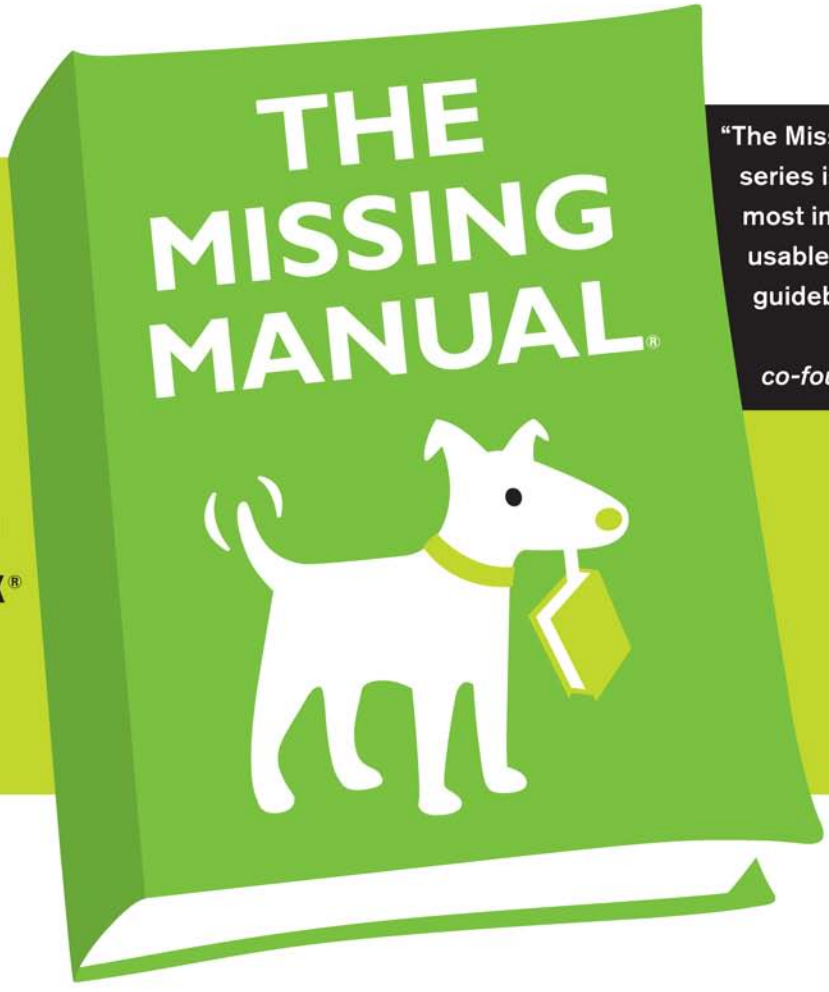
Fully-Revised 2nd Edition

Creating a Web Site



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—*Kevin Kelly, co-founder of* Wired

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Matthew MacDonald

XHTML Tags

Now that you know how to peer into existing XHTML files and create your own, the next step is to understand what goes *inside* the average XHTML file. It all revolves around a single concept—*tags*.

XHTML tags are formatting instructions that tell a browser how to transform ordinary text into something that's visually appealing. If you were to take all the tags out of an XHTML document, the resulting Web page would consist of nothing more than plain, unformatted text.

What's in a Tag

You can recognize a tag by looking for angle brackets, two special characters that look like this: < >. To create a tag, you type XHTML code between the brackets. This code is for the browser's eyes only; Web visitors never see it (unless they use the View → Source trick to peek at the XHTML). Essentially, the code is an instruction that conveys information to the browser about how to format the text that follows.

For example, one simple tag is the tag, which stands for "bold" (tag names are always lowercase). When a browser encounters this tag, it switches on boldface formatting, which affects all the text that follows. Here's an example:

```
This text isn't bold. <b>This text is bold.
```

This isn't quite good enough for XHTML, though. The tag is known as a *start tag*, which means it switches on some effect (in this case, bold lettering). To satisfy the rules of XHTML, though, every start tag needs a matching *end tag* that switches *off* the effect later in the document.

End tags are easy to recognize. They look the same as the start tag, except that they begin with a forward slash. They look like this </ instead of like this <. So the end tag for bold formatting is . Here's an example:

```
This isn't bold. <b>Pay attention!</b> Now we're back to normal.
```

Which the browser displays as:

This isn't bold. **Pay attention!** Now we're back to normal.

