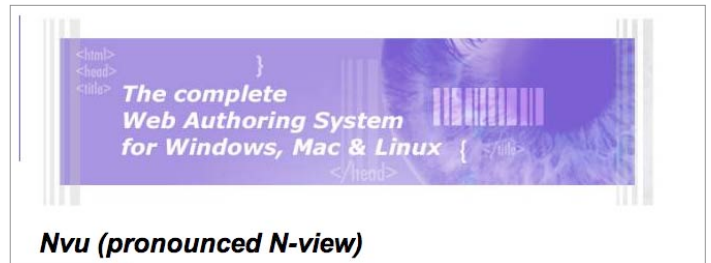


Nvu Tutorial: by Tim VanSlyke

In my HTML tutorial, you learned to create a page using html codes. In this tutorial you will see how much easier it is to create Web pages using Web page editing software. I have chosen a free Web page editing application called “Nvu.” Nvu is called a “complete Web authoring system” because it not only helps you create Web pages, but also serves as system for managing your Web site.

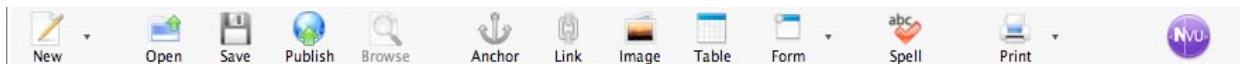


How to download and install Nvu:

Nvu is available for Windows, Linux and Macintosh computers. You can download it for free from the Nvu Web site: <http://www.nvu.com/> . Click the “downloads” link and then choose the file appropriate for your computer.

Getting Started:

Open Nvu now and take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the tool bars and the main menus. If you point at an item with your mouse, a label will popup telling you the item’s name.



Above is a screen shot of Nvu’s composition toolbar. Similar to a word processor toolbar, the Nvu composition toolbar features buttons for the most common tasks you will use when creating Web pages.

Here is a list of each button and its function:

- **New:** Opens a new blank page.
- **Open:** opens a saved page.
- **Save:** saves changes to your pages.
- **Publish:** after you have set up a connection to your Web hosting account, you can publish your pages using this button.
- **Browse:** allows you to preview your page-in-progress in your Web browser.
- **Anchor:** Inserts an **anchor** into your page. Anchors allow you to create hyperlinks within a document, so, for example, if you have a lengthy document, you could create a table of contents with items that can be clicked and will take the reader to a location elsewhere in that page.
- **Link:** This button creates a **link** or **hyperlink** that connects your page to internal pages (other pages in your site), as well as external pages (pages at other addresses).
- **Image:** Inserts an image in your page.

- **Table:** Inserts a table into your page.
- **Form:** Opens a drop-down menu with common form elements that can be inserted such as: check-box, text-box, etc.
- **Spell:** Starts the spell checker.
- **Print:** Drop-down menu with **print** and **page setup** functions.

Below the composition tool bar are more items for formatting text. We will discuss many of these as we begin using Nvu to develop pages for your site.



Getting to Know Nvu

To begin getting to know Nvu, let's start by opening the index.html document we created in the html tutorial. To do this, follow these steps:

1. In Nvu, click the **Open** button on the composing toolbar or choose **Open** from the **File** menu.
2. In the "Open HTML file" dialog, locate your Web site folder, open it and select the index.html file.
3. Click **Open**

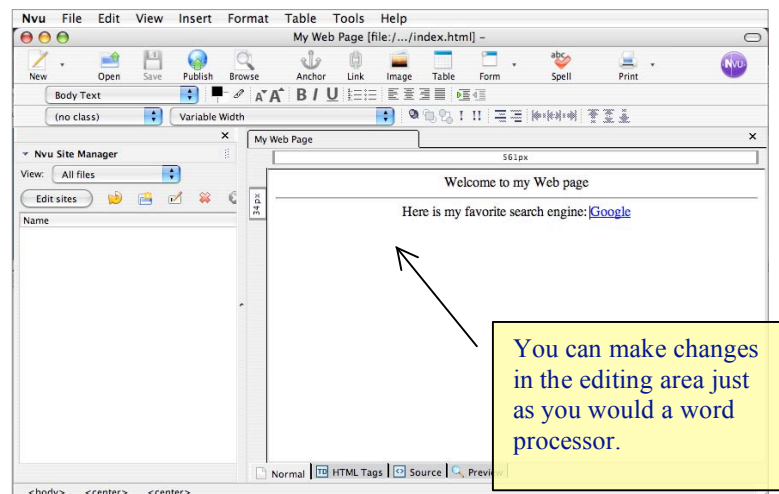
You should now see your file in the Nvu editing area.

To see how you can now edit your documents try highlighting the "Welcome to my Web page" text and applying some formatting to it. For example, you could make it red and bold. You can increase or decrease the font size, etc.

