Guide to HTML

HTML code is what is called *markup*, and defines how a page looks. It is made up of individual pieces called *tags*. Most tags act like parenthesis—there are opening and closing tags, and everything between them is a certain type of page object. For instance, everything between an opening and closing paragraph tag is a paragraph. Tags can also nest within each other, like parenthesis:

[This is an example (and this is nested inside of it)]

Tags are always within <> characters, and should be in lowercase. Some tags do not require an opening and closing, because the page object they represent does not wrap around anything. These also are made up of <> characters, but have a / symbol before the second >, as in </>.

Tags:

<p> This is a paragraph tag, it wraps a paragraph of text, like so:

```
<p>This is a paragraph, everything within the tags is blocked off as one
paragraph.</p>
```

<h1> This is a header tag (level 1). Header tags go in importance from 1 to 6, so a sub-header to an <h1> tag would be <h2>, etc… For example:

```
<h1>Page Title</h1>
<p>This is a sample paragraph.</p>
<h2>Smaller Header</h2>
```

<a> This is a link tag, it surrounds the text (or image or other page element) to be linked. The link requires two *attributes*, which tell the link what to do. These are *href* and the optional *target*. The *href* contains the URL to be linked to, and the *target*, if included, can tell the link to open a new window. For example:

```
<a href="http://www.sccmrc.org" target="_blank">Santa Cruz MRC</a>
```

In this example, the link will take the user to www.sccmrc.org, and the _blank as the target indicates to the browser to open a new tab (or window).

<img /> This is an image tag, it inserts an image into the page. It also requires attributes, a *src* for the URL to the image file, and an *alt* which contains alternate text for the image. For example:

```
<img src="http://www.sccmrc.org/images/some_picture.jpg" alt="a sample image"
/>
```

In the case of an image tag, since it is not surrounding any text, but is self-contained, there was a / mark before the final > character. You can copy and paste the above sample code and change the information to match your image.

**
** This is a line-break tag. If, within a paragraph, you want to force a break, insert this tag. For example:

```
<p>This is a paragraph<br />and broke lines at the br symbol.</p>
```

This is a paragraph
and the line broke at the br symbol.

<ul> This is an Unordered List tag, and surrounds an unordered list. An example of an unordered list would be a bullet list.

<ol> This is an Ordered List tag, and surrounds an ordered list. An example of an ordered list would be a number list, an alphabetical list, or a roman numeral list (or a combination of these types).

<li> This is list item, or an individual entry in a list. Each list item is surrounded by li tags.

For example, an unordered list:

```
<ul>
<li>This is the first list item</li>
<li>This is the second list item</li>
<li>This is the third list item</li>
</ul>
```

- *This is the first list item*
- *This is the second list item*
- *This is the third list item*

This is an example of an ordered list:

```
<ol>
<li>This is the first list item</li>
<li>This is the second list item</li>
<li>This is the third list item</li>
</ol>
```

1. *This is the first list item*
2. *This is the second list item*
3. *This is the third list item*

**** This tag denotes strong text, which makes that particular piece bold. For example:

```
<p>This is a paragraph with <strong>bold</strong> text.</p>
```

*This is a paragraph with **bold** text.*

**** This tag denotes emphasized text, which makes that particular piece italicized. For example:

```
<p>This is a paragraph with <em>italicized</em> text.</p>
```

This is a paragraph with italicized *text.*

Character Codes:

In HTML, certain special characters, such as &, <, >, and others, have special meanings. So what if you want to have that character in your text, but not have it recognized as HTML? You need to enter the character code, instead of the just character itself.

Symbol	HTML Number	HTML Name	Description
&	&	&	Ampersand
			Non-breaking space
<	<	<	Less than
>	>	>	Greater than
—	—	—	em-dash (long dash)
–	–	–	en-dash (number dash)
©	©	©	Copyright symbol

A full list of HTML codes can be found through an internet search, or at:
http://www.ascii.cl/htmlcodes.htm