This example shows another important principle in how browsers work. They always process tags in order, based on where they show up in your text. To get the bold formatting in the right place, you need to make sure you position the and tags appropriately.

As you can see, the browser has a fairly simple job. It scans through an XHTML document, looking for tags and switching on and off various formatting settings. It takes everything else (everything that isn't a tag) and displays it in the Web browser window.

Note: Adding tags to plain-vanilla text is known as *marking up* a document, and the tags themselves are known as XHTML *markup*. When you look at raw XHTML, you may be interested in looking at the content (the text that's nestled between the tags), or the markup (the XHTML tags themselves).

Understanding Elements

As you've seen, tags come in pairs. When you use a start tag (like for bold), you have to also include an end tag (like). This combination of start and end tags and the text in between them makes up an XHTML *element*.

Here's the basic idea: elements are containers (see Figure 2-5). You place some content (like text) inside that container. For example, when you use the and tags, you create a container that applies bold formatting to the text in between. You place text inside the container to make that text appear boldfaced. As you create your Web pages, you'll wrap different pieces of text in different containers that do different things. If you think about elements this way, you'll never forget to include the end tag.

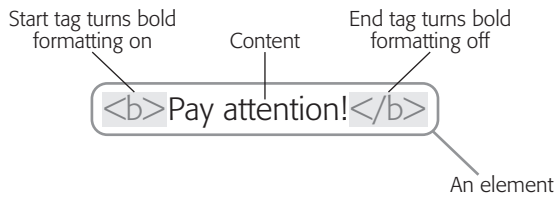

Figure 2-5:
To get bold text, you need to start out with the correct container. It's the familiar element.

Note: When someone refers to the *element*, it means the whole shebang–start tag, end tag, and the content inside. When someone refers to a *tag*, it simply means the instruction that starts the element.

Of course, life wouldn't be much fun (and computer books wouldn't be nearly as thick) without exceptions. When you get right down to it, there are really *two* types of elements:

- **Container elements.** The container element is, by far, the most common type. Container elements apply formatting to the content nestled between the start and end tags.
- **Standalone elements.** Some tags don't come in pairs. These standalone elements don't turn formatting on or off. Instead, they *insert* something into a page, like an image. One example is the
 element, which inserts a line break in a page. Standalone elements include a slash character before the closing >, sort of like an opening and closing tag all rolled into one. This syntax is handy because it clearly indicates that you have a standalone element on your hands. Standalone elements are often called *empty* elements because there's no way to put any text inside them.

Figure 2-6 puts the two types of elements in perspective.

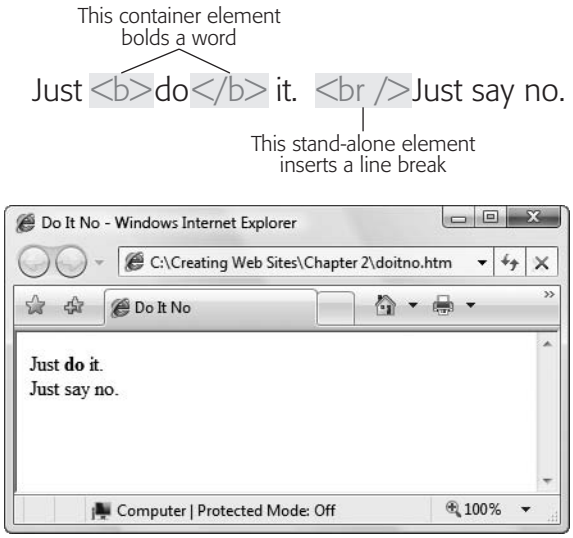

Figure 2-6:
Top: This snippet of XHTML shows both a container element and a standalone element.

Bottom: The browser shows the resulting Web page.

Nesting Elements

In the previous example, you saw how to apply a simple element for bold formatting. Between the and tags, you put text that you wanted to make bold. However, text isn't the only thing you can put between a start and end tag. You can also nest one element *inside* another. In fact, nesting elements is one of the basic building-block techniques of Web pages. Nesting lets you apply more detailed formatting instructions to text (for example it lets you create bold, italicized text) by piling all the elements you need in the same place. Nesting is also required for more complicated structures (like bulleted lists).

To see nesting in action, you need another element to work with. For the next example, consider both the familiar element and the <i> element, which italicizes text.

The question is, what happens if you want to make a piece of text bold *and* italicized? XHTML doesn't include a single element for this purpose, so you need to combine the two. Here's an example:

```
This <b><i>word</i></b> has italic and bold formatting.
```

When the browser chews through this scrap of XHTML, it produces text that looks like this:

This ***word*** has italic and bold formatting.