You may not want to have a link to Google right at the top of your page. If you like, you can highlight the line and hit backspace or delete to get rid of it.

Now, place your cursor at the end of the last line and hit **enter** to add a new line. Type on the new line: "About Me" and then hit enter again. If the text is still centered, use the alignment function on the formatting tool bar to set the alignment to **align left**.

On the next line type a few sentences about you. Allow the text to wrap naturally. When you are finished, play with the various formatting features to make the text appear as you would



like it. Finally, save your page. And click the “browse” button on the composing toolbar. This will open your HTML file in a Web browser for you to preview.

Just for fun, lets create a footer at the bottom of your page.

1. Place the cursor on the last line and then hit enter a few times to add some lines.
2. In the **Insert** menu choose **Horizontal Line** to add a line.
3. Below the line type: “This page was created by (type your name)”.
4. If you would like to help support Open Source software you can also insert a small “Made with Nvu” button at the bottom of your page by choosing **Insert : Smart Widgets : Made with Nvu button**.

As you can see, simple Web page editing is fairly straightforward with Nvu. The following mini-tutorials will introduce you to a number of Nvu’s features and provide you with the skills you will need to create the Web pages for your site.

Links and anchors

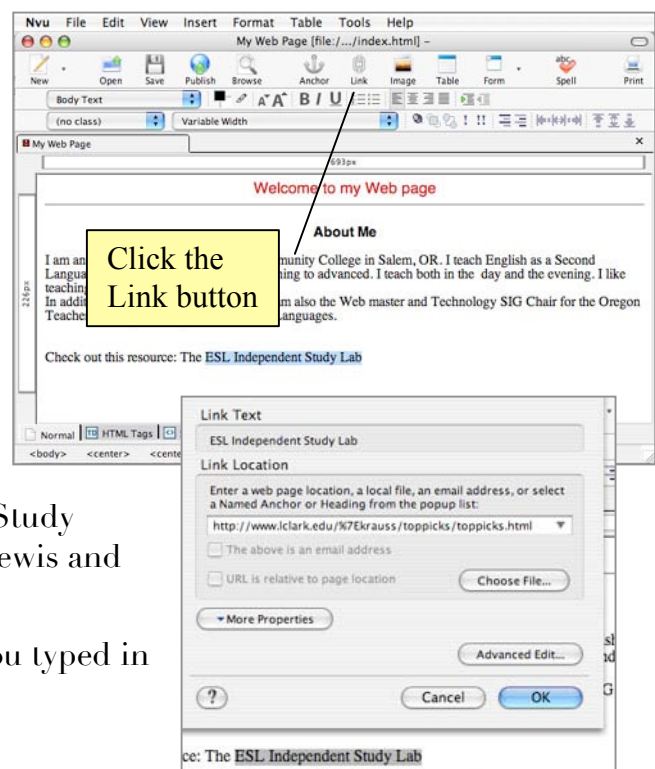
You can create two types of links in your Web pages: internal or external. External links, when clicked, will lead to an external Web site such as the link we created to Google in the HTML tutorial. Internal links can lead either to other pages within your site, or allow you to jump to a point within the same page. This latter is accomplished with the use of anchors.

External Links

In this tutorial we will create a link to your favorite educational Web site.

Follow these steps:

1. Open a Web browser and find an educational Web site that you would like to share with your students.
2. When you have located your site, click the URL in the browser’s address bar to highlight the address. In the Edit menu click Copy.
3. Return to Nvu and type something like, “Check out this great resource: (type the name of the Web page here). I am an ESL teacher, so I have chosen “The ESL Independent Study Page,” created by Michael Krauss at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon.
4. Highlight the name of the Web site you typed in your page.



5. Click the **Link** button on the composition toolbar.
6. In the Link Text dialog, click in the Link Location field and use your right mouse button to paste the URL. (On a Macintosh with no right mouse button you can do the same with a control-click).
7. Once you have successfully pasted the link, click **OK**.

You can test your link by saving your file (click the **Save** button) then click the **Browse** button to open your file in a Web browser.

Setting Anchors

Anchors are a useful way to set places on your page which can be linked to from other places within the same page, or when you want the user to jump to a specific place when coming from another page. The following two mini-tutorials will teach you how to set anchors on your page and then create links to those places.



In the editing window click at the top of the page to place your cursor to the left of the first word.

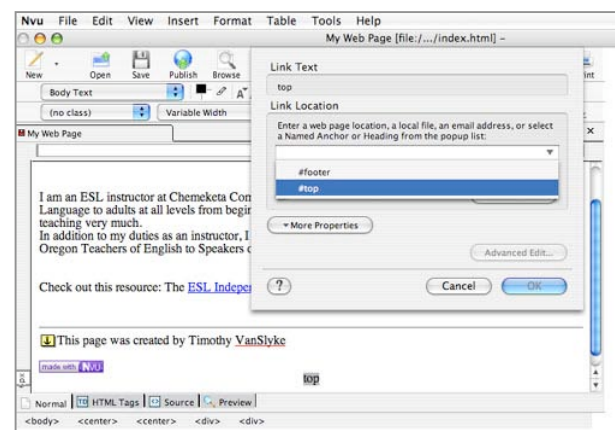
1. Click the Anchor button in the composition toolbar.
2. Type the word “top” in the Anchor Name dialog.
3. Click OK.

