

## Setting Up a Dreamweaver Site Definition for OIT's Web Hosting Server

This includes Web sites on:

<https://webadmin.oit.umass.edu/~user>  
<http://people.umass.edu/>  
<http://courses.umass.edu/>  
<http://umass.edu/>

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Updated August 2004  
for Dreamweaver MX 2004 with Secure FTP

# What is a site definition?

## Why define a site?

A site definition tells Dreamweaver two things:

1. **The name and location of the folder where your web pages are saved on your desktop computer.**  
In Dreamweaver lingo, this is called the “local root folder.” All of the files for your Web site (Web pages, image files, multimedia files) must be located inside this folder.
2. **The name of your Web Host server, and the location of your Web space on that server.**  
This part of the site definition allows you to transfer (or copy) files onto the Web server over the Internet.

You need to create a Site Definition in order to...

- Create links between pages (i.e., build or maintain site!)
- Move or rename files or folders within your site
- Transfer files from your local desktop computer to the Web server.

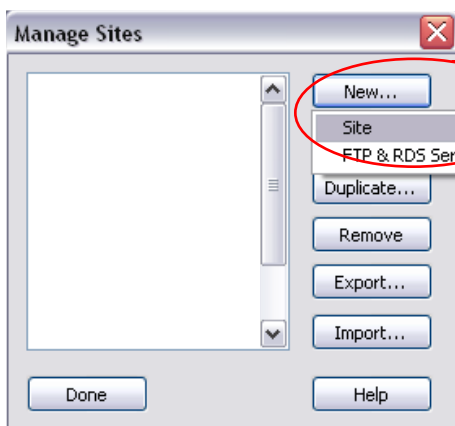
If you are not working with Site Definitions, Dreamweaver isn't really working!

## When do you need to define a site?

You need to create a site definition...

- The first time you work on a Web site in Dreamweaver on a particular computer (if you move to a new computer you need to create a new site definition)
- If you reinstall Dreamweaver
- If you remove a Site Definition from a particular copy of Dreamweaver (Site > Manage Sites > Remove)
- If you move or rename the “local root folder.”
- If you are working on a new or different site

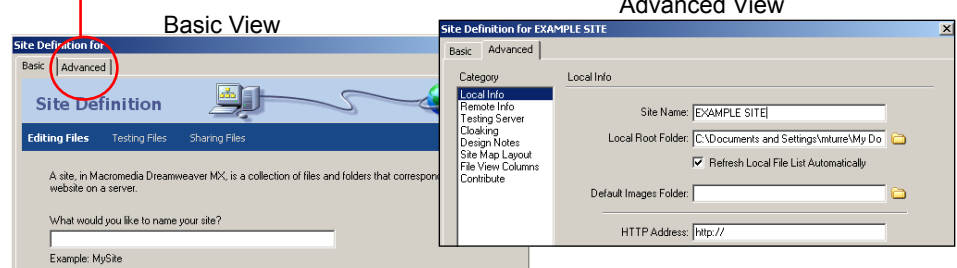
## STEP ONE: Open the Site Definition window



1. In Dreamweaver, choose **Site > Manage Sites**
2. Click on the “New” button, then choose “Site” from the pop-down menu. (DO NOT choose FTP& RDS Server!)
3. When you first use a copy of Dreamweaver MX or MX 2004, the “Basic” view for a Site definition Wizard will be displayed.

If you see the Basic interface, click on the **Advanced** tab.

Dreamweaver 4 or earlier did not have a “Basic” wizard, and always displayed the advanced interface, as shown below on the right.



## STEP TWO: Local Information

Where should you keep your "Local" folder?

We recommend keeping the "local root folder" containing your Web site files on your computer's hard drive or on a networked drive, rather than on a diskette, zip drive, or thumb drive. Dreamweaver will operate more quickly, and you are less likely to run into problems transferring data.

