

## Chapter 9

# Creating a Family, Vacation, or Hobby Site

### **Tasks Performed in This Chapter**

- \* Working with the templates
- \* Designing a site for your family, hobby, or vacation
- \* Editing image templates
- \* Creating rollover images

There are many excellent reasons to create a Web site, slide show, or photo gallery. From the announcement of a new baby to sharing the latest vacation snapshots to coordinating the games for your little league team, digital designs are a great way to keep in touch with family and friends.

The best family sites include room for everyone in the clan, and as you see in the sample family site — creation tasks in this chapter, you can easily adapt this design to create sections for each member of your family, club, or organization.

## *Getting Started with the Family or Group Site Templates*

The templates featured in this chapter are designed to showcase a lot of images and would work well for any family Web site, as well as for an art or photo collection, to illustrate business services or products, or to share vacation photos with family and friends.

For this site, you can download templates to create the pages in Dreamweaver as well as starter images designed to be used in an image editor, such as Photoshop, Photoshop Elements, or Fireworks.

### **Remember**

All the templates featured in this book can be downloaded for free from the companion Web site that goes with this book. Just visit [www.DigitalFamily.com/diy](http://www.DigitalFamily.com/diy) and follow the instructions to download the various graphic and Web page templates.

As you follow the instructions for creating the family site featured in this chapter, you'll see how to customize pages, as shown in Figure 9-1, and how to add or remove pages to create smaller or larger versions of this site. You also find instructions for creating interactive features in Dreamweaver, including image maps. Because customizing this site involves editing graphics as well as HTML files, you find separate tasks for each section of the site:

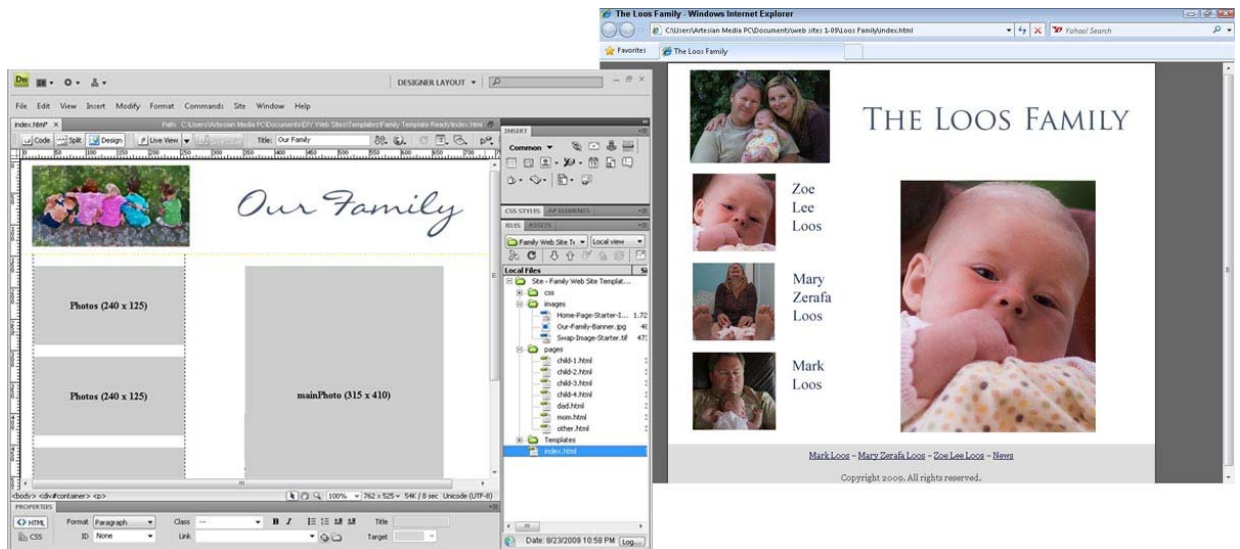


Figure 9-1: The template featured in this chapter can be altered to create a wide range of different kinds of Web sites, such as sites for small or large families.

- \* The first task shows you how to customize the banner, text, and images by using Photoshop Elements. (I'm using Photoshop Elements 8.) You also find out how to add and position images to create the page designs for each section of the site.
- \* The second task shows you how to set up a site in Dreamweaver and how to edit the front page.
- \* The third task covers how to edit Dynamic Web Templates in Dreamweaver, make changes across many pages at once, set links to pages and remove pages from the design.
- \* The fourth task features a more advanced Dreamweaver lesson in how to create rollover images so that you can create effects, such as the change in text color of links when a user rolls a cursor over an image and it's replaced with another image.

Before you get started with these tasks, here's a quick overview of the template and files used in this chapter. You can download the family template with all of these files from the companion web site for this book at [www.DigitalFamily.com/diy](http://www.DigitalFamily.com/diy).

To help you get started with this site, and to ensure that the links on the navigation bars work properly, this template includes starter pages for each of the main sections of this site. Although you can add or remove pages and change links as necessary, this list describes the files and folders that get you started when you first open the Family template:

- \* `index.html`: This is the name of the front page of the Web site. The main page of any Web site should be named `index`; the rest of the pages can be named anything you like, as long as you don't use spaces or special characters.
- \* `images`: You find all starter image files in TIFF format in this folder. You can create your own banner by editing the text and images in the TIFF file. You also find optimized JPEG files in the `images` folder that you can use as you follow along with the tasks. (You find instructions for editing the TIFF images and optimizing them in the JPEG format in the first task. You find more detailed instructions for editing images in Chapter 5.)
- \* `css`: You find the external style sheets that are attached to the template files in this folder.

- \* **Templates:** In this folder, you find the dynamic Web templates used to create the files in this site.
- \* **pages:** This folder stores all the pages for the individuals in your site and includes these ready-to-use pages:
  - \* mom.html: For a parent
  - \* dad.html: For a parent
  - \* child-1.html: For the first child
  - \* child-2.html: For the second child
  - \* child-3.html: For the third child
  - \* child-4.html: For the fourth child
  - \* other.html: For anyone else you want to add

### **Remember**

You can rename files by using the Dreamweaver Files panel, as you see in the task “Designing a Web Page for the Entire Family.” The Files panel lists all pages in a Web site; when you make changes in this panel, Dreamweaver automatically adjusts any corresponding links already set in the Web site template. If you stick to changing only filenames or folders in the Files panel, you never have to worry about breaking links.

## Getting everyone working on your Web site

As you consider all the ways you can share stories and photos with family members and friends in your own family Web site, make sure to include your entire family in the planning-and-development process. Here are a few ways you can get family members of all ages involved:

- \* Ask older family members to write about special occasions and family traditions.
- \* Scan artwork from younger family members, and include those images on the site.
- \* Invite the family historian to help create a family tree and other historical records.
- \* Scan photos from old photo albums (and don't forget to sort through those boxes of old photos in your attic and closets).
- \* Include links to clubs, associations, and hobby sites to showcase your family's favorite activities.
- \* Keep the site updated with photos from everyone in the family, by sharing an online photo album at Flickr, Shutterfly, or the Kodak Gallery. It's simple and free to share photos on any of these sites, as I explain in Chapter 6.

## *Editing Starter Image Templates*

### **Stuff You Need to Know**

#### **Toolbox:**

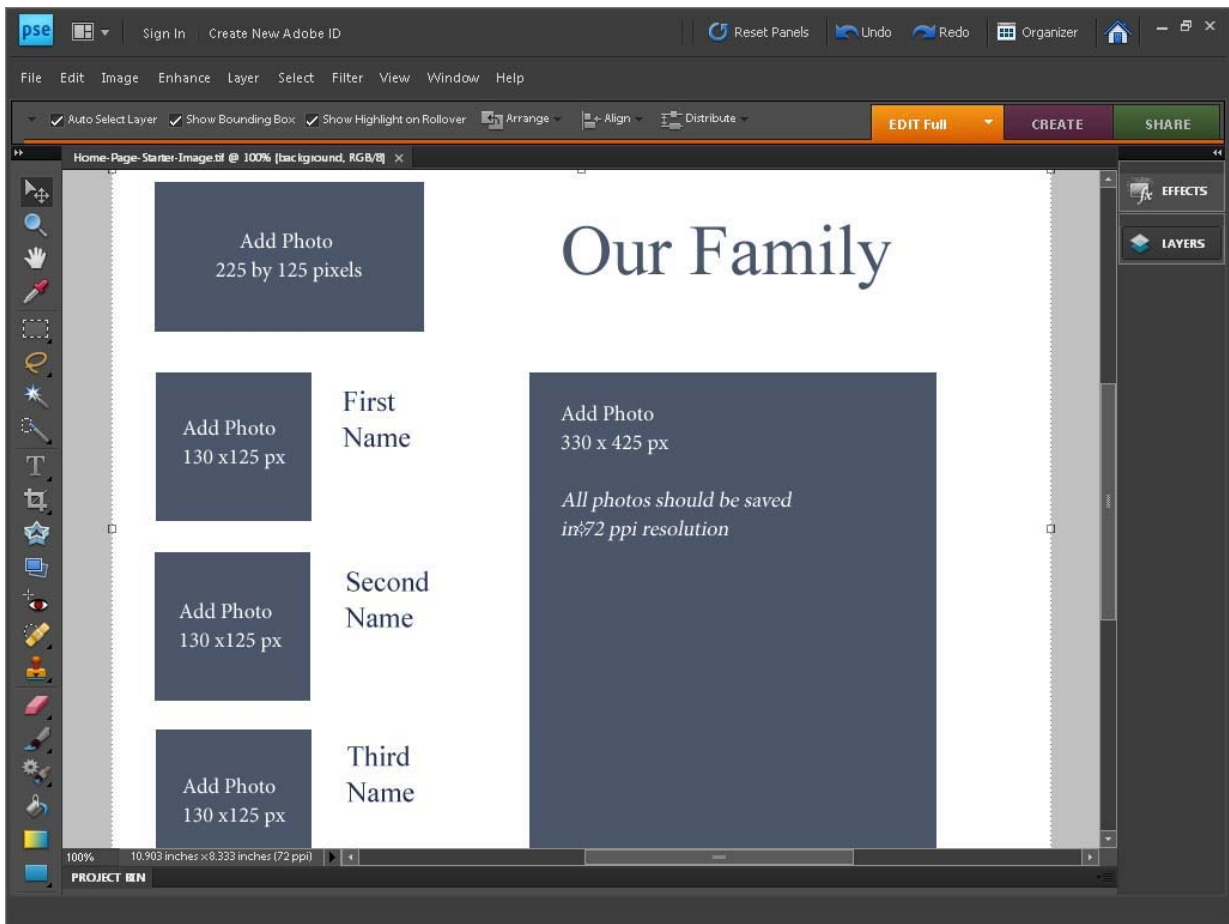
- \* Photoshop Elements
- \* The Home-Page-Starter Image.tif file from the Family Web Site template (see the Introduction for details)
- \* Your own text and images, to personalize the template banner

#### **Time needed:**

About three hours

The starter images for this template are designed to showcase images, so most of the work in creating this site is best done in an image-editing program, such as Photoshop Elements. The trick is to size and prepare all images before optimizing them for the Web and putting the pages together in Dreamweaver. In this task, you find instructions for adding your own images and text to the starter images included in the Family template.

