

Frames can divide the screen into separate windows.

Each of these windows can contain an HTML document. A file that specifies how the screen is divided into frames is called a frameset. If you want to make a homepage that uses frames you should:

- make an HTML document with the frameset
- make the normal HTML documents that should be loaded into each of these frames.

When a frameset page is loaded, the browser automatically loads each of the pages associated with the frames. The HTML for the above frameset:

```
<html>
<head>
<title>My Frames Page</title>
</head>
<frameset cols="120,*">
<frame src="menupage.htm" name="menu">
<frameset rows="*,50">
<frame src="welcomepage.htm" name="main">
<frame src="bottombanner.htm" name="bottom">
</frameset>
</frameset>
</html>
```

Note that the frameset is only seven lines! As stated, a frameset is simply an HTML document that tells the browser how to divide the screen into split windows. You can add default pages to frame windows with the src setting. Default pages are the pages that will be loaded when the frameset is opened the first time.

Two Frames—Left & Right

Furthermore, we can add names to each frame window using the name setting. This will allow us to make a link in one frame window, open a page in another frame window. In this example we added names and default pages to the frame windows:

```
<frameset cols="120,*" >
<frame src="menu.htm" name="menu" >
<frame src="frontf.htm" name="main" >
</frameset>
```

The entire frameset will look like this on the right. We still have the screen divided in two columns, the left being 120 pixels the right using the rest of the screen. (some screens are set to 640 pixels across, some to 800 and some to 1024, that's why the * is needed). But now we also have told the browser that the left frame window should load an HTML page called **menu.htm** and that the right window should load an HTML document called **frontf.htm**. In addition we have assigned the names menu and main to the two frame windows, so now we're even able to link to specific windows. We called the frame windows **menu** and **main**, but you could name them whatever you pleased.

Borders

```
<frameset cols="120,*" frameborder="0" border="0" framespacing="0" >
<frame src="menu.htm" name="menu" >
<frame src="frontf.htm" name="main" >
</frameset>
```

Resizable Windows

If you don't want the frame windows to be resizable, you should add the parameter "noresize":

```
<frameset cols="120,*" frameborder="0" border="0" framespacing="0" >
<frame src="menu.htm" name="menu" noresize>
<frame src="frontf.htm" name="main" noresize>
</frameset>
```

Scroll Bars

Lets say you don't want a scroll bar in the menu window. Furthermore the main window should have a scrollbar if needed (if the HTML document doesn't fit in the window), but if not needed - there should be no scrollbars. Then the code should look like this:

```
<frameset cols="120,*" frameborder="0" border="0" framespacing="0" >
<frame src="menu.htm" name="menu" noresize scrolling=no>
<frame src="frontf.htm" name="main" noresize scrolling=auto>
</frameset>
```

Visit: <http://www.echoecho.com/htmlframes08.htm>

Basic Frame Commands

There were two pages displayed at the same time. I simply split the screen into two parts and placed a different page in each part. Look again at the small HTML frames program above; here's what the commands are doing:

- ✓ **FRAMESET** starts any frame page. It alerts the browser that FRAMES are going here.
- ✓ **COLS** denotes that I want columns. In this case, I want two; each 50% of the screen.
 - *Can I do other percentages?* Of course you can. Go nuts if you want, just separate the percentages by commas and get it all to add up to 99% or 100%. 99%?! Yes. You see, 33%, 33%, 33% adds to 99 and splits the screen three ways. The browser just distributes the final 1% over the three spaces.
- ✓ **FRAME SRC** denotes the source of the frame. Frames read like you do, left to right. The first source offered will be hard left. I only have two frame sections so I need only 2 sources.
- ✓ **/FRAMESET** ends the whole deal.