Incidentally, it doesn't matter if you reverse the order of the <i> and tags. The following XHTML produces exactly the same result.

```
This <i><b>word</b></i> has italic and bold formatting.
```

However, you should always make sure that you close tags in the *reverse* order from which you opened them. In other words, if you apply italic formatting and then bold formatting, you should always switch off bold formatting first, and then italic formatting. Here's an example that breaks this rule:

```
This <i><b>word</i></b> has italic and bold formatting.
```

Finally, it's worth noting that XHTML gives you many more complex ways to nest elements. For example, you can nest one element inside another, and then nest another element inside that one, and so on, indefinitely.

Note: If you're a graphic-design type, you're probably itching to get your hands on more powerful formatting elements to change alignment, spacing, and fonts. Unfortunately, in the Web world you can't always control everything you want. Chapter 5 has the lowdown, and Chapter 6 introduces the best solution, style sheets.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

Telling a Browser to Ignore a Tag

What if I really do want the text "<b>" to appear on my Web page?

The tag system works great until you actually want to use an angle bracket (< or >) in your text. Then you're in a tricky position.

For example, imagine you want to write the following bit of text as proof of your remarkable insight:

```
The expression 5 < 2 is clearly false,
because 5 is bigger than 2.
```

When a browser reaches the less than (<) symbol, it becomes utterly bewildered. Its first instinct is to assume you're starting a tag, and the text following "2 is clearly false…" is part of a long tag name. Obviously, this isn't what you intended, and it's certain to confuse the browser.

To solve this problem, you need to replace angle brackets with the corresponding XHTML *character entity*. Character entities always begin with an ampersand (&) and end with a semicolon (;). The character entity for the less than symbol is < because the lt stands for "less than." Similarly, > is the character entity for the greater than symbol.

Here's the corrected example:

```
The expression 5 &lt; 2 is clearly false,
because 5 is bigger than 2.
```

In your text editor, this doesn't look like what you want. However, when the browser displays this document, it automatically changes the < into a < character, without confusing it with a tag. You'll learn more about character entities on page 132.

The XHTML Document

So far, you've been considering XHTML snippets—portions of a complete XHTML document. In this section, you'll learn how to put it all together and create your first genuine Web page.

The Basic Skeleton

To create a true XHTML document, you start out with three container elements: <html>, <head>, and <body>. These three elements work together to describe the basic structure of your page.

<html>
This element wraps everything (other than the doctype) in your Web page.

<head>
This element designates the *header* portion of your document. The header can include some optional information about your Web page, including the required title (which your browser displays in its title bar), optional search keywords, and an optional style sheet (which you'll learn about in Chapter 6).

<body>
This element holds the meat of your Web page, including the actual content you want to display to the world.

There's only one right way to combine these three elements. Here's the correct arrangement of elements, with the doctype at the beginning of the page:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head>
...
</head>

<body>
...
</body>

</html>
```

Every Web page uses this basic framework. The ellipsis (…) shows where you insert additional information. The spaces between the lines aren't required—they're just there to help you see the element structure more easily.

You'll notice that the <html> start tag has an extra piece of information wedged inside of it. This is a known as the XHTML *namespace*, and it, like the doctype, is another non-negotiable part of the XHTML standard.

Once you have the XHTML skeleton in place, you need to add two more container elements to the mix. Every Web page requires a <title> element, which goes in the header section. Next, you need to create a container for text in the body section. One all-purpose text container is the <p> element, which represents a paragraph.

Here's a closer look at the elements you need to add:

<title>
: This element sets the title for your Web page. The title plays several roles. First, Web browsers display the title of the current Web page at the top of the window. Second, when a Web visitor bookmarks your page, the browser uses the title to label the bookmark in your Bookmark (or Favorites) menu. Third, when your page turns up in a Web search, the search engine usually displays this title as the first line in the search results, followed by a snippet of content from the page.

<p>
: This indicates a paragraph. Web browsers don't indent paragraphs, but they do add a little space between consecutive paragraphs to keep them separated.

Here's the Web page with these two new ingredients:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head>
<title>Everything I Know About Web Design</title>
</head>

<body>
<p></p>
</body>

</html>
```

If you open this document in a Web browser, you'll find that the page is still empty, but now the title appears (as shown in Figure 2-7).