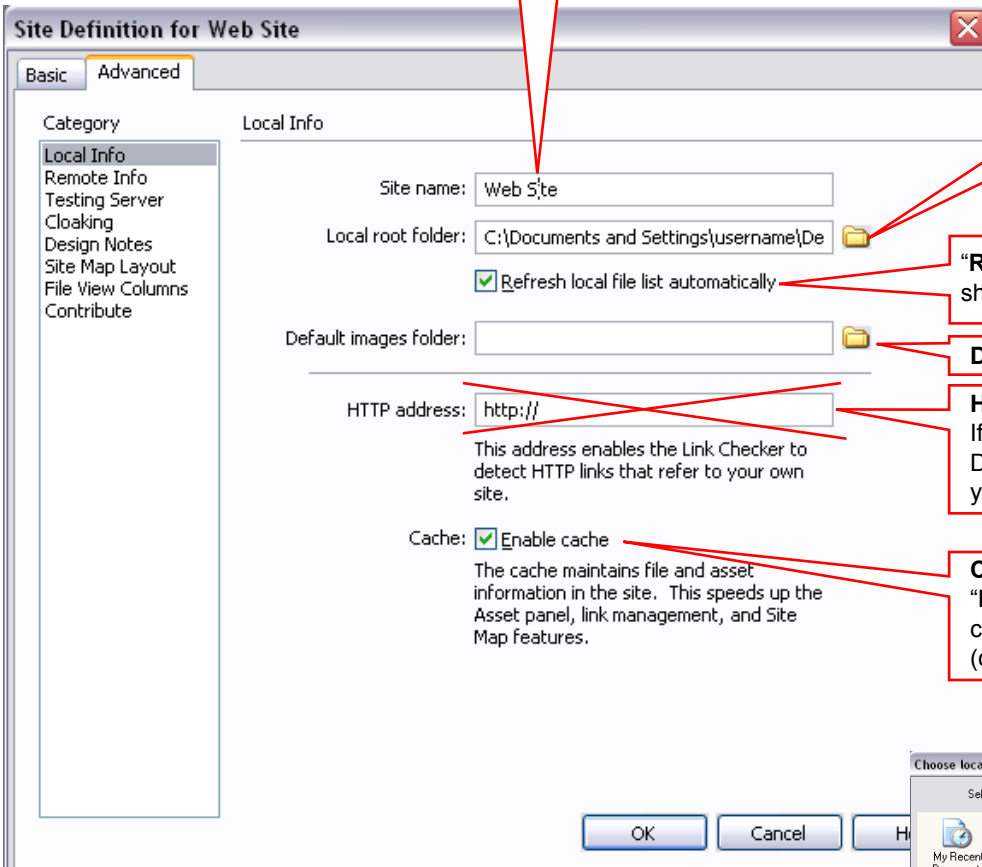
A good place to store your local files is inside My Documents (Windows) or Documents (Mac).

The first step is to Provide Dreamweaver with **the location of the folder on a local drive** where you'll keep the files for a particular Web site.

1. Once you have given the **Site > Manage Sites > New** command, and have clicked on the "Advanced" tab, **Local Info** should be selected under Category.
2. Enter the following:

**SITE NAME:**  
Give the site a short but meaningful name.  
(This name shows only in Dreamweaver's menus, and does not need to follow UNIX naming)

**LOCAL ROOT FOLDER:**  
This is the folder on your local drive where HTML documents, image files and any other documents for your site are, or will be stored.  
**Click on the browse folder icon** to select the folder containing the files for your Web site. Or, if you plan to download the files from the Web host, or you are starting a brand new site, you can create a new empty folder from this window.



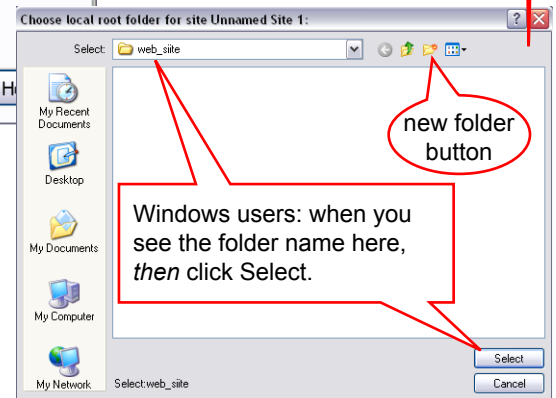
**"Refresh Local File list automatically"** should be checked (default setting).