You should see an anchor symbol on your page. Now go to the bottom of the page and click next to the first line of your footer. Follow the steps above to add an anchor there that you call “footer.”

Once you have added some anchors you can see how to link to them by following these steps:

1. At the bottom of the page add a line and then click **Align Center** on the formatting toolbar.
2. Type the word “top.”
3. Highlight the word then click the **Link** button.
4. Click the inverted triangle to access a dropdown menu with a list of named anchors. Choose the item: “#top.”

The link will now jump back to the top of the page. You can test this by using the browse button, but you may not see anything happen until there is more content on the page that will make the user scroll downward.

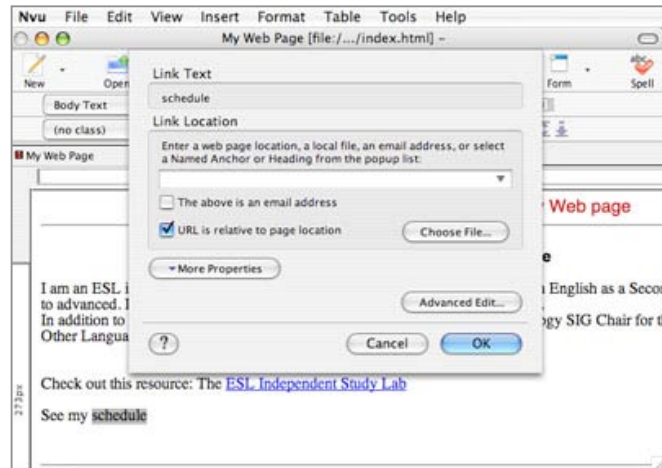


Using this method, you can see that it would be fairly simple to create several sections on a single page with anchors at each section. Then you could create a table of contents at the top of the page, with links to each anchor.

Creating an internal link to another Page

In project 1 you set up your site with two files and two folders. In this tutorial you will create a link from your index.html page to the schedule.html page.

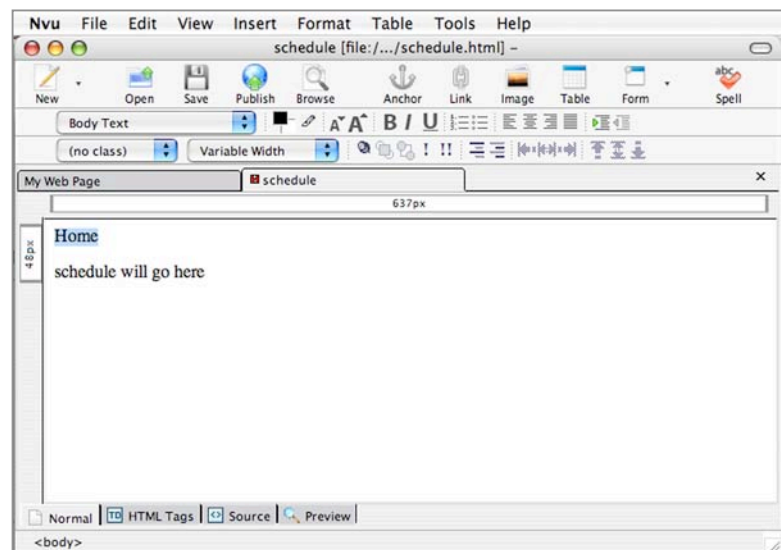
1. Type the following line somewhere on your index page: “See my schedule”
2. Highlight the word “schedule”
3. Click the **Link** button.
4. Click the **Choose File...** button.
5. Locate your file in your Web page folder. Click on the “schedule.html” file and choose **Open**.
6. Click **OK**



When you try this out in your Web browser, you will probably see that there is no link back from the empty schedule page to the index page. Let's add a link there now.

One great feature of Nvu is its tabbed editing window that allows you to load multiple pages. Try it now by clicking the **Open** button on the composing toolbar, or by choosing **Open** from the **File** menu. Locate your schedule.html file and open it. You will see that it loads in a second tab in Nvu's editing window.

You can easily switch to various documents by using the tabs at the top of the editing screen.



Now follow the same steps you used earlier to create a “Home” link that connects back to the index.html page. You have created your first Web pages with a simple navigational system.

To learn more about Nvu. See the documentation that comes with the program, or visit the Support page on the Nvu Web site: <http://nvu.com/support.php>