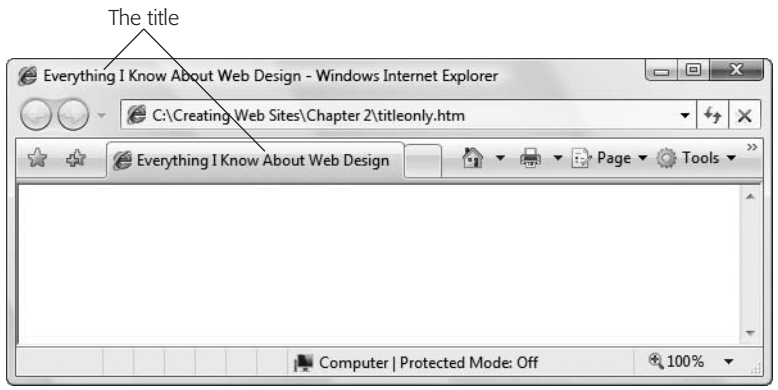

Figure 2-7: *When a browser displays a Web page, it shows the page's title at the top of the window, with a little bit of extra text tacked on the end. If your browser uses tabbed browsing (as Internet Explorer does, shown here), the title also appears in the tab.*

As it stands right now, this XHTML document is a good template for future pages. The basic structure is in place—you simply need to change the title and add some text.

Adding Content

You're finally ready to transform this XHTML skeleton into a real document by adding content. This detail is the most important, and it's the task you'll work on through most of this book.

For example, let's say you're writing a simple résumé page. Here's a very basic first go at it:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head>
<title>Hire Me!</title>
</head>
<body>
<p>I am Lee Park. Hire me for your company, because my work is <b>off the
hizzle</b>.</p>
</body>

</html>
```

This example highlights the modifications to the basic XHTML structure—a changed title and a single line of text. It uses a single <b> element inside the paragraph, just to dress up the page a little. Before you go any further, you may want to try creating this sample file in your own text editor (using the process you learned on page 25) and opening it in your favorite Web browser (see Figure 2-8).

Figure 2-8:
Welcome to the Web. This page doesn't have much in the way of XHTML goodies (and it probably won't get Lee hired), but it does represent one of the simplest possible XHTML pages you can create.

You're now ready to build on this example by trying out all the XHTML tricks described in the following sections. Next up, you'll give Lee Park a better résumé.

Tip: Even if you have high-powered XHTML editing software like Dreamweaver, don't use it yet. To get started learning XHTML, it's best that you do it by hand so you understand every detail that's going into your Web page. Later on, when you've mastered the basics and are ready to create more sophisticated Web pages, you'll probably want to switch to other tools, as discussed in Chapter 4.

Structuring Text

As you start to create more detailed Web pages, you'll quickly discover that building a Web page isn't as straightforward as, say, creating a page in Microsoft Word. For example, you may decide to enhance the résumé page by creating a list of skills. Here's a reasonable first try:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head>
<title>Hire Me!</title>
</head>

<body>
<p>I am Lee Park. Hire me for your company, because my work is <b>off the
hizzle</b>.

My skills include:
*Fast typing (nearly 12 words/minute).
*Extraordinary pencil sharpening.
*Inventive excuse making.
*Negotiating with officers of the peace.</p>
</body>

</html>
```

The trouble appears when you open this seemingly innocent document in your Web browser (Figure 2-9).

The problem is that XHTML ignores extra white space. That includes tabs, line breaks, and extra spaces (anything more than one consecutive space). The first time this happens, you'll probably stare at your screen dumbfounded and wonder why Web browsers are designed this way. But it actually makes sense when you consider that XHTML needs to work as a *universal standard*.

Say you were to customize your hypothetical Web page (like the one shown in Figure 2-10) with the perfect spacing, indenting, and line width for *your* computer monitor. The problem is, it may not look as good on someone else's monitor.

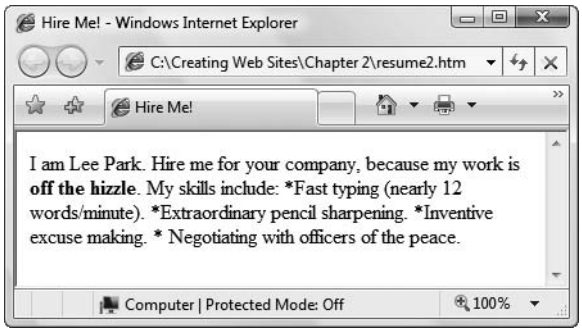

Figure 2-9:
XHTML disregards line breaks and consecutive spaces, so what appears as neatly organized text in your XHTML file can turn into a jumble of text when you display it in a browser.

