
a.navlinks:visited {color: gray;}  
a.navlinks:hover {color: yellow;}  
a.navlinks:active {color: orange;}
```

Title Attribute

- 📁 The *title* attribute provides a bit more details regarding the file you link to.
 - 🖱️ The hint is very often displayed like a “tool tip”

Setting a Tab Order

- 🖥️ You can customize the tab order of links or form elements on your web page using *tabindex* attribute.
- 🖱️ Very helpful for users using text-based web browsers.

```
<a href="page1.html" tabindex="1">Page  
1</a><br />
```

```
<a href="page2.html" tabindex="2">Page  
2</a><br />
```

Setting Keyboard Shortcuts

- 📄 You can assign keyboard shortcuts (like ctrl+ c : copy / ctrl+v: paste) to the links in your web page, by using *accesskey* attribute.

🖱️ This might not work on every web browsers

```
<a href="page1.html" tabindex="2" accesskey="2">  
  Page 1</a> (Alt-2) <br />
```

```
<a href="page2.html" tabindex="1" accesskey="1">  
  Page 2</a> (Alt-1) <br />
```

Target Windows

- 📄 You can open your links in a new window or a specific window using *target* attribute.

```
<a href="http://www.yahoo.com"  
  target="_blank " >Search Yahoo Web  
  Site</a>
```

🖱️ Values for target attribute can be:

🖱️ `_blank` (open a new window)

🖱️ `_self` (opens the link in the same window)

🖱️ `name` (opens the link in the window of that name)