

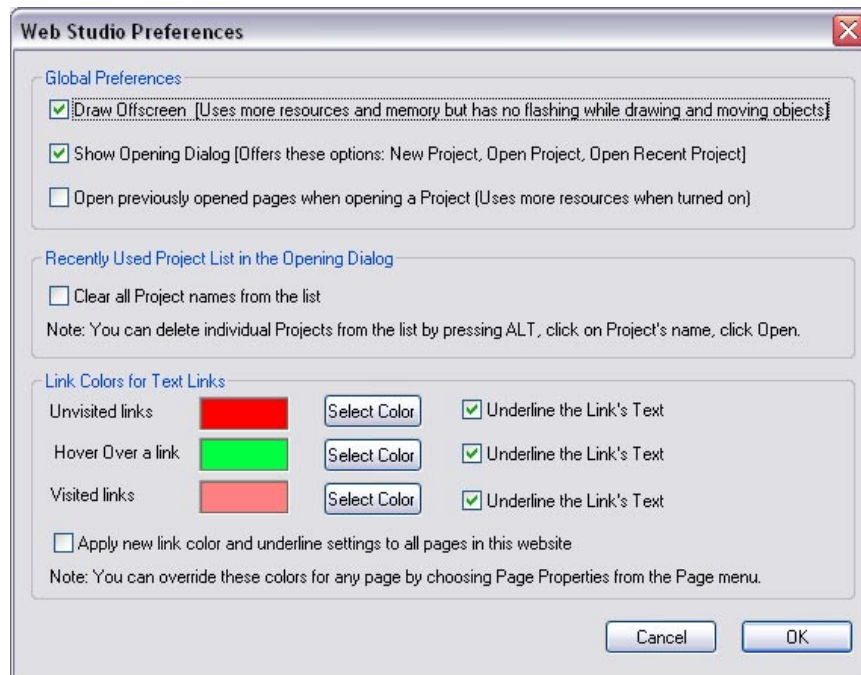
CHAPTER 19 - WEB STUDIO'S PROPERTY DIALOGS

Web Studio has property dialogs for the program, the website, each page, each object on a page.

There are many important settings in these dialogs that you can use to change the way WebStudio behaves, add or change features in your site, add or change features on your pages and in your objects.

Program Preferences Dialog

The Program Preferences dialog enables you to make changes that affect the overall behavior of the program.



Draw Offscreen: If you have problems related to memory and/or Windows resources, turn this off. It will free memory and resources for you. It will result in some flickering of the screen when redrawing, and when drawing objects stacked on top of each other.

When turned on, the screen is flicker free, but more memory and resources are required.

Show Opening Dialog: Turn this off if you don't want to have the opening Web Studio window come up when you start the program.

Open Previously Open Pages: Turn this off if you have problems related to memory and/or Windows resources. When a Web Studio Project is opened, the pages that were previously open will be reopened. With this turned off, only the Home page will be opened, if it was previously open. Having just a few pages open at any time uses less memory and Windows resources.

Recently Used Project List: This allows you to clear the entries in the Recently Used Project list in the Opening dialog. If you have project names in there that you no longer use, you can check this box and it will clear the list when you click OK.

Note: You can also remove an individual Project name from the list by clicking on its name, and then pressing the Remove button in the Opening dialog. This will delete just that one individual entry.

Note: Deleting an entry from the Recently Used Project list does not delete the actual Project's file on your hard disk. If you wish to delete the file, go to Windows and delete it.

Link Colors: This enables you to change the colors used for text links on web sites that you create, or to retroactively apply the colors to all of the pages of the currently opened site.

- You can set the color of unvisited links, visited links and the color to use when the mouse is hovering over top of a link.
- You can also tell it to put an underline beneath the links, or to not have an underline.
- Note that the link colors set here apply only to the pages that you add to your site or to new sites, not to existing pages. If you want to change link colors on all pages of the currently opened site, click the "Apply new link color and underlines settings to all pages in the website" check box. When you click OK, the changes will be made.

WebSite Properties Dialog

The WebSite Properties dialog enables you to make global adjustments to your site. Each Web site you construct will have properties associated with it. These properties will all affect the way your Web site is constructed, loaded, and viewed on the World Wide Web. You can edit these properties at any time by choosing *WebSite>Web Site Properties*. There are four tabs of information for the Site Properties.

Guides Tab

- **Guides for Target Web Page Size:** This is the size you would like to make your web pages in Web Studio. It is used solely as a guide to help you design your pages. The default value, 800 x 600 pixels, is the size, or screen resolution, of the majority of people's displays. There are several other sizes to choose from. Note that changing the size has no effect on your web pages, only on the placement of the guides on the page.

There are several screen resolutions that visitors to your site may use, so it is best to design for the smallest "standard" size to ensure each visitor will get the most out of your site.

DESIGN TIP: Ideally you do not want the page to require much scrolling. If you have additional content simply add another page to your site. And always, always avoid designing a page that requires Left-Right scrolling.

- **Page Margins:** The page margins are also for your use as guides. They do nothing to your pages. You can use them to help you keep content away from the top and left sides of the window. You can set them to any value you like.

Web Search Information (or Meta Tags)

"Web Search Information" is Web Studio's way of placing vital information about your Web site in a place that Search engines can find it. By filling out these property boxes, Search Engines will be able to "find" your Web site and post it in it's search results.