For example, some of the text may scroll off the right side of the page, making it difficult to read. And different monitors are only part of the problem—today's Web pages need to work on different types of *devices*. Lee Park's future boss might view Parks' résumé on anything from the latest laptop to a fixed-width terminal to a Web-enabled cellphone.

To deal with this range of display options, XHTML uses elements to define the *structure* of your document. Instead of telling the browser, "Here's where you go to the next line and here's where you add four extra spaces," XHTML tells the browser, "Here are two complete paragraphs and here's a bulleted list." It's then up to the browser to display the page according to the instructions contained in your XHTML.

To correct the résumé example, you need to use more paragraph elements and two new container elements:

<ul>
: Indicates the start of an unordered list. A list is the perfect way to detail Lee's skills.

<li>
: Indicates an individual item in a bulleted list. Your browser indents each list item and, for sentences that go beyond a single line, properly indents subsequent lines so they align under the first. In addition, it precedes each list item with a bullet (•). You can only use the <li> element inside a list element like <ul>. In other words, every list item needs to be a part of a list.

Here's the corrected Web page (shown in Figure 2-10), with the structural elements highlighted in bold:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head>
<title>Hire Me!</title>
</head>
```

```
<body>
<p>I am Lee Park. Hire me for your company, because my work is <b>off the
hizzle</b>.</p>
<p>My skills include:</p>
<ul>
  <li>Fast typing (nearly 12 words/minute).</li>
  <li>Extraordinary pencil sharpening.</li>
  <li>Inventive excuse making.</li>
  <li>Negotiating with officers of the peace.</li>
</ul>
</body>

</html>
```

You can turn a browser's habit of ignoring line breaks to your advantage. To help make your XHTML documents more readable, add line breaks and spaces wherever you want. Web experts often use indentation to make the structure of nested elements easier to understand. In the résumé example, you can already see this trick in action. Notice how the list items (the lines starting with the <li> element) are indented. This has no effect on the browser, but it makes it easier for you to see the structure of the XHTML document, and to gauge how a browser will render it.

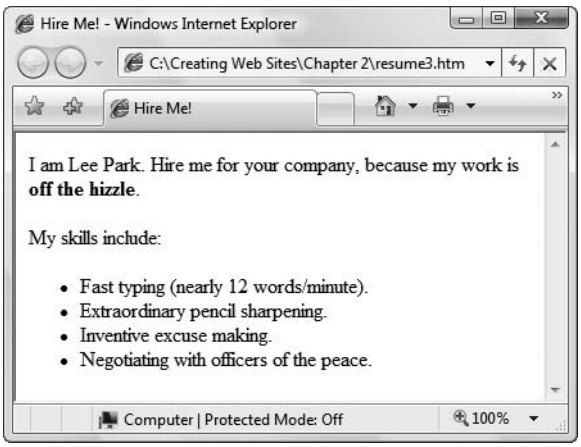

Figure 2-10:
With the right elements (as shown in the code earlier on this page), the browser understands the structure of your XHTML document, and knows how to display it.

Figure 2-11 analyzes the XHTML document using a *tree model*. The tree model is a handy way to get familiar with the anatomy of a Web page, because it shows the page's overall structure at a glance. However, as your Web pages get more complicated, they'll probably become too complex for a tree model diagram to be useful.

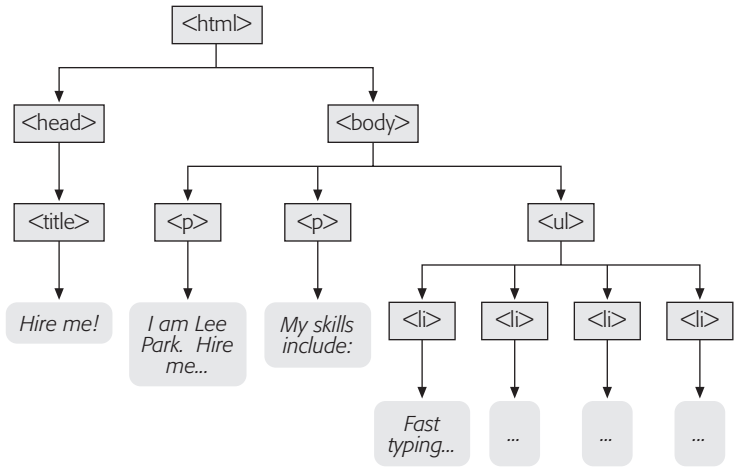

Figure 2-11:
Here's another way to look at the XHTML you've created. The tree model shows you how you've nested XHTML elements. By following the arrows, you can see that the top-level <html> element contains <head> and <body> elements. Inside the <head> element you have the <title> element, and inside the <body> element are two paragraphs and a bulleted list with four items. If you stare at the tree model long enough, you'll understand why XHTML calls all these elements "container elements."

If you're a masochist, you don't need to use any spaces. The previous example is exactly equivalent to the following much-less-readable XHTML document that omits white space entirely:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd"><html xmlns="http://www.
w3.org/1999/xhtml"><html ="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"><head><title>Hire
Me!</title></head><body><p>I am Lee Park. Hire me for your company, because
my work is <b>off the hizzle</b>.</p><p>My skills include:</p><ul><li>Fast
typing (nearly 12 words/minute).</li><li> Extraordinary pencil sharpening.</
li><li>Inventive excuse making.</li><li> Negotiating with officers of the
peace.</li></ul></body></html>
```