This home page starter image has several elements — photos and text — and these files can be altered in many ways. In the following steps, I show you how to resize and add a photo and then edit the text by changing its font size, color, and spacing. After you insert and resize all images the way you want on your front page, you find instructions for using the Save for Web feature in Photoshop to optimize your images and save them as JPEGs so they're ready to insert into the template files in Dreamweaver.



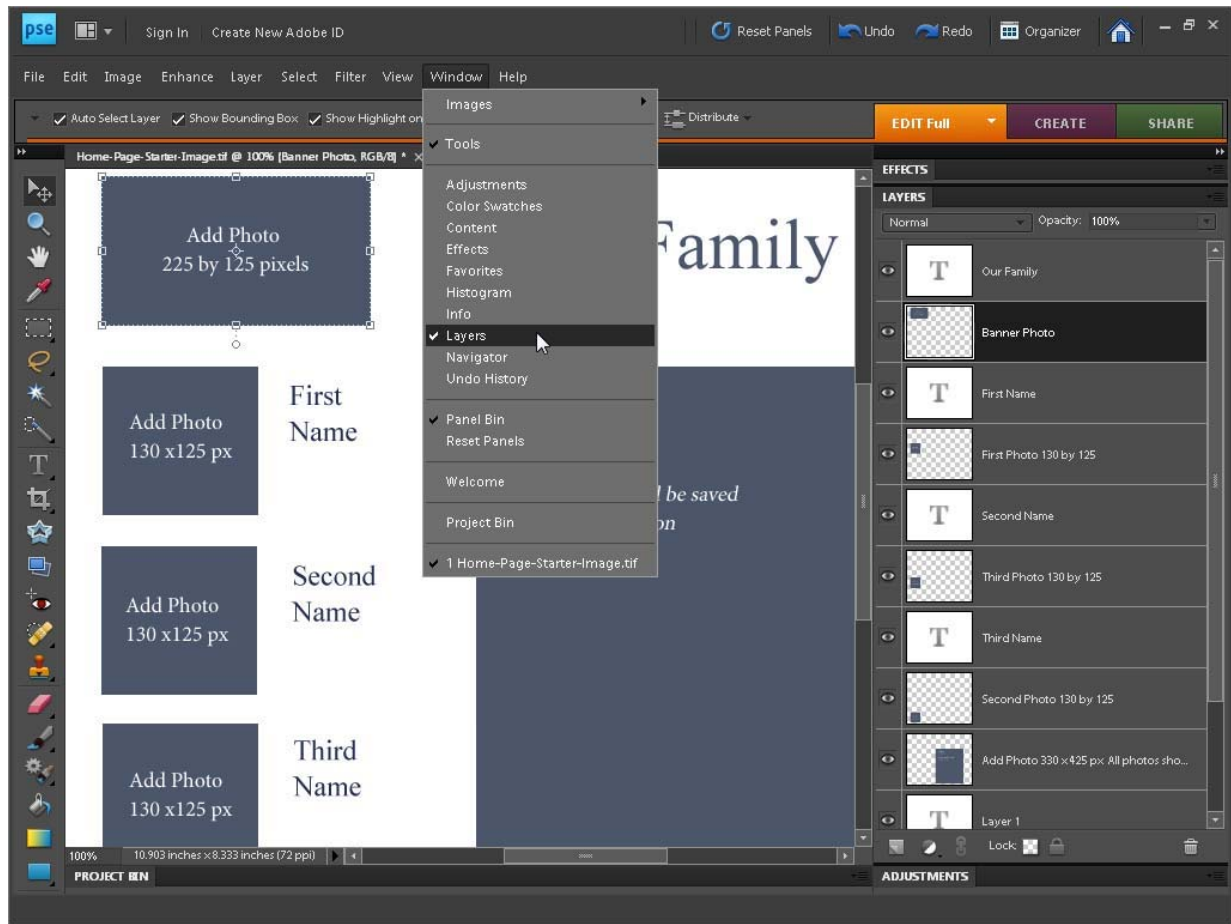
1. Launch a graphics program, such as Photoshop Elements (shown in the figure above), choose File-->Open, and open the template graphic file Home-Page-Starter-Image.tif.

### Tip

You can edit the image templates in any image editor that supports layers, including Adobe Photoshop and Fireworks. Photoshop Elements 8 is shown in this exercise. You will need to make minor adjustments if you use a different version of Photoshop Elements or you use the professional version of Photoshop, but these steps will be very similar in all recent versions of Photoshop and Elements.

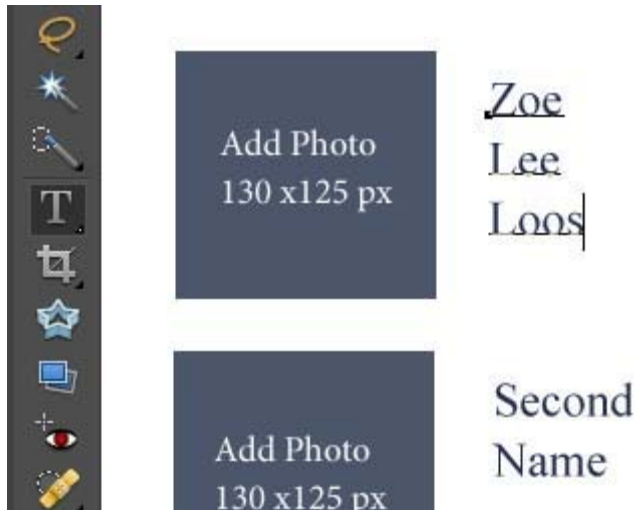
### Remember

If, when you open this starter image, you see the error message Some text layers contain fonts that are missing, your computer's hard drive doesn't have the fonts I used in the starter image. If you choose the Text tool in Photoshop or Photoshop Elements and start to edit the text in this file, the program automatically changes the text to a font that's on your hard drive. You can then click and drag to select the text and use the options at the top of the workspace to change the font, size, and color to best suit your design. I used the Times New Roman font in this design, but you can use any font you prefer. You can purchase and download fonts from any number of sites on the Web; just search for Free Fonts in any search engine.



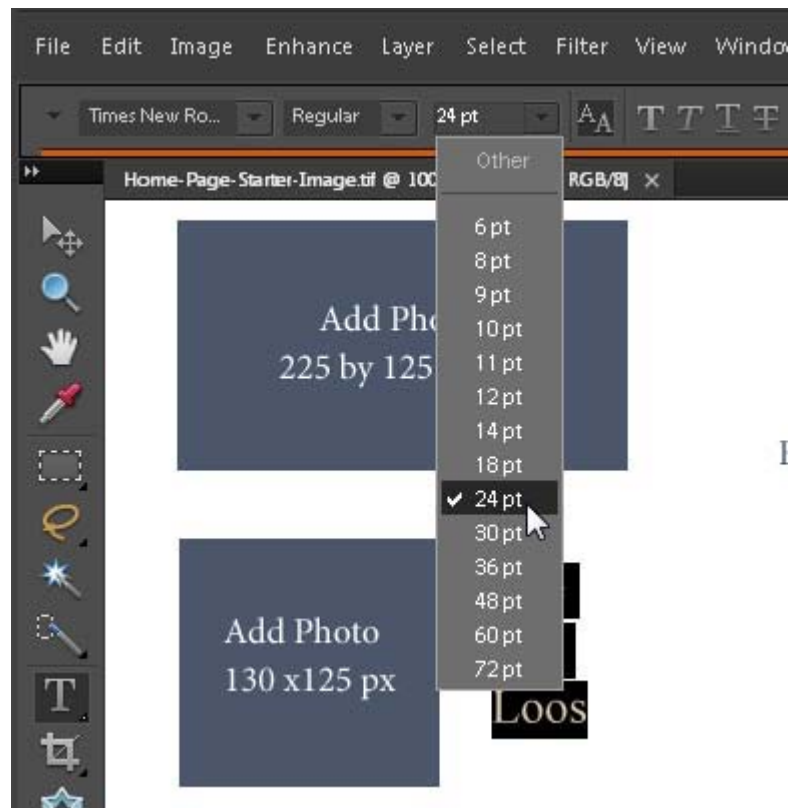
2. This starter image is made up of many layers, which makes it possible to edit each piece of text and delete or replace each image independently. You can view a list of layers by opening the Layers palette. Choose Window-->Layers to open the Layers panel. As you see in this figure, this starter image has many layers, each named to correspond to a section of text or an image placeholder in the template. **Tip:** You can select a layer by clicking it in the Layers panel. If you select the Auto Select Layer check box (at the top of the workspace), you can also select layers by simply clicking the image placeholder or text in the starter image.

3. To edit the text in any image in Photoshop Elements, first click to select the Type tool in the Toolbox. (Look for the capital T.)

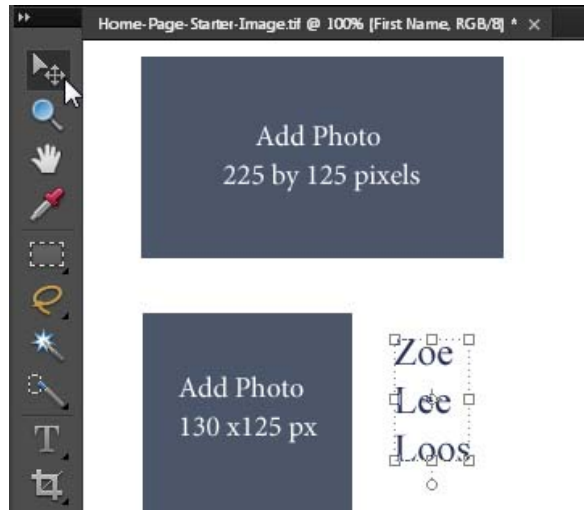


4. With the Type tool active, click and drag to select a section of text and then type to replace the words. (If you're prompted with the message Font substitution will occur, click OK to continue, and Photoshop automatically changes the text to a similar font on your hard drive.)

