

## **Image Gallery creation in Dreamweaver**

You can easily create a gallery of images in Dreamweaver. You will insert thumbnail images individually that represent the larger images. Then you will create links to the larger images from those thumbnails.

### **Place all your images in a work folder.**

Find all the images you plan on using in your image gallery. Size them to a comfortable resolution in Photoshop and place them in a work folder outside of your root folder. When we are done editing the files we will transfer them to the images folder of your site.

### **Using Photoshop create standard thumbnails for your images**

Photoshop has Actions which allow you to setup some commands that will be applied to a large number of files automatically. Open a test file so you can setup your new action. You access your Actions panel from the Window menu. As you create and name a new action, you will see the record button in the Action panel turn red. This lets you know that Photoshop is listening for commands from you. Any command you apply to the open file will be recorded and can be played back on a batch of files automatically. Two commands are necessary for this action. You want to size your thumbnail images to a standard size and save them as reduced quality (medium should be sufficient) JPEG images.

The Image Size should be a comfortable standard height so that the images will line up easily in rows. You will edit the height value in pixels with proportions turned on.

Next you will use the "Save for Web and Devices" command from the File menu and establish the JPEG quality of the new image.

Once you have established these two commands, you will turn off the recording function for the action and prepare to run the new action on a batch of files. You should copy your original files that you want to process to another folder and choose that folder as a source. Choose the same folder as a destination or choose your images folder for your site as your destination.

To run the action, go to the File menu and choose Automate -> Batch. From here you will set the source and destination points for your files using the respective "Choose" commands. At the bottom of the window you will set the file naming specifications. Instead of using just "Document Name + extension", use "thmb + Document Name + extension" so that the files you create will have a standard name relative to the file they were created from but distinct as names for your thumbnail files.

### **Place your images in Dreamweaver**

Place your images in your image folder so Dreamweaver can recognize them. Any image files in your images folder will be available to you while in Dreamweaver. Make sure that you only place image files in your images folder if they will be used in the actual site. Your work files should be kept elsewhere to keep your site trim and clean.

You can insert each image in Dreamweaver using the "Images" command from the "Insert" panel. Pressing this command bring up a drop menu of choices. You will be placing an image,

so choose the first choice "image". This will bring up a "Select image source" window. Point to the file you want to add and choose it. That image will be placed in the document where expected. As you place more than one image into the document you will see that they are placed side by side into the document. This is the default setup for placing images. You can edit that by creating a class and changing the margin attribute and applying that class to your images.

### **Create links to your larger images in Dreamweaver**

Creating your links to the larger images is as simple as browsing to the file from the "Link" attribute in the Properties panel. You can also drag and drop the image linked to from the Files panel into the textbox for the Links attribute in the Properties panel. You can also right click the thumbnail image in the Design view and go to the option "Make Link".