Basic HTML Information
ASCII based. Simply ASCII text with formatting codes
Platform Independent

Formatting Rules
1. White space is ignored. This means that multiple spaces in a row in a line of text will be ignored and blank lines in the HTML source code will not appear in the browser window
2. The tab character is ignored, i.e. you can not indent text using the TAB key
3. Formatting tags are not case-sensitive. However in XHTML, the new standard calls for lowercase tags
4. Most formatting tags occur in pairs

Document Structure
HTML document consists of two parts — a head and a body
1. The head contains information about the document, such as the title
2. The body contains the document itself
3. The two sections are distinguished by the use of the <head> and <body> tags:
   <head>
   Elements contained in the header
   </head>
   <body>
   Text of the document
   </body>
The two sections are surrounded by the <html> tags.

Plain Text and Graphics Features

Header Elements
One very common header element found in the <head> section is the <title> tag

Headings
Six heading styles - <h1> to <h6> that render the text in bold in different sizes. The largest size heading is <h1>, the smallest, <h6>

Paragraphs, Line Breaks and Lines
1. Paragraphs are created using the <p> tag. It is probably the most often used HTML tag
2. You can create a line break, where you can start a new line without skipping a line with the <br> tag. In XHTML, the tag is <br />
3. You can create a "separator" line on a page using the <hr> tag. There is no closing tag needed for <hr>. In XHTML, the tag is <hr />

Lists (Three examples)
1. Ordered - a number list. The tag used is <ol> followed by an <li> tag for each item in the list
2. Unordered - a bullet list The tag used is <ul> followed by an <li> tag for each item in the list
3. Definition (Definition Term, Description). The tag for the list is <dl>; for each term <dt>; for each description <dd>

Images
You can insert an image into an HTML document using the <img> tag. Note: this is one tag where the use of the tag's attributes is very important. Inside the opening <img> tag you must supply the name of the image file, the dimensions of the image and alternate text for the image. Here's an example: <img src="logo_sm.gif" width=150 height=55 alt="Go to Google Home" border="0">

Hypertext and Hypergraphics
A hypertext or link reference consists of two parts: an anchor and an address (or URL)
1. The anchor is the text or graphic that the user clicks to go somewhere, to follow a link
2. The address points to the destination (another document or part of the existing document
Here's an example of a link to remote web site: <a href="http://www.liu.edu/">Long Island University</a>. In this example, the words "Long Island University" will appear as colored, underlined text in the browser window
Text Styles
Two types of text styles:

**Physical styles** are font attributes, such as:

- **Bold** `<b>`
- **Italics** `<i>`
- **Underline** `<u>`
- **Typewriter** `<tt>`

**Logical styles** indicate meaning of text:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><code>&lt;address&gt;</code></td>
<td>Italics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block quote</td>
<td><code>&lt;blockquote&gt;</code></td>
<td>Left and right indent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation</td>
<td><code>&lt;cite&gt;</code></td>
<td>Italics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td><code>&lt;code&gt;</code></td>
<td>Fixed-width font</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td><code>&lt;dfn&gt;</code></td>
<td>Bold or bold italics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emphasis</td>
<td><code>&lt;em&gt;</code></td>
<td>Italics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyboard</td>
<td><code>&lt;kbd&gt;</code></td>
<td>Fixed-width font</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample</td>
<td><code>&lt;samp&gt;</code></td>
<td>Fixed-width font</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
<td><code>&lt;strong&gt;</code></td>
<td>Bold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variable</td>
<td><code>&lt;var&gt;</code></td>
<td>Italics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. As mentioned above, most formatting tags occur in pairs, an opening tag and a closing tag. To create a closing tag, you add a forward slash (/) to the tag. For example, the closing tag for the `<p>` tag is `</p>`

2. Some tags do not have corresponding closing tags. These tags include `<br>`, `<hr>` and `<img>`

3. It is common to refer to sections of an HTML page as "elements." For example, you would refer to the following as an "h1 element": `<h1>Welcome to My Web Site</h1>`. This h1 element is made up of the `<h1>` opening tag, the text that will appear in the browser window and the `</h1>` closing tag

4. When using multiple HTML tags to format a line of text or a section of a page, it is very important that you close the tags in the reverse order of how they were opened, that is, the last tag opened must be the first tag closed. Here's an example:

   `<p><b><i>Please read this section</i></b></p>`

   Note how this line has been formatted to be a paragraph with bold, italicized text and that the closing tags have been applied in the reverse order of how they were opened

5. To write Web pages, you need to know:
   a. HTML tags
   b. Tag attributes

   However, with HTML editors like Dreamweaver, knowing the actual "spelling" of the tags is not that important. What is important is that you know the tags and their attributes so you understand the formatting possibilities and the choices you can make