

Don't forget

The most commonly used external editors with Dreamweaver are for editing HTML code and editing images. HTML editing can be done with a text editor (such as Notepad on a PC or TextEdit on a Mac), and images can be edited with a graphics program, such as Fireworks or Photoshop.

Beware

Files have to be saved and named before their content can be edited using an external editor. If you try and do this without saving a file, a dialog box will appear, asking you to save it.

External Editors

When designing web pages, you will be working with a lot of elements that cannot be directly edited within Dreamweaver. These can include elements, such as sound files or movie clips, and images (although some editing can be done on images directly within Dreamweaver). One way to edit them would be to do so in an appropriate program, before they are inserted into Dreamweaver. However, if you then need to edit the items again, once they have been imported, it can be frustrating having to open up the file again, edit it, and then re-import it. Dreamweaver simplifies this process by providing direct links to external editors that can be used to edit items while they are still in the Dreamweaver environment.

It is possible to specify which program you want to use for specific tasks, e.g. editing images by selecting the file type and the program from the File Types / Editors category of the Preferences window:

- 1 Select Edit, Preferences, from the menu bar, and select the File Types / Editors category
- 2 Click here to select a file type
- 3 Click here to select an external editor from your hard drive
- 4 Click OK