5. To change the font, color, size, or other text options, select the text you want to change and adjust the Type tool settings on the Options bar, at the top of the work area. In this figure, I'm adjusting the font size for the selected text.



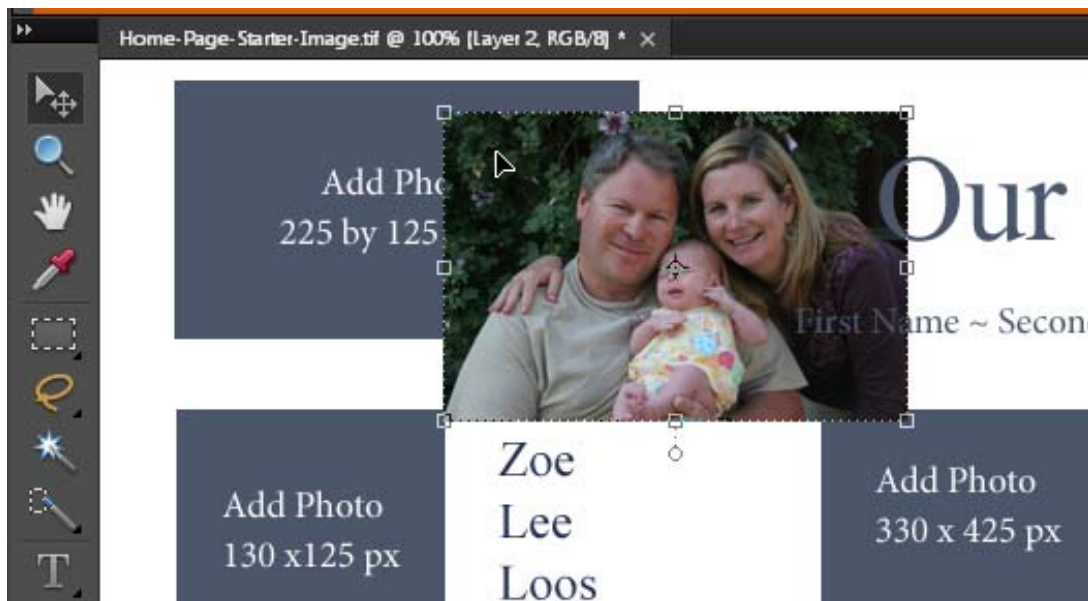
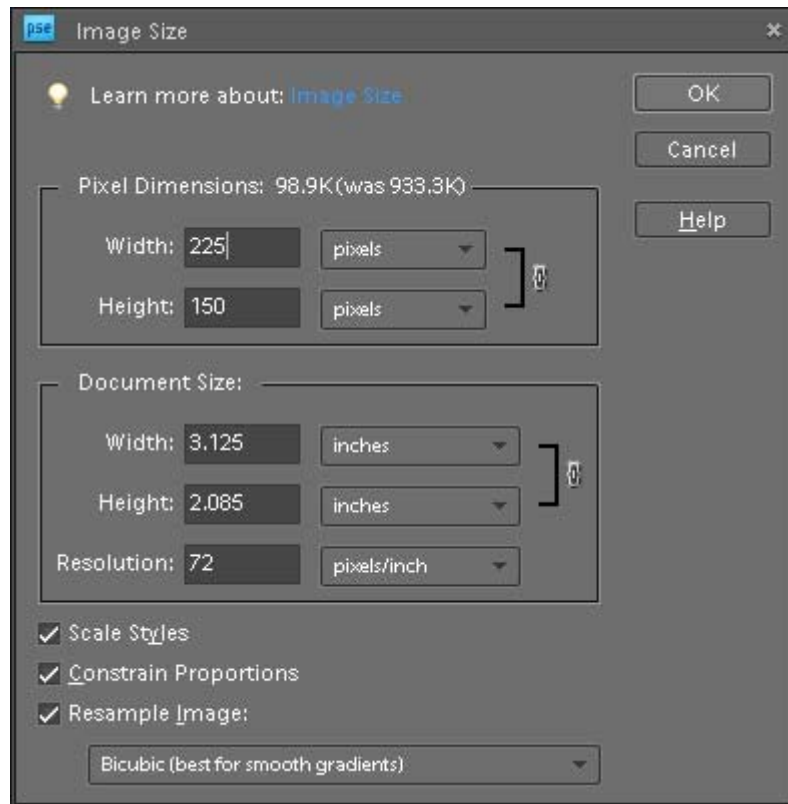
- To reposition text or images on the page, click to select the Move tool from the Toolbox. (In Photoshop Elements, the Move tool is represented by the double-headed, crossed arrow icon at the top of the Toolbox). Then click and drag any section of text. **Remember:** If you click and drag a corner, you change the size of the text or image; if you click in the middle of a text area or image and drag, you move the selected item.



- To add a photograph to a layer, you must first open the photograph as a separate file. While the starter image is still open, choose File-->Open and select any image from your hard drive. In this example, I opened a photo of Mark, Mary, and Zoe Loos, which I want to add to the banner image at the top of the page.



8. Before you copy a photo into the starter image, it's helpful to resize it so that it will fit the design. I'm going to use this image in the banner at the top of the page, so I want to resize it to about 225 pixels wide. **Hint:** each placeholder image includes recommended dimensions. To resize an image, choose Image-->Resize-->Image Size and then change the Pixel Dimensions. (You find more detailed instructions for resizing images in Chapter 5.)



9. To copy an image into the template, first click anywhere on the image you want to copy, to make it active in the workspace. Choose Select-->All to select the image, and then choose Edit-->Copy to copy it. Next, click anywhere on the starter image (to make it active in the workspace) and then chose File-->Paste to insert the new image into the template. After you paste an image, you can click anywhere within the image and drag to adjust its placement. You can also click and drag a corner to change the size of the image. (**Note:** Make sure the Move tool is selected. See Step 6 for a refresher.)

10. As you add more images, you can adjust the layers by positioning one image in front of another, which is important when images overlap or when one image is obstructed by another. To move one layer in front of another, click and drag the layer to a higher position in the Layers panel, or right-click (Option-click on a Mac) and select an option to bring the layer forward or back. To delete an image or text, click to select it and then press the Delete key.



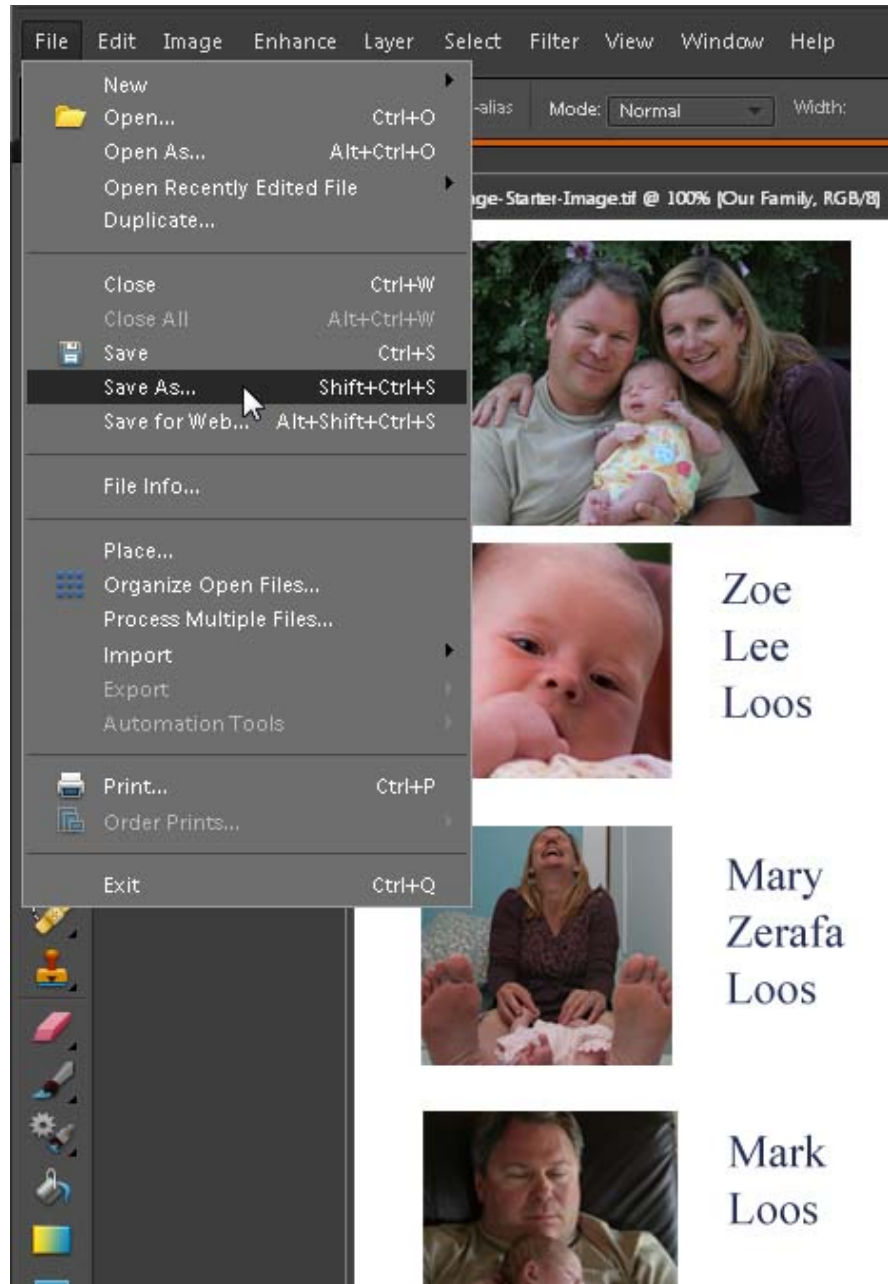
**Tip**

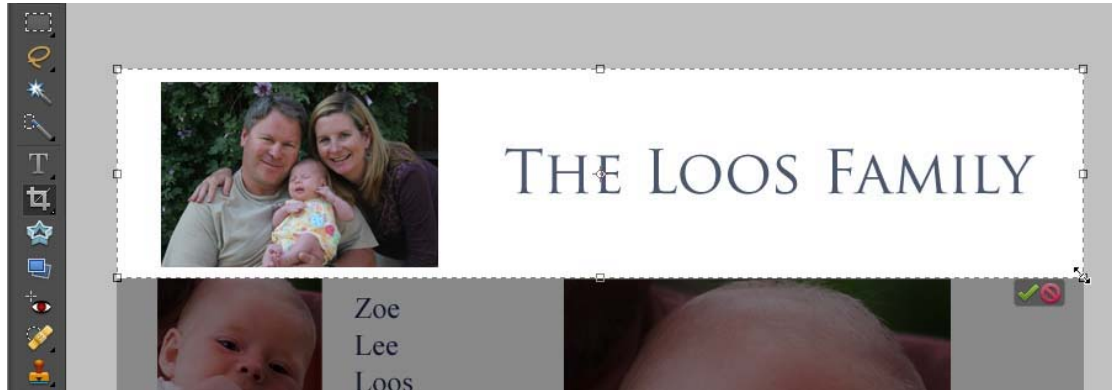
You can add as many images as you like, and you can resize them and drag them around the page to change the layout. The more you alter this design in Photoshop, however, the more you need to alter it in Dreamweaver. For the purposes of this task, I show you how to edit images into these starter images just as it's designed so that you can easily reconstruct them in Dreamweaver. As you get more adept in both Photoshop and Dreamweaver, you can make more significant changes.

