

Do It Yourself Web Design and Development



Content Management Systems

- Wordpress – Many hosts provide Wordpress as part of hosting
- Blogger (www.blogger.com)
- Google Sites (<http://sites.google.com>)

FTP Tools for File Transfers

- FileZilla (<http://filezilla-project.org/>)
- SmartFTP (<http://www.smartftp.com/>)
- Most hosts provide a web interface for file management and transfers

Design Tools

- GIMP (www.gimp.org/) – Application for robust image editing
- Pixlr (pixlr.com/editor/) – Web application for robust image editing
- Color Palettes (www.colourlovers.com/copaso/colorPaletteSoftware)
- Color Scheme Designer (<http://colorschemedesigner.com/>)

Code Editors

- Notepad++ (<http://sourceforge.net/projects/notepad-plus/>)
- Microsoft WebMatrix (<http://www.microsoft.com/web/webmatrix/>)



HTML/CSS Resources

- Introduction to CSS (www.w3schools.com/css/css_intro.asp)
- CSS Specifications (<http://www.w3.org/TR/CSS2/>)

SEO Tools

- Google Analytics (www.google.com/analytics/)
- Google Webmaster Tools (www.google.com/webmasters/tools)

Other Resources

- www.smashingmagazine.com/ - Web design trends and resources
- Create your own favicon.ico file (www.favicon.cc)
- Creative Commons photography (www.flickr.com/search/advanced/)
- Icon Finder (www.iconfinder.com/)

Tips, Advice and Pitfalls

- BACKUP THE EXISTING CODE, then make your changes
- Download the web files and work locally if possible
- Use Firebug for changes by trial and error
- Test small changes rather than many changes to avoid getting lost
- Avoid using a Word to create web pages or HTML
- Inspect the code from sites with examples of things you like