**Default Images Folder: Optional**

**HTTP Address**  
If you are using standard Document Relative addressing, you do not need to fill this out.

**CACHE**  
"Enable Cache" should be checked (checked is the default setting).

3. **Do not click OK** yet! If you plan to transfer files to the Web Host server, you still need to define the Remote Info.



new folder button

Windows users: when you see the folder name here, then click Select.

## STEP THREE: Remote Information

To setup the Remote site definition:

1. Click on the **Remote Info** Category.
2. Enter only the information shown below.

**ACCESS:**  
Choose **FTP** from the pop-out access menu.

**FTP Host:**  
**webadmin.oit.umass.edu**

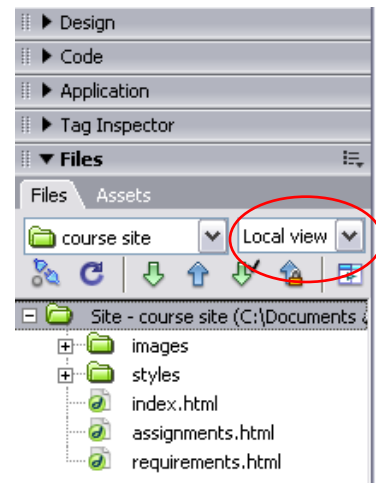
**HOST DIRECTORY:**  
If your URL is:  
**http://www-unix.oit.umass/~netid**  
**http://people.umass.edu/netid**  
**http://courses.umass.edu/coursenumber**  
The host directory is:  
**public\_html/**  
Note: There is NO slash in front of public\_html  
If your URL is:  
**http://www.umass.edu/department ...**  
The host directory is:  
**/usr/cwis/http/htdocs/dept**  
Note: There must be a forward slash in front of usr

**LOGIN:**  
Each account has a unique login or "user name".  
For personal sites this is your NetID.

**Password Security**  
**DO NOT ENTER YOUR PASSWORD** in this window. You will be prompted for it later when you give the command to connect to the server.  
There is a security risk if you enter your password here: Dreamweaver will no longer prompt before connecting to your account: others who have access to the computer you are using may be able to connect to your Web site and alter or upload files into your account.  
**OIT does not recommend saving passwords on any computer.**

**CHECK: Use Secure FTP**  
**IMPORTANT! After August 25, 2004 you MUST use SFTP.**

3. Click OK.
4. Dreamweaver will ask to create a site cache: **Click OK.**
5. Dreamweaver may ask if you are done defining sites: **Click DONE.**
6. Check the Files panel to make sure the Local root folder is showing.  
If the panel is set to display Remote files you will want to change the view to Local before you begin to build or edit pages.



## Connection Problems

### Trouble connecting to the Web Host?

If you fail to connect to the server, the information you gave in the Remote Info window may have been incorrect, or you may have typed in the wrong password.

If the error message says...

- **“The remote host cannot be found”**  
Check spelling, case, and punctuation for the host name.  
For the OIT server, use: **webadmin.oit.umass.edu**
- **“Cannot open remote folder”**  
Check spelling for your Web directory path. For sites on www.umass.edu
- **“530 Login incorrect”**  
Your username or password was entered incorrectly.
- **“An FTP error occurred - cannot make connection ...”**  
Make sure you checked “Use Secure FTP” in the Remote info window of your site definition.

### How to repair an incorrect site definition

1. Choose Sites > Manage sites.
2. Highlight the name of the site you are working on, then click the EDIT button
3. Return to the Local or Remote Info screen (as needed) and correct the information.