11. Continue to open photos you want to add to the design, resize them as necessary, and then copy and paste them into the starter image. In this design, I used three small images on the left, with larger versions in the main section of the design, but you'll need to crop a vertical image to get it to fit into the small space on the left. To cut a section off of an image that you've inserted into the design, select the Rectangular Marquee tool; then click and drag over the portion of the image you want to remove, creating a box around the part you want to delete, and press the Delete key.

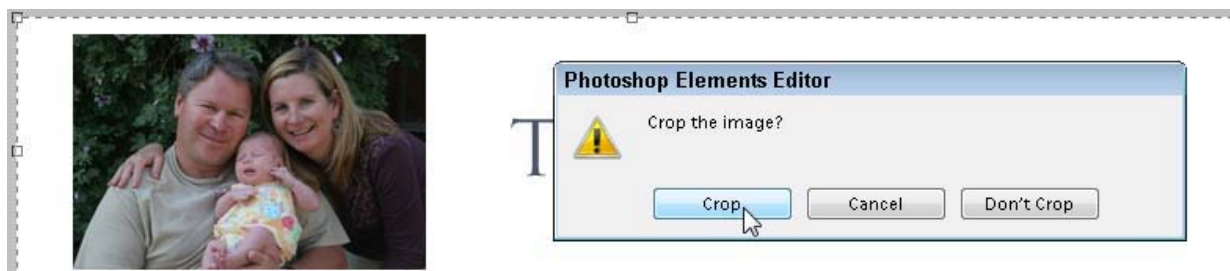


12. After you make all the changes you want to the starter image, be sure to save your work by choosing File-->Save. Then save the file again by choosing File-->Save As and name the new file something like My-Family-Front-Page. That way, you have a backup copy of the completed design before you start slicing up the image to save each piece separately, which you do in the steps that follow. **Hint:** If you ever want to go back to the original starter image included in the template, you can always download another copy from the Web site.



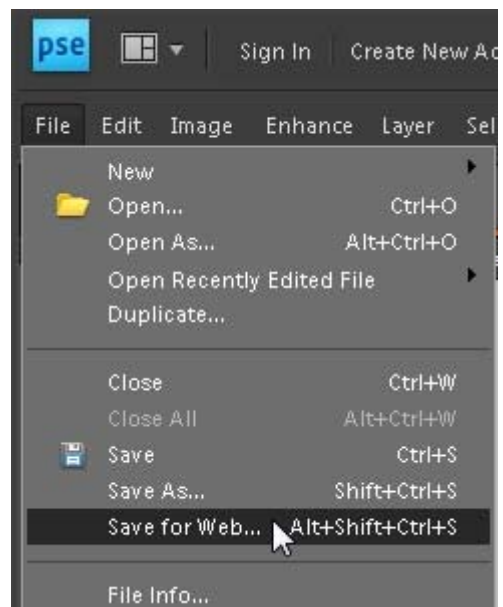


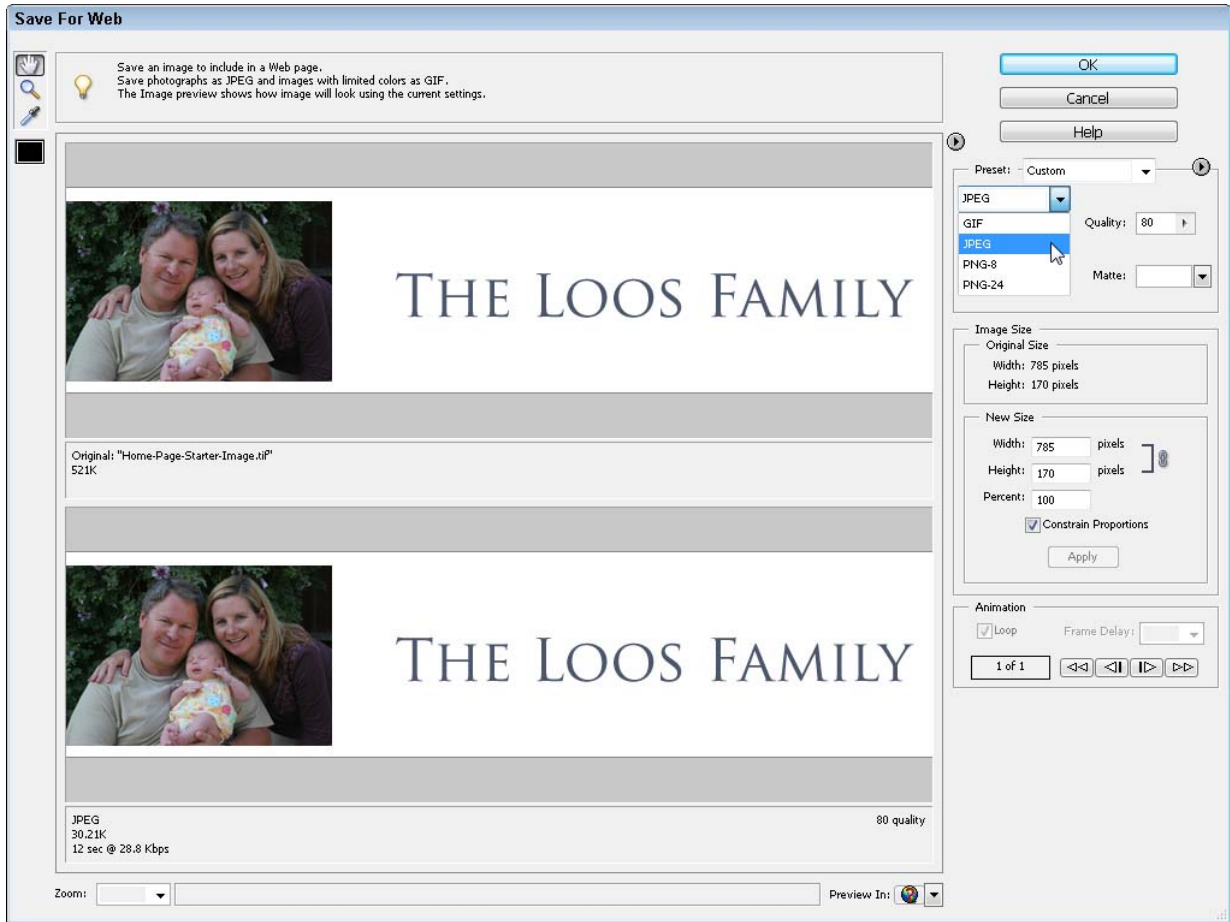
13. One of the challenges when you design a page like this one in Photoshop is deciding how to save each of the images as separate files that you can insert into your Web pages in Dreamweaver. A good place to start is the banner. Banners (including this one) typically appear at the top of every page in the site, but thanks to the magic of Dreamweaver Templates, you need only one copy of the image. To prepare the banner image for the Web, first choose the Crop tool from the Toolbox, and then click and drag to fit just the top banner area inside the cropping area.



14. You can drag the corners of the crop outline to adjust how the banner will be cropped. To complete the crop, just double-click in the middle of the crop area or click the Crop tool again and click Crop in the confirmation dialog box that appears.

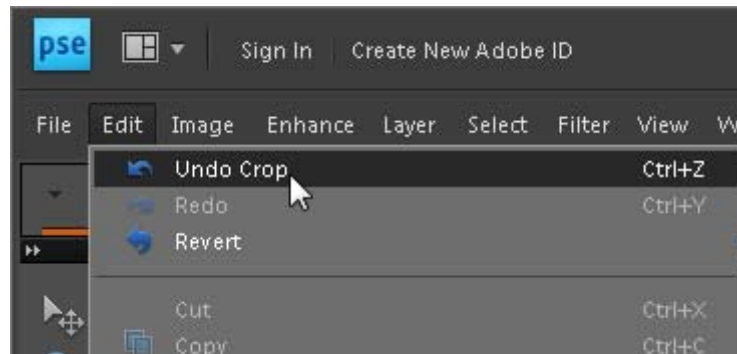
15. After you crop out just the banner image, choose File-->Save for Web to save the cropped portion as a new file optimized for the Web.

