Part 1: Creating a html 5.0 template

Step 1: Create a new text file.

For creating a text file, you have a few options, but whatever you use must create plain text files, without any hidden markups (for instance, MS Word and wordpad both include hidden tags that you can't see, so they won't work.

Options that are tried and true, and we've used before include Notepad++ for the PC (Notepad will also work, but has no html and css help built in). For the MAC, you can always use Text Wrangler. Another option that works on both Macs and PCS and is free is Brackets.

For more detailed instructions, see http://www.eecis.udel.edu/~yarringt/103/CreatingTextFiles.pdf

Regardless of the editor you choose to use, you must save the file as a text file, but you must add a .html to the end of the name of the file. This is solely for the browser. With a .html extension, the browser now knows to read and display the file as if it contains html code.

Step 2: Create a basic html 5.0 template. Type the following into your new text file:

This is the least you need to create a web page. Each of these tags must be on your web page in this order. Equally, each of these tags must occur ONCE only on your web page.

Side: Every web page must have the title tags (<title> </title>) and it must actually have a title. The title itself, however, does not have to be "Web Page Template". You can give your web pages more relevant titles as you make them. For now, to get the page to validate, make the title be "Web Page Template"

Step 3: Save the file (save as template.html):

When you save, save it as template.html. This file, once validated, will be your template for future html web pages you create.

When you create new web pages, open this template, copy it into a new file, save it as your new web page (with a new name, and the .html extension) and then you can edit it.

Step 4: Check it in a browser:

Find the file template.html on your computer and double-click on it. A web page should pop up in your browser. If it's a completely blank web page, you've done it right. You can then copy the web site's url (which, if it's on your computer, should start with <u>file:///</u>) to both Google Chrome's browser and Firefox's browser. We will test all web sites on these two browsers. If you do not have these two browsers on your laptop, make sure you download and install both now.

Step 5: Validate your web page:

You web page must validate using the World Wide Web Consortium standards. The W3C developed xhtml standards so that all the different browsers would read and understand the same html tags. You want to make sure your code follows those standards so that it will display properly on all the browsers. To do this, go to:

http://validator.w3.org/#validate by upload

Use the browse button to find the file you just created.

Hit the check button.

If you get a green line with the words, "Document checking completed. No errors or warnings to show." at the top of the resulting page, your page has validated. You now have a template for future use.

If you get errors, there is a problem with your html code. Since so far your file only contains the html code from above, and I know that code validates, it means you've got a typo. Open the file, and very carefully check to make sure what you typed in is exactly what I have above.