Of course, it's nearly impossible for a human to write XHTML like this without making a mistake.

Where Are All the Pictures?

Whether it's a stock chart, a logo for your underground garage band, or a doctored photo of your favorite celebrity, the Web would be a pretty drab place without pictures. So far, you've seen how to put text into an XHTML document, but what happens when you need an image?

Although it may seem surprising, you can't store a picture inside an XHTML file. There are plenty of good reasons why you wouldn't want to anyway—your Web page files would become really large, it would be hard to modify your pictures or do other things with them, and you'd have a fiendish time editing your pages in a text editor because the image data would make a mess. The solution is to store your pictures as separate files, and then *link* them to your XHTML document. This way, your browser pulls up the pictures and positions them exactly where you want them on your Web page.

GEM IN THE ROUGH

Have Something to Hide?

When you're working with a complex Web page, you may want to temporarily remove an element or a section of content. This is a handy trick when you have a page that doesn't quite work right, and you want to try and find out which elements are causing the problem. One way to do this is with the good ol' fashioned cut-and-paste feature in your text editor. Cut the section you think may be troublesome, save the file, and then load it up in your browser. If the section is innocent, paste it back in place, and then re-save the file. Repeat this process until you find the culprit.

However, XHTML gives you a simpler solution–*comments*. With comments, you can leave the entire page intact. When you "comment out" a section of the page, XHTML ignores it.

You create an XHTML comment using the character sequence <!-- to mark the start of the comment, and the character sequence --> to mark the end. Your browser will ignore everything in between these two markers, whether it's content or tags. The comment markers can appear on the same line, or you can use them to hide an entire section of your XHTML document. However, don't try to nest one comment inside another, as that won't work.

Here's an example that hides two list items. When you open this document in your Web browser, the list will show only the last two items ("Inventive excuse making" and "Negotiating with officers of the peace").

```
<ul>
<!-- <li>Fast typing (nearly 12 words/
minute).
</li>
<li>Extraordinary pencil sharpening.</li>
-->
<li>Inventive excuse making.</li>
<li>Negotiating with officers of the
peace.</li>
</ul>
```

When you want to return the list to its original glory, just remove the comment markers.

The linking tool that performs this trick is the <img> element (short for "image"). The <img> element points to an image file, which the browser retrieves and inserts into the page. You can put the image file in the same folder as your Web page (which is the easiest option) or you can put it on a completely different Web site.

Although you'll learn everything you ever wanted to know about Web graphics in Chapter 7, it's worth considering a simple example right now. To try this out, you need a Web-ready image handy. (The most commonly supported image file types are JPEG, GIF, and PNG.) If you downloaded this book's companion content (from the Missing CD page at *www.missingmanuals.com*), you can use the sample picture *leepark.jpg*. Assuming you put this file in the same folder as your Web page file, you can display the image with the following image element:

```
<img src="leepark.jpg" alt="Lee Park Portrait" />
```

Like the
 element discussed earlier, the <img> element is a standalone element with no content. For that reason, it has a forward slash before its closing angle bracket. However, there's an obvious difference between the
 element and the <img> element. Although <img> is a standalone element, it isn't self-sufficient. In order for the element to mean anything, you need to supply two more pieces of information: the name of the image file, and some alternate text,

which is used in cases where your browser can't download or display the picture (see page 181). To incorporate this extra information into the image element, XHTML uses *attributes*. Attributes are extra pieces of information that appear *after* an element name, but before the closing > character.