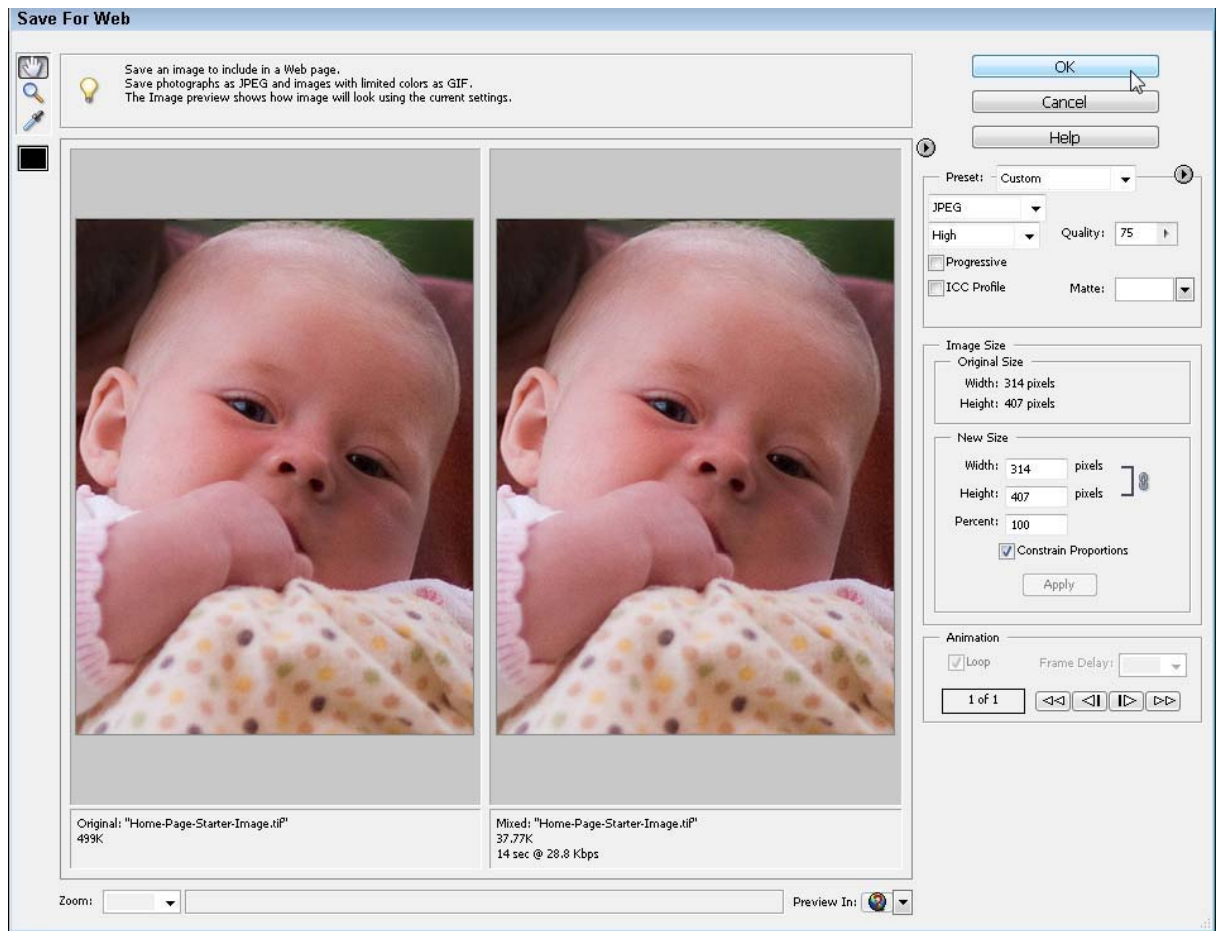




16. In the Save for Web dialog box that appears, choose JPEG from the Optimized File Format drop-down list. JPEG format works best for images that use millions of colors, such as photographs. Adjust other settings, such as compression, and click OK. Then, in the Save Optimized As dialog box, enter a name for the new image, make sure to save the image into the images folder in the Family Web Site template folder, and click Save. (You find more detailed instructions for optimizing images with the Save for Web dialog box in Chapter 5.)

17. Now for the part that may seem tricky at first but will save you lots of time after you get the hang of it. After you save a new version of the banner optimized for the Web, you will see the original image you cropped still open in Photoshop. Choose Edit->Undo Crop to restore the full image. Now you can crop the next part of the image you want to save for your Web site.





**18.** Save each cropped section of the image in turn, using the Save for Web dialog box.

After you save all the pieces of your design, you're ready to move on to the next task and put them all together using Dreamweaver.

# Designing a Web Site for the Entire Family

## Stuff You Need to Know

### Toolbox:

- \* Adobe Dreamweaver
- \* The Family Web Site template from the companion Web site (see the Introduction for details)
- \* Your own text and images, to personalize the template

### Time needed:

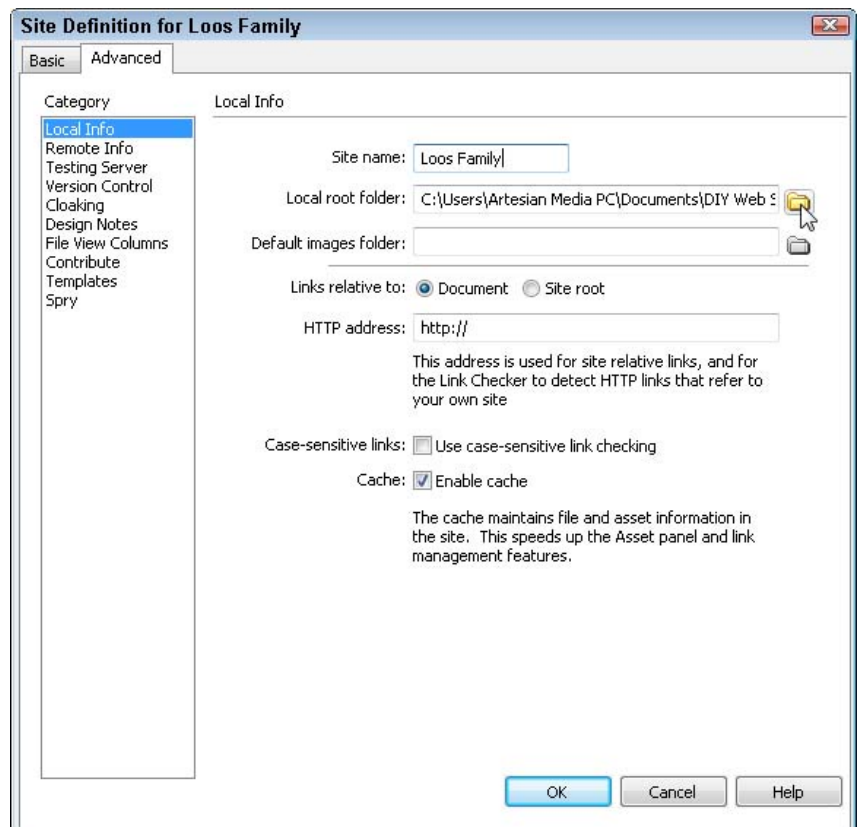
About two hours

In this task, you set up a new Web site with the Family Web Site template, which can be used to create any site that features multiple people or sections. As you work through the following steps, remember that you can alter this template a little (by simply adding your own the text and images) or alter the design a lot by changing the colors, font options, and other style settings to make the design more your own.

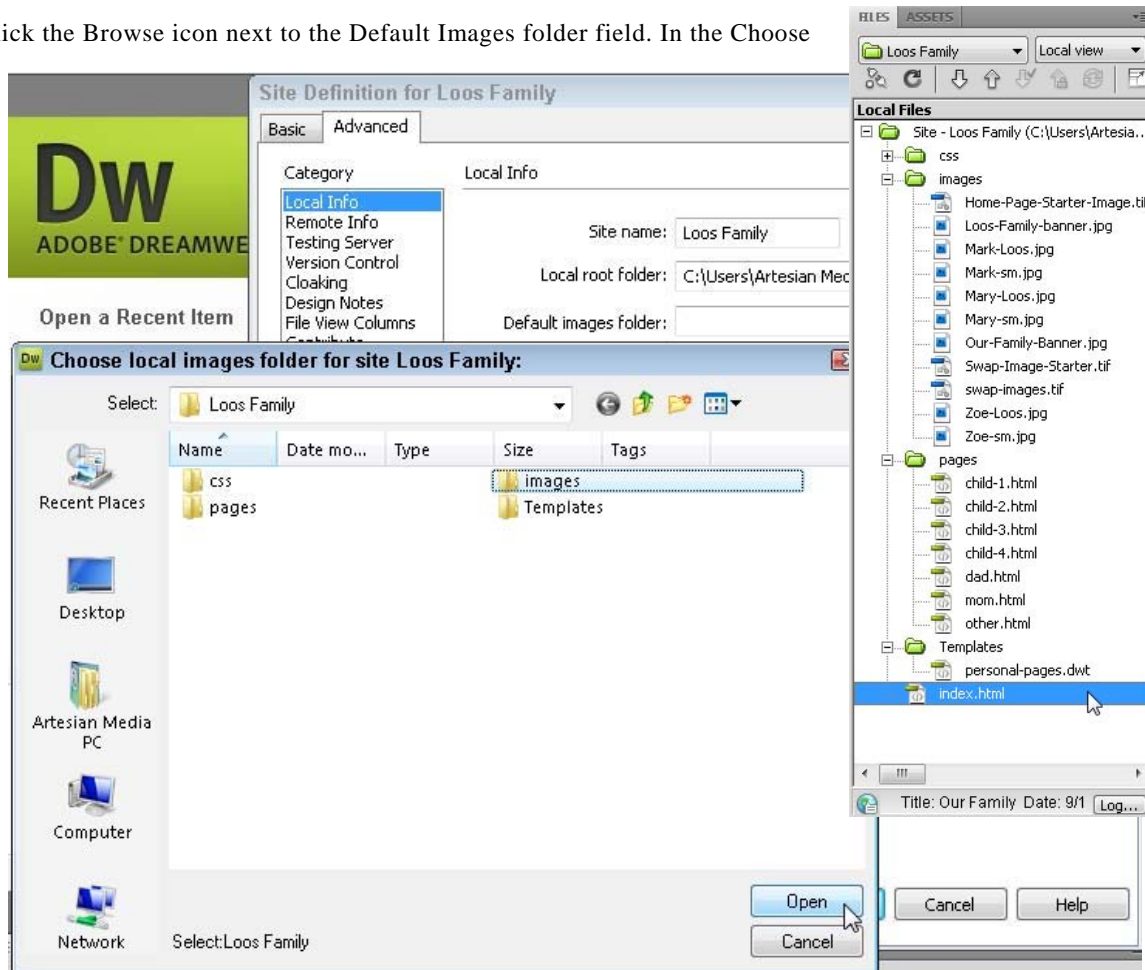
1. In Dreamweaver, choose Site->New Site. In the Site Definition dialog box, click the Advanced tab. In the Site Name text box, type a name for your site. In this example, I entered Loos Family. Click the Browse icon next to the Local Root Folder text box and locate on your hard drive the folder that contains the Family Web Site template.

### Remember

If you want to rename the folder that contains the Family Web Site Template, do so before completing the site definition process. If you change the name of the main root folder of a Web site after you complete the site setup process, you have to repeat the setup steps to identify the renamed folder as the Local root folder in Dreamweaver.



