

Creating a “Portable” Dreamweaver Site

Introduction:

Most computer labs at PCC do not allow you to save your work on the computer. This creates a problem for Dreamweaver because it can only save a site definition (the information about your local files and folders and information on the remote server) on the local hard drive. To avoid the effort of re-defining your site each time to work in a lab, you can export these settings once, and re-import then each time you come in to work on your site.

Creating and Saving Your Site:

1. Open Dreamweaver and define your Local site according to your instructor’s directions using a folder on your own USB drive as the site root
2. Define the Remote site, as you’ve been instructed, and test the connection

IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTE: If you select the checkbox to save the remote site password, it will be stored in plain text on your USB drive. Anyone who has possession of your USB drive will have access to your remote site.

3. At any time before you close Dreamweaver, select “**Manage sites...**” from the **Sites** menu
4. In the dialog box that appears, select the site that you’ve been working on (it will probably be the only one in the list)
5. Click **Export...**
6. In the dialog box that appears, make sure that the “**Back up my settings...**” radio button is selected and press Okay
7. In the **Save as** dialog box that appears, select a location *on your own USB drive*. The default file name of your exported site will be *your-sitename.ste* (the “.ste” file-type tells Dreamweaver that the file contains site definition information)
8. Press **Okay**

Note: Unless you change something in your site definition (using the **Manage Sites** options), you’ll only need to export once for each site you create. For example, in classes that are structured so each lesson is part of a single “master” site, you may only need to perform the export operation once during the term.

Restoring a Site:

1. Open Dreamweaver and select “**Manage sites...**” from the **Sites** menu
2. Click **Import** and navigate to the location on your USB drive where you saved the **.ste** file
3. Select the **.ste** file for your site and click **Open**
4. You will probably see a message saying that Dreamweaver is rebuilding your site cache files. When the process completes, your site is ready to use. If you didn't save your password, Dreamweaver will prompt you to enter it the first time you connect to the remote server.

(Please send any suggestions, comments or corrections to ric.getter@pcc.edu)