The <img> example includes two attributes, separated by a space. Each attribute has two parts—a name (which tells the browser what the attribute does) and a value (a variable piece of information you supply). The name of the first <img> attribute is *src*, which is shorthand for "source"; it tells the browser where to get the image you want. In this example, the value of the src attribute is *leepark.jpg*, which is the name of the file with Lee Park's headshot.

The name of the second <img> attribute is *alt*, which is shorthand for "alternate text"; it tells a browser that you want it to show text if it can't display the image. Its value is the text you want to display, which is "Lee Park Portrait" in this case.

Once you've unraveled the image element, you're ready to use it in an XHTML document. Just place it inside an existing paragraph, wherever it makes sense.

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head>
<title>Hire Me!</title>
</head>

<body>
<p>I am Lee Park. Hire me for your company, because my work is <b>off the
hizzle</b>.
<img src="leepark.jpg" alt="Lee Park Portrait" />
</p>
<p>My skills include:</p>
<ul>
  <li>Fast typing (nearly 12 words/minute).</li>
  <li>Extraordinary pencil sharpening.</li>
  <li>Inventive excuse making.</li>
  <li>Negotiating with officers of the peace.</li>
</ul>
</body>

</html>
```

Figure 2-12 shows exactly where the picture is displayed.

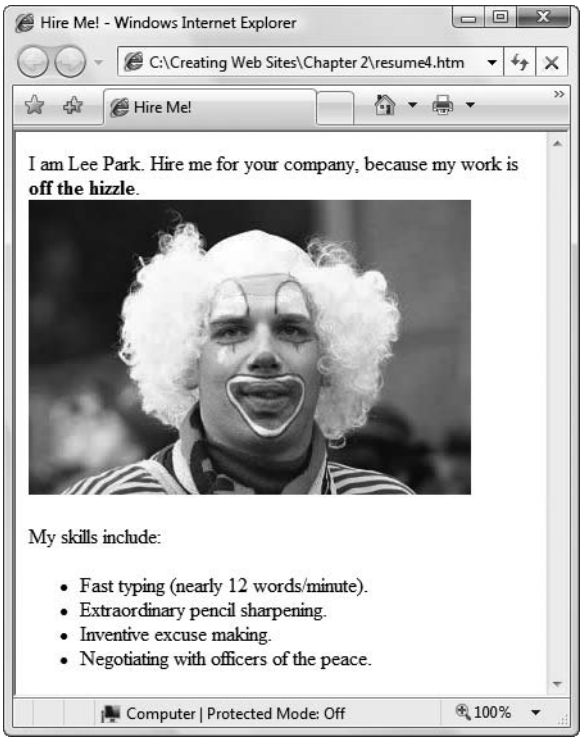

Figure 2-12:
Here's a Web page that embeds a picture, thanks to the linking power of the image element (shown on page 44). To display this document, a Web browser performs a separate request to retrieve the image file. As a result, your browser may display the text of the Web page before it downloads the graphic, depending on your connection speed.

Note: You'll learn many more tricks for Web graphics, including how to change their size and wrap text around them, in Chapter 7.

The 10 Most Important Elements (and a Few More)

You've now reached the point where you can create a basic XHTML document, and you're well on your way to XHTML mastery with several elements under your belt. You know the fundamentals—all that's left is to expand your knowledge by learning how to use more elements.

XHTML has a relatively small set of elements. In fact, there are just over 60 in all. You'll most likely use fewer than 25 on a regular basis.

Note: You can't define your own elements and use them in an XHTML document because Web browsers won't know how to interpret them.

Some elements, like the <p> element that formats a paragraph, are important for setting out the overall structure of a page. These are called *block-level elements*. You can place block-level elements directly inside the <body> section of your Web page or, sometimes, inside another block-level element. Table 2-1 provides a quick overview of some of the most fundamental block-level elements, several of which you've already seen. It also points out which of these are container elements and which are standalone elements. (As you learned on page 33, container elements require start and end tags, but standalone elements get by with just a single tag.)

Table 2-1. *Basic block-level elements.*

Element	Name	Type of Element	Description
<p>	Paragraph	Container	As your high school English teacher probably told you, the paragraph is the basic unit for organizing text. When you use more than one paragraph element in a row, a browser inserts a certain amount of space between the two paragraphs—just a bit more than a full blank line. Full details appear in Chapter 5.
<h1>,<h2>, <h3>,<h4>, <h5>,<h6>	Heading	Container	Heading elements are a good way to add structure to your Web page and make titles stand out. They display text in large, boldfaced letters. The lower the number, the larger the text, so <h1> produces the largest heading. By the time you get to <h5>, the heading has dwindled to the same size as normal-sized text, and <h6>, although bold, is actually smaller than normal text.
<hr>	Horizontal Line	Standalone	A horizontal line can help you separate one section of your Web page from another. The line automatically matches the width of the browser window. (Or, if you put the line inside another element, like a cell in a table, it takes on the width of its container.)