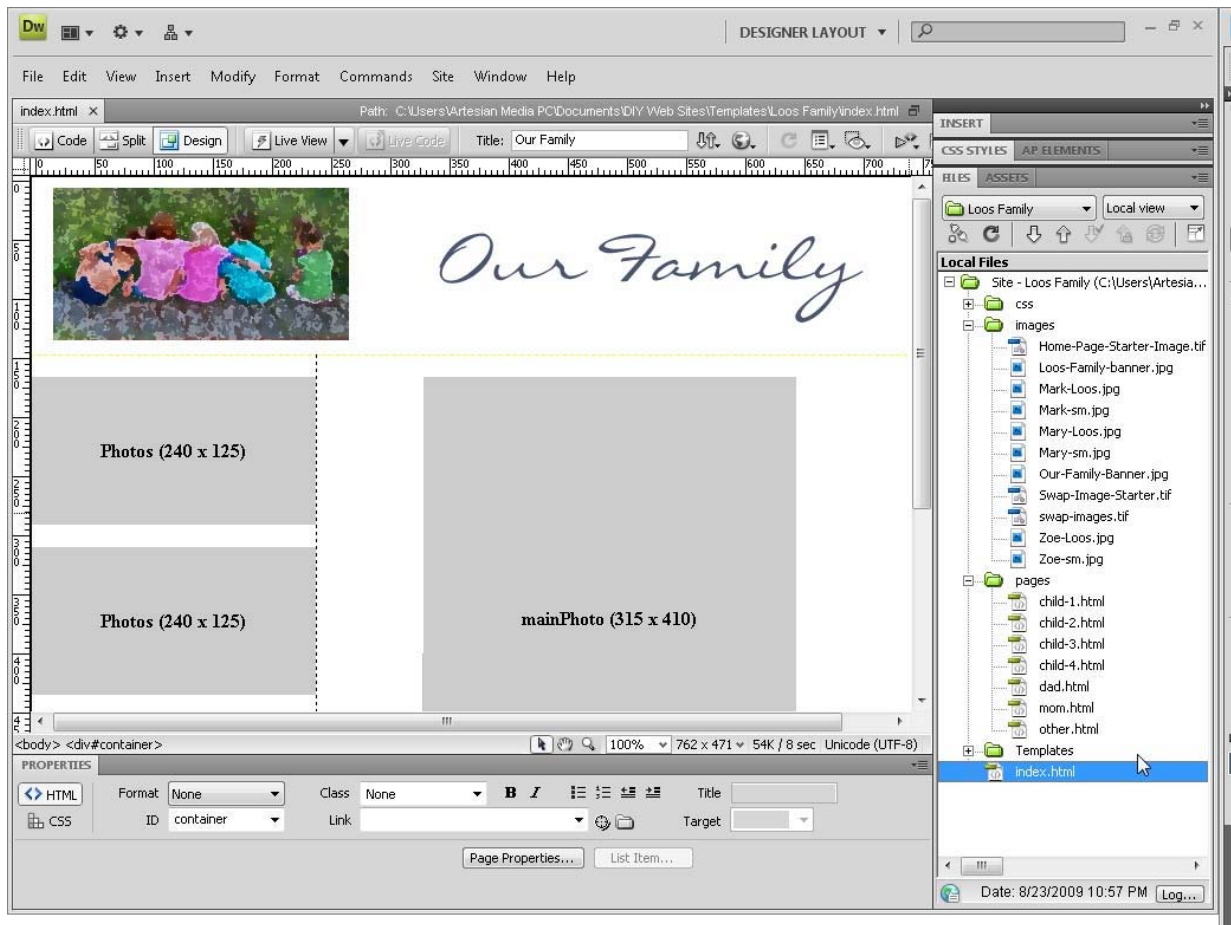
2. Click the Browse icon next to the Default Images folder field. In the Choose



Local Images Folder dialog box that appears, select the Images folder in the Family template site and click Open. Back in the Site Definition dialog box, leave the rest of the options alone for now, and click OK. If you haven't selected the Enable Cache check box, a message box appears, asking whether you want to create a cache for the site. Click Yes to speed up some of the Dreamweaver display features.

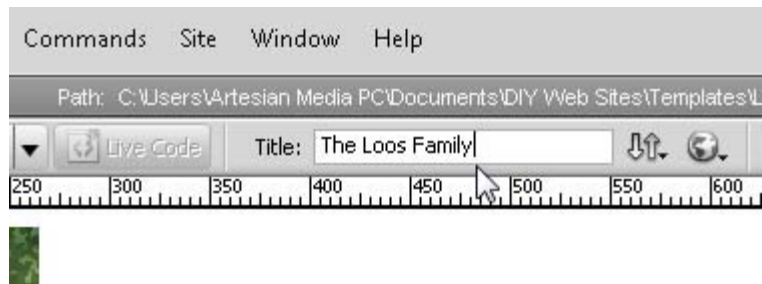
3. When you complete the site setup process, the files and folders in the Family Web Site template are displayed in the Files panel in Dreamweaver, at the side of the workspace. If the Files panel isn't visible, choose Window-->Files to open it. (For more detailed instructions on the site setup process, see Chapter 6.)

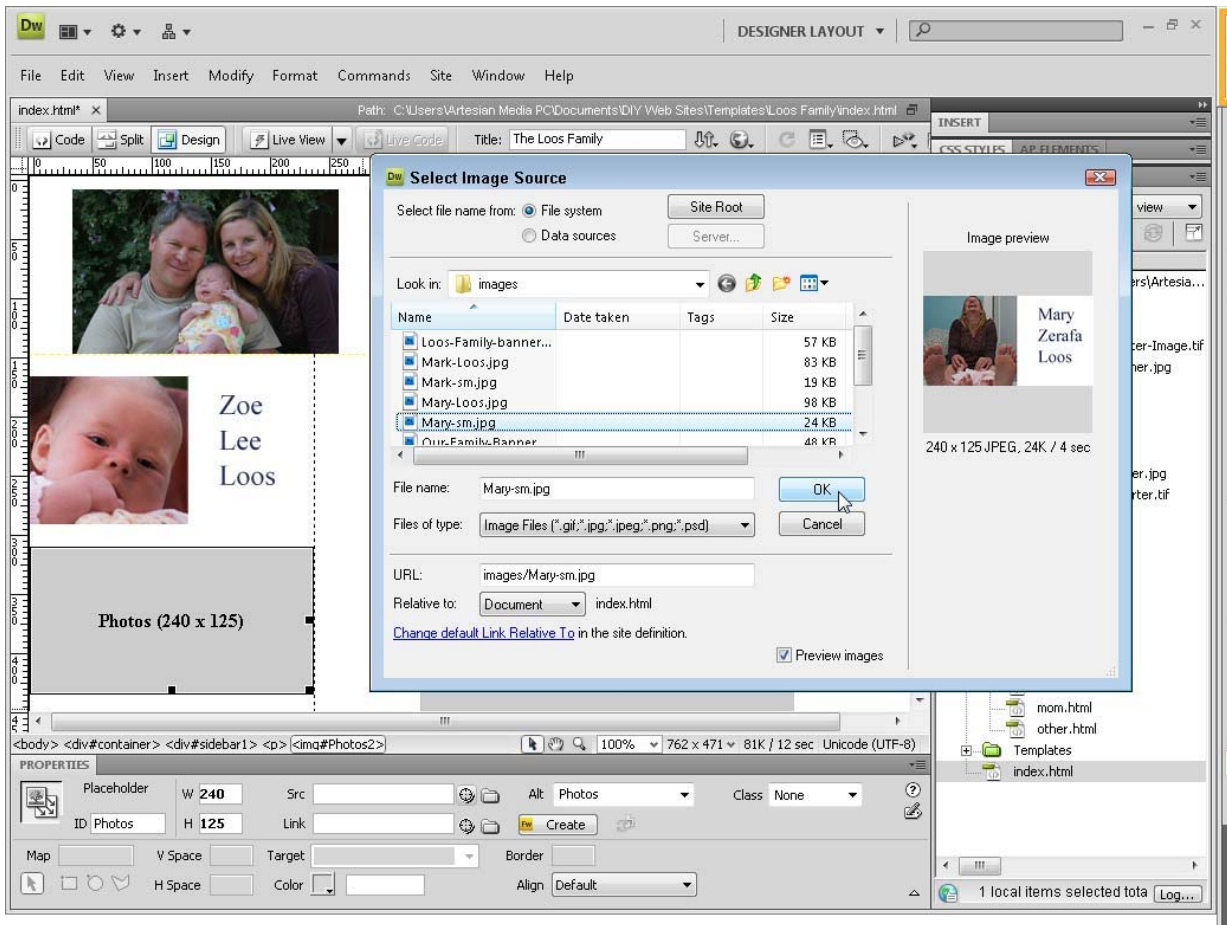




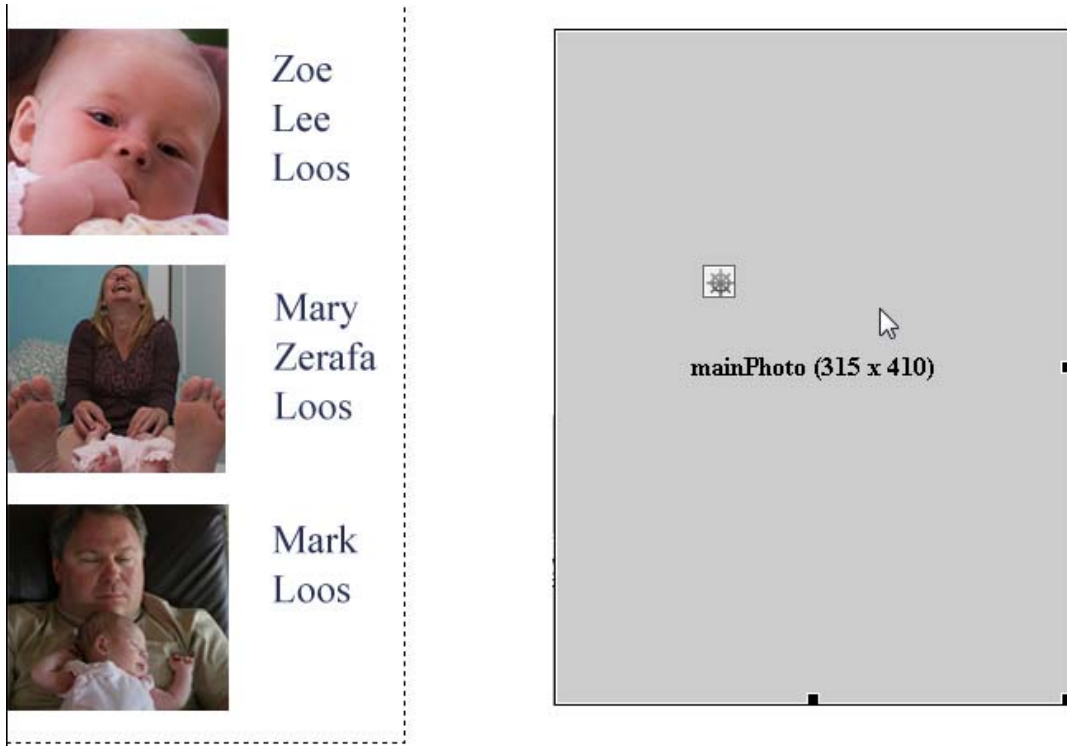
4. Double-click the index.html file in the Files panel to open the home page. The home page of this site is designed to showcase photos and text created in an image program, as you do in the previous task using Photoshop Elements. You can replace any of the image placeholders with images you've prepared for the Web.

