

CSS Layouts

Dreamweaver offers a set of predesigned CSS layouts that get your page up and running quickly and help you learn about CSS page layout by providing extensive inline comments in the code. Most site designs on the web can be categorized as one-, two-, or three-column layouts, each with a number of additional elements (such as headers and footers). Dreamweaver now offers a comprehensive list of essential layout designs that you can customize to fit your needs.

Adobe CSS Advisor

The Adobe CSS Advisor website contains information on the latest CSS issues, and is accessible directly from the Dreamweaver user interface during the Browser Compatibility Check process. More than a forum, a wiki page, or a discussion group, CSS Advisor makes it easy for you to comment with suggestions and improvements to existing content, or to add new issues for the benefit of the entire community.

Manage CSS

The Manage CSS feature makes it easier for you to move CSS rules from document to document, from the head of a document to an external sheet, between external CSS files, and more. You can also convert inline CSS to CSS rules, and place them where you need them—just by dragging and dropping.

Mobile Support

Creating pages for mobile devices is becoming more and more popular, but it can be very difficult to design pages that display well on both a standard Web browser and a cell phone. With the integration of Adobe Device Central, Dreamweaver makes it easy to preview your pages in various cell phone emulations. My only problem is that it didn't have my phone (a PalmOne Smartphone), but I suppose I can continue to test on that browser manually.

Implement Ajax on Your Site

Dreamweaver CS3 includes the Spry framework to make it really easy to add Ajax widgets and effects to your Web pages. It's just a matter of dragging and dropping and incorporating your dataset. Spry components include: widgets for lists, tables, tabs, and forms; effects to make transitions like shrinking, growing, fading, and highlighting; incorporating data from an XML feed such as RSS or database.

Spry framework for Ajax

With Adobe® Dreamweaver® CS3, you can visually design, develop, and deploy dynamic user interfaces using the Spry framework for Ajax. The Spry framework for Ajax is a JavaScript library for web designers that allows designers to build pages that provide a richer experience for their users. Unlike other Ajax frameworks, Spry is accessible to both designers and developers alike, as 99% of it is actually HTML.

Spry widgets

Spry widgets are prebuilt, common user interface components that you can customize using CSS, and then add to your web pages. With Dreamweaver, you can add a number of Spry widgets to your pages, including XML-driven lists and tables, accordions, tabbed interfaces, and form elements with validation.

Spry effects

Spry effects are a simple, elegant way of enhancing the look and feel of your website. You can apply them to almost any element on an HTML page. You can add Spry effects to enlarge, shrink, fade, and highlight elements; visually alter a page element for a certain period of time; and more.

Advanced Photoshop CS3 integration

Dreamweaver includes enhanced integration with Photoshop CS3. Now, designers can simply select any portion of a design in Photoshop—even across multiple layers—and paste it directly into a Dreamweaver page. Dreamweaver presents a dialog box where you can specify optimization options for the image. Should you ever need to edit the image, simply double-click the image to open the original layered PSD file in Photoshop for editing.

Browser Compatibility Check

The new Browser Compatibility Check feature in Dreamweaver generates reports that identify CSS-related rendering issues in a variety of browsers. In code view, issues are flagged with green underlining, so you know exactly where the problem is. After you identify the problem, you can quickly fix it if you know the solution, or, if you need more information, you can visit [Adobe CSS Advisor](#).