

Creating uploading content forms

Starting off:

Creating a form which will allow you to upload content to a server is a handy process, this can allow administrators to quickly and easily add content to the site or users to upload images.

To start off create a new html page and from the form insert bar in Dreamweaver MX add a form. Make sure that the method for sending the data is **POST** and that the enctype is set to **multipart/form-data**. If you do not set the form to this there will form will not be able to upload the content. Change the action to **processfile.php** as the file that will process the information.

Switch to the design and code view then place your cursor between the `<form></form>` tags and add the following code for a hidden field:

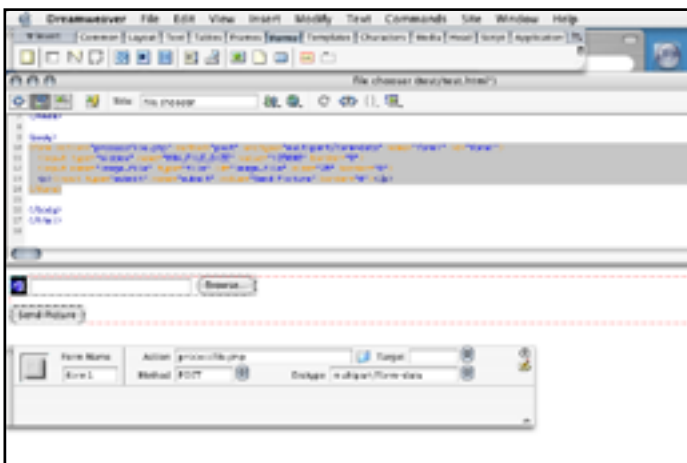
```
<input type="hidden" name="MAX_FILE_SIZE" value="125000" border="0">
```

This code will limit the file size of the image 125k, you can of course change this to whatever you choose to make your file size better suited for a 56k modem. Now add the following line below that, which isn't available to insert visually in Dreamweaver MX.

```
<input name="image_file" type="file" id="image_file" size="25" border="0">
```

This changes the input to expect a file as opposed to just text. It will also give a browse button which will allow the user to choose a file from their hard-drive.

In the design view place your cursor after the browse button and hit return. Now add a submit button from the insert panel, but change the label to Send Picture.



Save this file as mail.html then create a new page, this time make the page a php document.

In the code view add this code inside the `<body></body>` tags

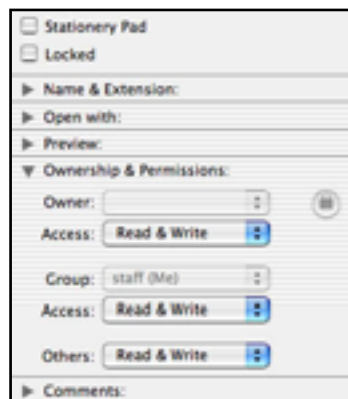
of the html:

```
<?php
if ($HTTP_POST_FILES['image_file']['size'] <=0){
    print "<h2>Your picture was not received.</h2><br>";
    print "The file size was larger than 125k.<br>";
    print "Reduce the size and resubmit.";
}else{
    copy($HTTP_POST_FILES['image_file']['tmp_name'],
    $HTTP_POST_FILES['image_file']['name']);
    print "<h2>Thank you for sending your picture.</
h2><br>";
    print "Your picture has been saved on the system.";
}
?>
```

The first and last line of code just adds the php tags to say what type of scripting this is.

The first real line of code is an if statement which checks the filesize of the image to see is less than that specified in the form. If it is larger then it prints a message to the screen telling the user to reduce the file size.

If the image is smaller than the file size specified then PHP uses the copy tag to copy the file to the server using the tmp_name which is assigned on upload, this is then overwritten with the real name on upload. A message is displayed back to the user letting them know what has happened.



If you want the image to go into a directory then it's best to place these files in that same directory, because there is some difficulty in specifying exact destination on the OSX version of UNIX.

The folder that this is being written into needs to be made writable by anyone on the web so select the folder and press Apple and I. Then change the details to be writable by all:

Save this file now and transfer both files to the sites folder of your home folder.

If you now connect to <http://nemesis.bournemouth.ac.uk/~uni/login/mail.html> you will be able to see this in action.

For further information or help on this guide please contact mshuffle@bournemouth.ac.uk