

MODULE 2: HTML EDITORS

Lesson 2.1: HTML Editors (Part 2)

Features of a Good HTML Editor

A good HTML editor should make it easier for users to write, edit, and manage HTML code.

Some important features include:

- Syntax highlighting
 - Auto-completion
 - Line numbering
 - File management
 - Search and replace
 - Error detection
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1. Syntax Highlighting

Definition

Syntax highlighting is a feature that displays different parts of HTML code in different colours.

This makes the code easier to read and understand.

Illustration

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

<head>
  <title>My Webpage</title>
</head>

<body>
  <h1>Welcome</h1>
  <p>This is my first webpage.</p>
</body>

</html>
```

Note: In editors such as **Visual Studio Code** and **Notepad++**, HTML tags, attributes, and values appear in different colours, making the code easier to read.

2. Auto-Completion

Definition

Auto-completion is a feature that automatically suggests or completes HTML tags while you are typing.

For example, when you type:

```
<p
```

the editor may automatically complete it as:

```
<p></p>
```

This feature saves time and reduces typing errors.

3. Line Numbering

Definition

Line numbering displays a number beside each line of code.

This helps programmers quickly locate errors and makes it easier to discuss specific lines of code.

Illustration

```
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3  <head>
4      <title>My Webpage</title>
5  </head>
6  <body>
7      <h1>Welcome</h1>
8  </body>
9  </html>
```

4. Search and Replace

This feature allows users to:

- Search for a word or phrase in the code.
- Replace it with another word or phrase.

For example, if the word **School** appears many times, it can be replaced with **College** in just a few clicks.

5. File Management

A good HTML editor helps users organise files and folders for a website.

For example:

My Website



This makes it easier to manage website files.

6. Error Detection

Some HTML editors can identify coding mistakes and alert the user before the webpage is opened.

For example, if a closing tag is missing, the editor may underline the error or display a warning.

This helps reduce mistakes and saves time.

Why is Visual Studio Code Popular?

Visual Studio Code (VS Code) is one of the most popular HTML editors because it:

- Is free to download and use.
- Supports many programming languages.
- Highlights HTML syntax.
- Provides auto-completion.
- Helps detect coding errors.
- Organises project files.
- Can be extended using plugins and extensions.

For these reasons, many web developers and students use VS Code for web development.

Creating an HTML File Using an Editor

The following steps show how to create a simple HTML file using an HTML editor.

Step 1

Open your HTML editor.

Example:

- Notepad
- Notepad++
- Visual Studio Code

Step 2

Type the following HTML code.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

<head>
  <title>My First Webpage</title>
</head>

<body>

<h1>Welcome to HTML</h1>

<p>This webpage was created using an HTML editor.</p>

</body>

</html>
```

Step 3

Click **File** → **Save As**.

Step 4

Save the file as:

index.html

Step 5

Locate the file and double-click it.

The webpage will open in your default web browser.

Output

Welcome to HTML

This webpage was created using an HTML editor.

Viewing the HTML File

After saving the file:

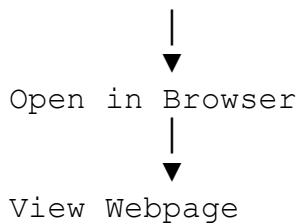
1. Open **File Explorer**.
2. Locate the HTML file.
3. Double-click the file.
4. The file opens in your web browser.

Alternatively, you can:

- Right-click the file.
 - Select **Open With**.
 - Choose your preferred web browser.
-

Illustration

Open HTML Editor
↓
Type HTML Code
↓
Save File
(index.html)



Real-Life Example

Imagine writing a letter.

- First, you write the letter using a word processor such as Microsoft Word.
- Next, you save the document.
- Finally, you print or read the document.

Similarly:

- You write HTML code using an HTML editor.
 - You save the file with the **.html** extension.
 - You open the file in a web browser to view the webpage.
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Did You Know?

- HTML files can be edited at any time.
 - After making changes to an HTML file, you need to **save the file** and **refresh the browser** to see the updated webpage.
 - Professional web developers often keep their HTML files organised in folders for easier management.
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End of Part 2

In **Part 3**, we will complete the lesson with:

- Importance of HTML Editors
- Applications of HTML Editors
- Examination Tips
- Common Mistakes
- Key Points Summary
- Practical Activities
- Self-Assessment Questions
- Examination-Style Questions
- Exam Quick Review

This final section will help learners revise the topic and prepare for examinations while reinforcing the practical skills learned in this lesson.