5. At the very top of the home page, change the page title by replacing the text in the Title field. Include your name or a brief title to identify your page. (The *page title* is the text that appears at the very top of the browser window when a page is viewed online and the text that's saved when someone bookmarks your page.)





6. To insert your own images, double-click to select any image placeholder. In the Select Image Source dialog box navigate your hard drive to locate the image you want to insert, click to select the image you want to add to the page, and then click OK.



7. To add or replace other images, repeat Step 6. To delete an image or placeholder, select it and press the Delete key.

**Tip**

You want images on your site to download quickly and display well on-screen, so make sure that you optimize your images and save them in GIF, PNG, or JPEG format before adding them to your Web pages. You find instructions for editing the starter image for this template in the first part of this chapter and you find detailed instructions for saving images for the Web in Chapter 5.

## Creating and Linking New Pages

### Stuff You Need to Know

#### Toolbox:

- \* Adobe Dreamweaver
- \* The Family template files from this book's companion site at [www.DigitalFamily.com/diy](http://www.DigitalFamily.com/diy)
- \* **Note:** You should have already completed the preceding tasks in this chapter

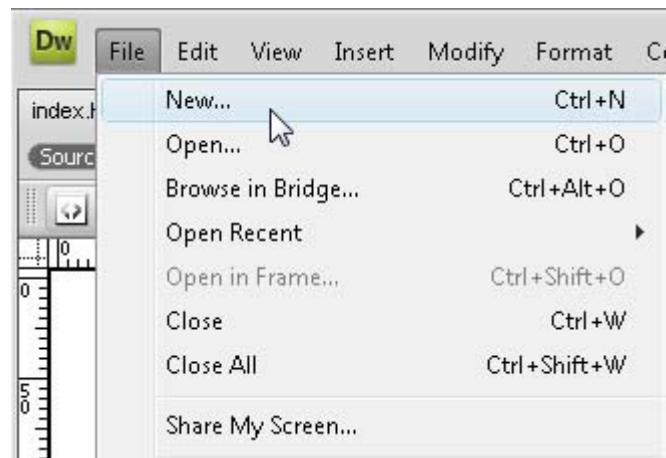
#### Time needed:

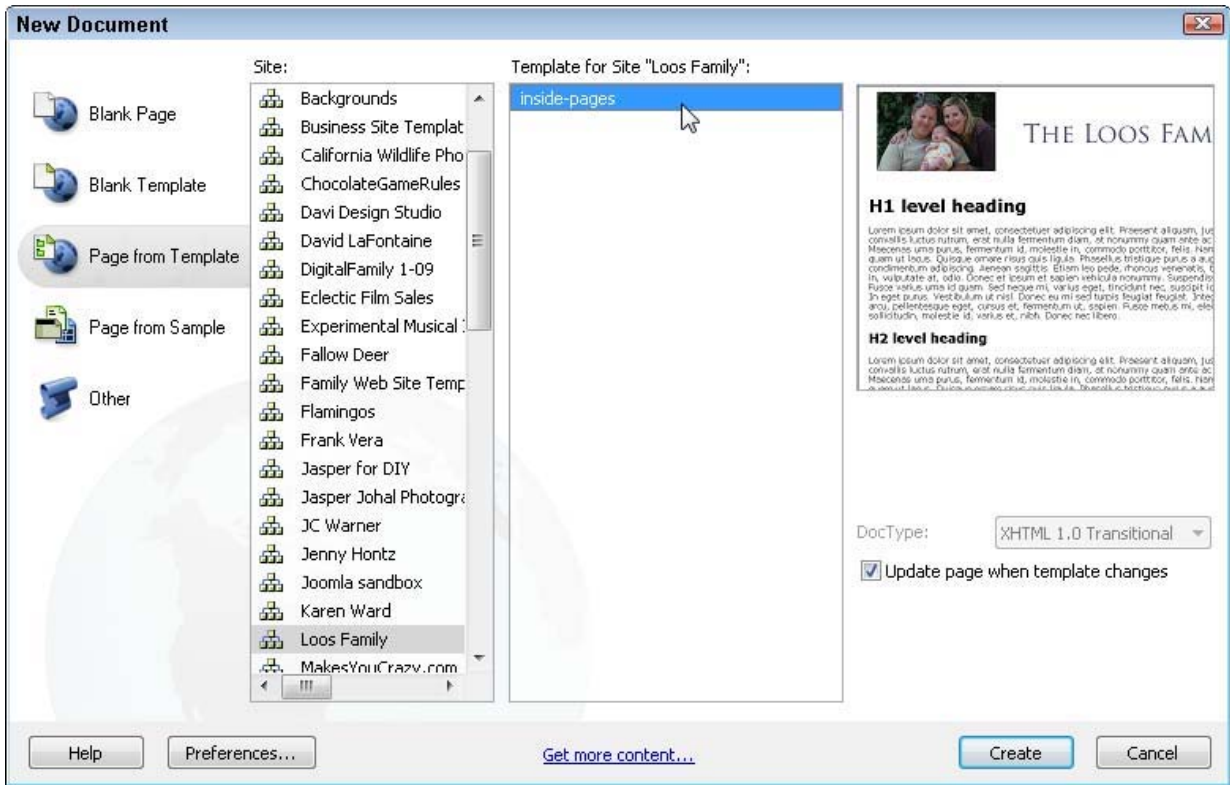
About two hours

Adding more pages to your family, business, or other Web site, is easy when you use Dreamweaver templates, like the ones I created for this book. And once you've added pages, you can use the template to automatically link the new page to all of the other pages. This family template, like all of the other templates featured in this book, includes a few pages to get you started, but you can always add more by following the instructions in this task.

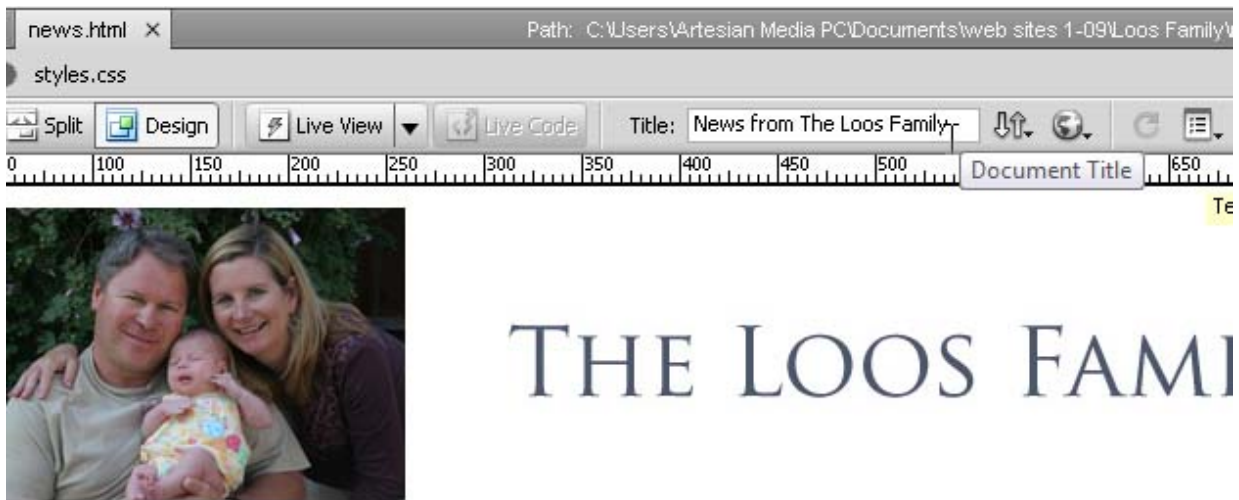
In this task, you discover how to create a new page from a Dreamweaver template and link that page to all of the other pages in the site:

1. Before you create a new page in a site, make sure you've completed the site set up process in Dreamweaver, which is covered in the previous task. To create a new page from a template, choose File-->New.





2. In the left side of New Document dialog window, choose Page from Template, in the Site section, make sure that the site you are working on is selected, and then choose the template you want to use to create your new page. A preview of the template is displayed in the right side of the dialog window. Click Create to create a new page and close the dialog.



3. It's always good practice to save a new page as soon as it's created in Dreamweaver. It's also a good idea to include a brief description with a few key words specific to the content of each page in the Title field. In this example, I named the page news.html and I changed the title to News from The Loos Family.