,	Unordered List, List Item	Container	These elements let you build basic bulleted lists. The browser automatically puts individual list items on separate lines and indents each one. For a quick change of pace, you can substitute with to get an automatically *numbered* list instead of a bulleted list (ol stands for "ordered list").

Other elements are designed to deal with smaller structural details—for example, snippets of bold or italicized text, line breaks, links that lead to other Web pages, and images. These elements are called *inline elements*. You can't put inline elements directly inside the <body> section. Instead, they have to be nested *inside* a block-level element. Table 2-2 lists the most useful inline elements.

Table 2-2. *Basic inline elements*

Element	Name	Type	Description
<b>, <i>	Bold and Italic	Container	These two elements apply character styling—either bold or italic text. Some people use the more descriptive and (for emphasis) elements, instead. They do exactly the same thing.
 	Line Break	Standalone	Sometimes, all you want is text separated by simple line breaks, not separate paragraphs. This keeps subsequent lines of text closer together than when you use a paragraph. You'll learn more about text layout in Chapter 5.
<img>	Image	Standalone	To display an image inside a Web page, use this element. Make sure you specify the *src* attribute to indicate the file name of the picture you want the browser to show.
<a>	Anchor	Container	The anchor element is the starting point for creating hyperlinks that let Web site visitors jump from one page to another. You'll learn about this indispensable element in Chapter 8.

To make the sample résumé look really respectable, use a few tricks from Table 2-1 and Table 2-2. Figure 2-13 shows this revised version of the Web page:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head>
  <title>Hire Me!</title>
</head>

<body>
  <h1>Hire Me!</h1>
  <p>I am Lee Park. Hire me for your company, because my work is <b>off the
hizzle</b>. As proof of my staggering computer skills and monumental work
ethic, please enjoy this electronic resume.</p>

  <h2>Indispensable Skills</h2>
  <p>My skills include:</p>
  <ul>
    <li>Fast typing (nearly 12 words/minute).</li>
    <li>Extraordinary pencil sharpening.</li>
    <li>Inventive excuse making.</li>
    <li>Negotiating with officers of the peace.</li>
```

```
  </ul>
  <p>And I also know XHTML!</p>

  <h2>Previous Work Experience</h2>
  <p>I have had a long and illustrious career in a variety of trades. Here
are
   some highlights:</p>
  <ul>
    <li>2005-2008 - Worked as a typist at <i>Flying Fingers</i></li>
    <li>2008-2009 - Performed cutting-edge Web design at <i>Riverdale
     Farm</i></li>
    <li>2009-2010 - Starred in Chapter 2 of <i>Creating Web Pages: The
     Missing Manual</i></li>
  </ul>

  <hr />
</body>

</html>
```

Checking Your Pages for Errors

Even a Web designer with the best intentions can run afoul of the strict rules of XHTML. Although browsers really *should* catch these mistakes, virtually none of them do. Instead, they do their best to ignore mistakes and display flawed documents.

At first glance, this seems like a great design—after all, it smoothes over any minor slip-ups you might make. But there's a dark side to tolerating mistakes. In particular, this behavior makes it all too easy for serious errors to lurk undetected in your Web pages. What's a serious error? A problem that's harmless when you view the page in your favorite browser, but makes an embarrassing appearance when someone views the page in another browser; a mistake that goes undetected until you edit the code, exposing the mistake the next time your browser displays the page; or a problem that has no effect on page display but prevents an automated tool (like a search engine) from reading the page.

Fortunately, there's an easy way to catch problems like these. You can use a *validation tool* that reads through your Web page and checks to see if it meets the strict rules of XHTML. Validators can catch a number of problems that you've seen in this chapter, including:

- Missing mandatory elements (for example, the <title> element)
- A start tag without a matching end tag
- Incorrectly nested tags
- Incorrect capitalization (for example, <B> instead of <b>)