

Setting Up Dreamweaver, Step 3: Downloading an Existing Site

- To work on a website that already exists, it is best to download the site from the USM departmental server so that you will be working on the most up to date version. You will need a login and password from iTech in order to perform this step. To obtain this information, please fill out and submit the form located here:
<http://www.usm.edu/itech/webAccounts/addusers.php>
- After creating the root folder and inputting the site setup data, look at the right side of the Dreamweaver window. You should see your website listed here. If it is not listed, use the drop down menu to select it.
- To connect to the server, click the “plugs” icon once. When Dreamweaver connects to the server, the light will turn green.
- You should see a list of files and the view should now say “Remote view” instead of “local view.” You can go back and forth from local to remote view using the drop down menu, or you can view both local and remote sites side by side. To enter that view, click the blue and white button just below the remote view and local view drop-down menu. Note that you can toggle between this view and the regular Dreamweaver window by clicking the blue and white button.
- With the side by side view turned on, you are now ready to download the site from the server onto your computer. First, click on the name of the site on the “remote view” side. Then, click the green “GET” arrow. Dreamweaver will ask you, “Are you sure you wish to get the entire site?” – Click OK.
- The site will then begin downloading. This process may take less than a minute or it may take several minutes; it depends on the size of the website you are working on. While the site downloads, you should see a “Background File Activity” box displayed; this display will indicate the progress of the download.
- Once the site has finished downloading, both remote view and local view should be identical.
- Click the blue and white button to return to the Dreamweaver editing area.
- Change the view from “Remote view” back to “local view”. Disconnect from the server by clicking the “plugs” icon.
- You are now ready to use Dreamweaver to edit pages from the site.
- You will usually begin by opening the page *called “index.html”, “index.php”, or “index.htm”*.