# THE LOOS

mainContent

## News from the Loos Family

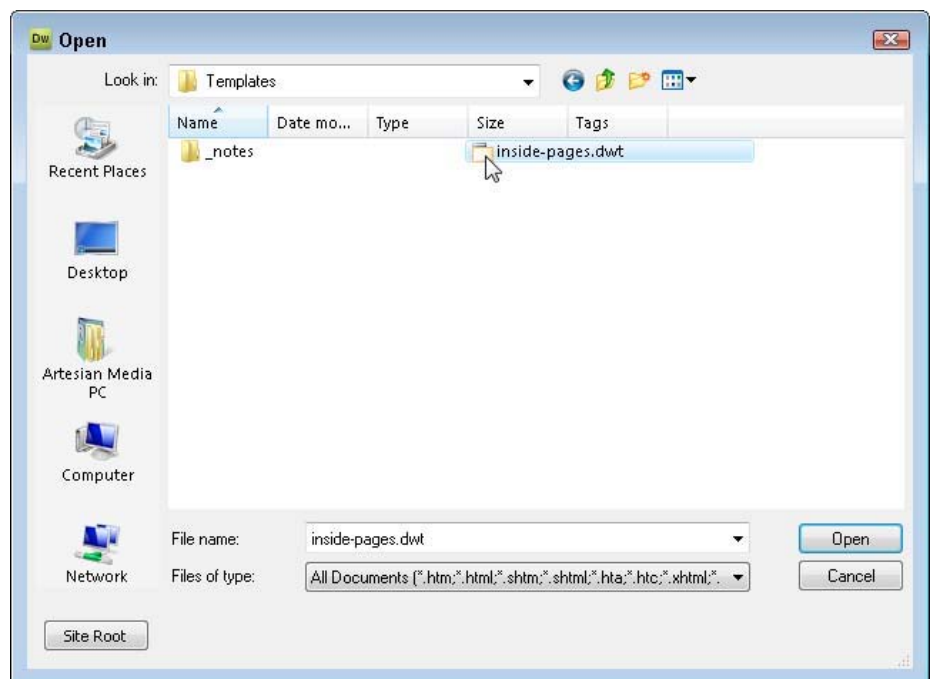
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Praesent convallis luctus rutrum, erat nulla fermentum diam, at nonummy Maecenas urna purus, fermentum id, molestie in, commodo porttquam ut lacus. Quisque ornare risus quis ligula. Phasellus tristique condimentum adipiscing. Aenean sagittis. Etiam leo pede, rhonc vulputate at, odio. Donec et ipsum et sapien vehicula nonummy Fusce varius urna id quam. Sed neque mi, varius eget, tincidunt

4. You can edit or add text to any editable regions of the new page, which are identified with a light green box and an editable heading, such as the mainContent region shown here. Anything within the editable region is easy to change, such as the headline which I changed by selecting the text “H1 level heading” and replaced by typing in “New from the Loose Family.” Remember, you can not change content in the locked regions of the page, such as the banner region at the top of the page or the links and copyright information at the bottom. Those areas can only be changed in the template, at you see in steps 32-35. If you roll your cursor over a locked region, the cursor arrow changes to a circle with a line through it indicating it can only be edited in the template itself.

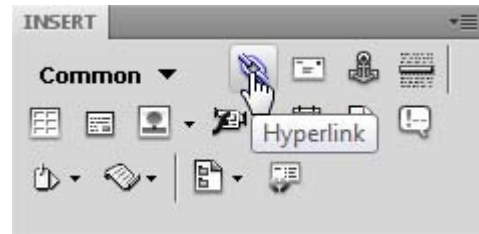


5. To add images to an editable region of a page, simply click to place your cursor where you want to add a new image and choose Insert-->Image. In the Select Image Source dialog window, navigate your hard drive to find the image you want to add and then double click on the image name to select it, close the dialog, and insert it into the page. Once you've inserted an image into a page, click to select the image and you can use the Property inspector at the bottom of the workspace to make additional changes, such as aligning the image to the right or left, which you can do by choosing float-right or float-left from the Class drop-down list.

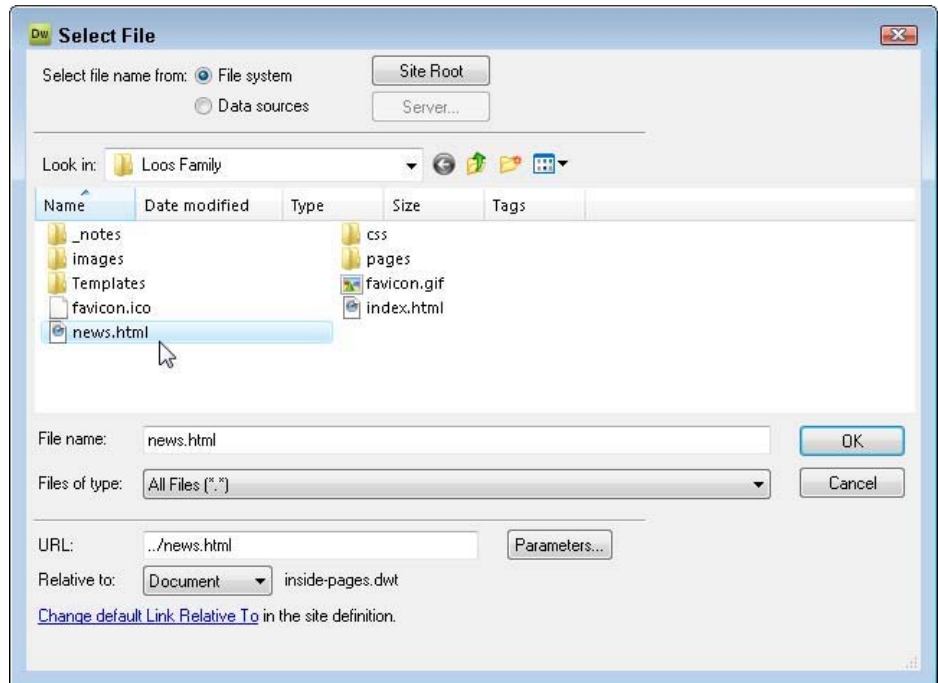
6. If you want to make changes to all of the pages created from a template, such as adding a link to your new page, you must first open the Dreamweaver template itself by choose File-->Open and then opening the .dwt template file, which is stored in the Templates folder in the main root folder of your web site. In the family template, the Dreamweaver template file is called inside-pages.dwt.



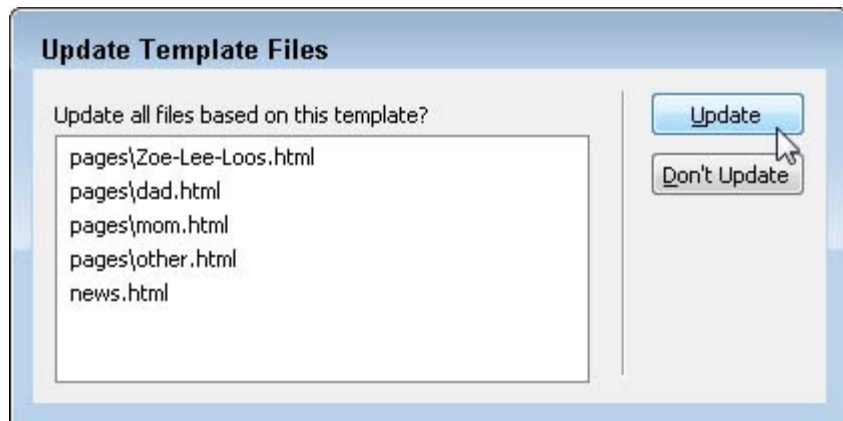
7. You can add a link to the bottom of this template by simply typing in the text you want to serve as the link. In this example, I added the word News. To make the text a link, click and drag to select the text and then click on the link icon in the Common Insert menu (or choose Insert-->Hyperlink).



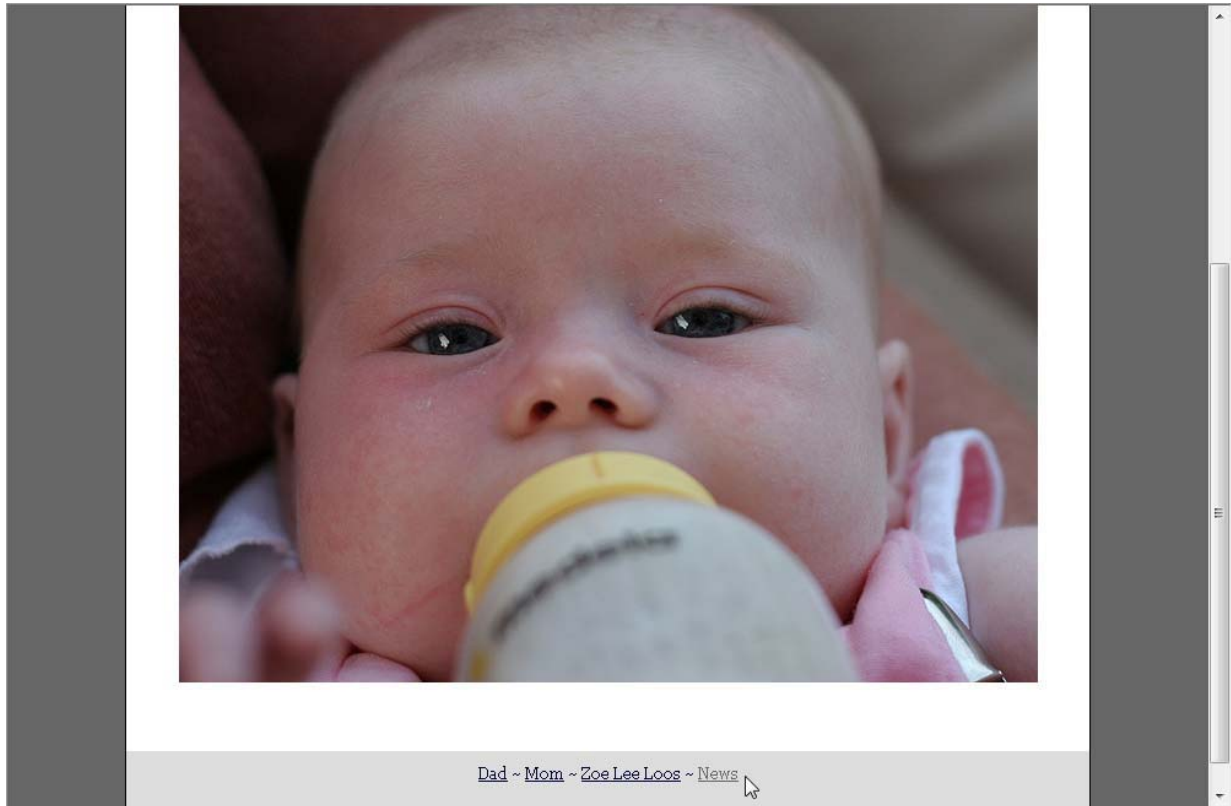
8. In the Select File dialog window, navigate to find the file you to which you want to link. In this example, I selected the news.html page, which I created in the first part of this task. Click to select the file and then click OK to create the link and close the dialog.



9. When you save the template file, Dreamweaver automatically opens the Update Template Files dialog box and lists all of the pages created from the template. Choose Update to add the new link to all of the pages.







10. To test your links, preview the page in a Web browser by choosing File-->Preview in Browser and then selecting any browser you have associated with Dreamweaver. When you view the pages in a browser, even on your local computer, you can easily follow the links by clicking on them just as you would on a Web page that has been published on the Internet. You learn more about previewing your web pages and publishing your site to a web server in Chapter 10.

**Tip**

You can find many more tips and tutorials for working with Dreamweaver, including advanced techniques like creating rollover images with Dreamweaver, at <http://www.DigitalFamily.com/dreamweaver>.