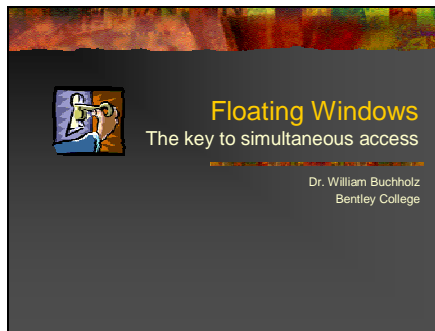


Floating Windows

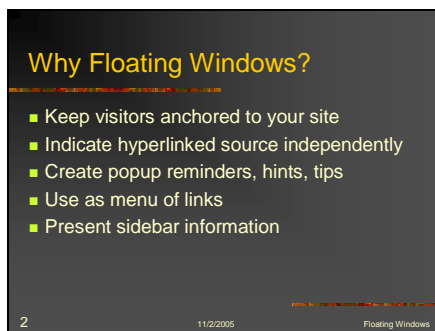
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The full slide show is available at
http://cyber.bentley.edu/faculty/wb/presentations/floatingwindows_files/frame.htm

Slide 1

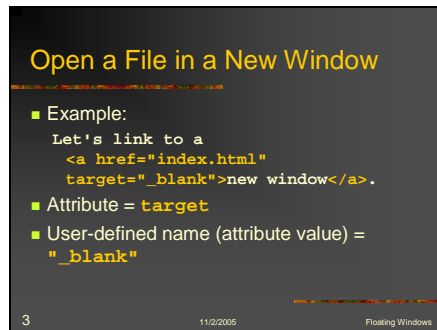


Slide 2



Keep in mind that some users do not like floating windows, or popups as they are sometimes called – especially if the windows popup unbidden and in quick succession. You should also keep in mind that if a hyperlink opens in a new browser window, the back button is in effect disabled on the “mother” or “launch” site, because the new window cannot duplicate the history of the launch window. Thus, users can quickly get confused about where they are and where they have come from. Consider: Links that lead to other sites are good candidates to open in new browser windows, but remember: not all users will understand why this is happening. Therefore, you should always warn users that a link will open in a new browser window.

Slide 3



Open a File in a New Window

- Example:
Let's link to a
`<a href="index.html"
target="_blank">new window.`
- Attribute = **target**
- User-defined name (attribute value) = **"_blank"**

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The hypertext reference in the example on this slide would appear in the browser as:

Let's **link to a new window**.

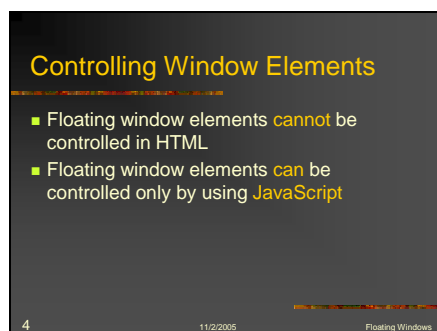
When the link is clicked, the file **index.html** is rendered in a new browser window. The **target** attribute when assigned a value of **_blank** will open the new window over the current window.

Internet Explorer produces a window the size of your most recent **resizing**. The window will appear in the same screen location as your last resizing.

Netscape produces a new window that simply fills the entire screen. This can be confusing to viewers, especially if they lose sight of which window they are in.

Thus, in both browsers your visitors may become disoriented and lose sight of their original (initial) launch window.

Slide 4



Controlling Window Elements

- Floating window elements **cannot** be controlled in HTML
- Floating window elements **can** be controlled only by using **JavaScript**

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Unfortunately, there are no HTML tags that allow **Explorer** or **Netscape** to dictate screen placement or the size of a floating window. The only way to exert any control is through a small **JavaScript** consisting of two parts: one part falls in the HTML **body** element and one part falls in the HTML **head** element.

Slide 5

What's in a JavaScript?

- OOP: Object Oriented Programming
 - Events
 - Objects
 - Properties
- Objects have **properties** and respond to **events** through event handlers.
- A document **object** (page) consists of **properties** (e.g., images) that can be manipulated through **event** handlers (e.g., onMouseDown).

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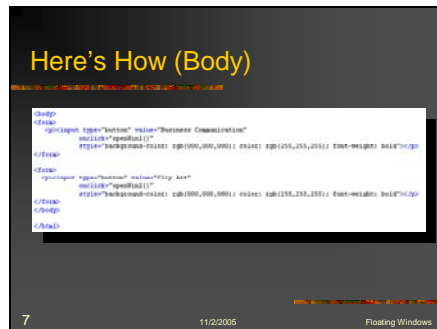
Object oriented programming is the phrase used to describe the fundamental conceptual framework underpinning all **JavaScripts**. Specifically, a web page is a document **object**, with such **properties** as anchors, forms, images, links, applets, and cookies. All **objects** have **properties** with declared values that define how the browser renders them. Thus, the document **object** can have the **property** `bgColor`: declared to be white.

In the final bullet on the slide, the **object** is the whole document. One of its **properties** is a hyperlinked image. The hyperlinked image is also the **object** of certain events. Thus, when the mouse is placed on the image **object** and clicked, an **event** is initiated. The event probably just invokes the **property** `href` — but it may perform some other programmed function, such as placing a message in the browser status bar. Because all action is initiated upon clicking the mouse, `onMouseDown` is known as an **event handler**.

Slide 6



Slide 7




Here you see the HTML tags for the two buttons on the previous slide. The **input type** is declared as “button.” The **value**, “Business Communication,” results in the first button’s text. The second button is “Clip Art.” The **onclick** event handler tells the script to open **window 1** in the first instance and **window 2** in the second instance. For both buttons, the code — executed when the event is initiated — resides in the page’s HTML head (next slide).

The style tag consists of CSS **properties** and **values** — together known as a **style rule**. The style rule determines the button’s background color to be navy, the text color to be white, and the font weight to be **bold**.

Slide 10

Dreamweaver Makes it Easy



1. Fill out the edit form according to your specifications.
2. Browser check functionality.
3. Add window placement specifications to the script parameters.

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Slide 11

Control Window Placement

- Control **left** placement on screen in pixels:
`Left=100`
- Control **top** placement on screen in pixels:
`Top=150`
- Place these **attributes** and **values** after width and height dimensions:
`'width=650,height=450,left=100,top=150,toolbar=no, . . .`

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Should you wish to place your window at a certain position on the viewer's screen, you can declare XY coordinates using the **left** and **top** properties. These placements are declared in pixels.

You should remember that actual window placement will vary depending upon the user's screen resolution. Thus, 100 pixels in **640x480** resolution will result in a dramatically different placement from 100 pixels in **1024x768** or **1280x1024** resolution. Placement is a rough and ready venture at best.

**Slide
12**

Web Teacher is an excellent site for in-depth tutorials in JavaScript and CGI, among other topics. I highly recommend it to you.

The **information design** link takes you to my guest book. There you should look for this entry: Three JavaScripts for Button-Activated Floating Windows. Here you can retrieve, ready for pasting, the actual code for the buttons in this tutorial.

Web Site Abstraction has free JavaScripts, applets, beginning tutorials, and advanced tutorials.

javaSCRIPTS.com is one of the single most comprehensive collections of JavaScripts and Java tutorials on the web. Their more than 3,000 scripts are written and posted by JavaScript professionals.

Netpedia, as its name suggests, is an encyclopedia of resources, not only for JavaScripts and tutorials, but also for CGI, DHTML, and other current areas of interest for serious web developers.