- **Web site's Author(s):** Place your name or company name here. This will show up in the HTML source code on the Web as a Meta Tag. You can see it by right clicking on your page and choosing View Source.
- **Description:** Include a brief description of your site in this box. Again, this will show itself in the HTML source code of your Web page as a Meta Tag. This is what the various search engines will display as information about your Web page and or site. So, give a few clear details about your site.
- **Key Words:** When a search engine looks through all of the thousands of Web sites that exist on the Internet it is the "key words" that it is actually looking for. So, if your site is about rose gardens type "Roses" and "Gardens" as your key words. This is one way that your Web site will be found by a search engine.
- **Note:** The three best ways to get your site to appear in the various Internet Search Engines are:
 - A. Fill in all the above properties as thoroughly as is possible. This will produce first rate Meta Tags.
 - B. Register directly with the most popular Search Engines. In the same way you notify the Post Office when you move, it is a good idea to "submit" your site to the various Search Engines on the Web. For detailed information, check out the home page of any popular Search Engine.
 - C. Pay for it. Yep, some search engines now "offer" a payment plan to get you top billing on their site. This actually isn't a bad thing; it is quite valuable for those with online stores and other commercial ventures on the web. Overture.com and Google.com are among those to offer auction based plans that enable you to bid for placement in their search results. You bid on search phrases, like "Web Studio ", or "Web Design Software." When someone searches on one of these phrases your listing appears in the order of your bid. If you have the highest bid, you come up first. When someone clicks on your listing and goes to your site, you are charged the bid amount. Prices usually start at a nickel a click.

Website File Names

This tab enables you to select which set of file naming rules your site will use and which home page name it will use.

File Naming Rules

When you name a file you save on your hard disk, there are certain rules you follow. You may not know it, but there are certain characters that you cannot use. These characters are used by Windows. Web Pages also have certain characters that can't be used in file names. However, there are many more characters that cannot be used on a web file name than on a Windows file name. In addition, there is a limit on the length of file names on the web.

To confuse matters even more, not all web servers follow the same rules. Some Unix servers have very strict rules, others don't. Macintosh servers can have longer names than Unix, but less than Windows.

Web Studio offers two different sets of rules for file names; Web Studio 1,2,3 rules and Web Studio 4.0 rules.

Web Studio 1,2,3 Rules

File names are limited to 14 characters. Note that page names can be any length, but only the first 14 characters are used. This could cause problems if you have two or more pages where their first 14 characters are all identical. In such a case only the last of these pages will show up on the actual website.

File names cannot have these characters: <>!@#%*^*()-=+{ }[];

Web Studio 4.0 Rules

File names are limited to 31 characters.

File names cannot have these characters: <>|?"/*

Home Page's Name

Just about all web hosting companies require your home page to be named "index". However, some require it to be "default". Choose the name your host requires and Web Studio will use that name when it creates your site.

Note that you should not name your home page either index or default, it will happen automatically for you. You should name your page something descriptive since that is the name visitors to your site will have in their Bookmarks and Favorites if they add your page.

Advanced Tab

For transparent and index colored Graphics: This tells Web Studio which graphic format to use for non-JPEG files.

- **Use Graphic Interchange Format (.GIF) files:** GIF files are a current standard on the Web. Along with JPEG files, GIF's are the dominant standard on the Internet because of their clarity and small size.

- **Use Portable Network Graphics (.PNG) files:** PNG files are an emerging standard. This choice is included to keep Web Studio contemporary as the standards evolve on the Internet.

Note: Some browsers may not support PNG files.

When Creating Your Web Site's Pages: Which version of HTML you decide to use impacts the way your pages are laid out on the Web. For some design specifics read each option.

- **Use HTML 4.0:** Choosing this option will result in Web Studio generating the Web site in version 4.0 of HTML and using "<DIV>" tags as the mechanism to layout the objects on your pages. The major advantage of this is that it enables the stacking or overlapping of images. You will find this produces a very clean Web page. If you are experiencing problems with transparency, and you have already turned off the transparent option for the graphic, try building the Web site in this format and re-upload it to the Internet.
- **Use HTML Tables:** Choosing this option will result in Web Studio generating the Web site in HTML4.0 , but using HTML Tables as the mechanism to layout the objects on the pages. All sites created with Tables can be automatically centered by the browsers to suit the viewers browser width. Using HTML Tables is useful if you are creating web pages that will become part of other web pages. The Webstudio.com website works this way.
- **Suppress JavaScript error messages:** This will prevent JavaScript error messages from popping up on your Web sites. Many browsers are not JavaScript ready and any site that contains a JavaScript can cause a stream of error messages. This option causes the JavaScript to quietly go away and allow your visitor to enjoy the rest of your site.

When Uploading your Web site:

- **Place this Web site as the root Web site:** Chose this option if you are sending your site to the Internet and the site contains the page you want to be your site's Home page.
- **Place this Web site in a folder:** Places your entire Web site in a sub folder. This is the desired setting if you are planning on sending the site to your hard drive or a network computer. It should also be used if you are creating a big web site with multiple Web Studio sites. The site with the Home page in it should be placed as the root web site (see above) and all other sites that are uploaded should be placed in folders. If you upload a site that is not your home page site and you don't put it in a folder it will overwrite your home page site!

Note: This is a very important feature that you should understand. Let's say you have a animal site. At first you have a home page introducing your company, a page for your chickens, a page for your buffalo, and a page for each of your lions. Then you get a dog, a championship show dog. So, you add a page for the dog.

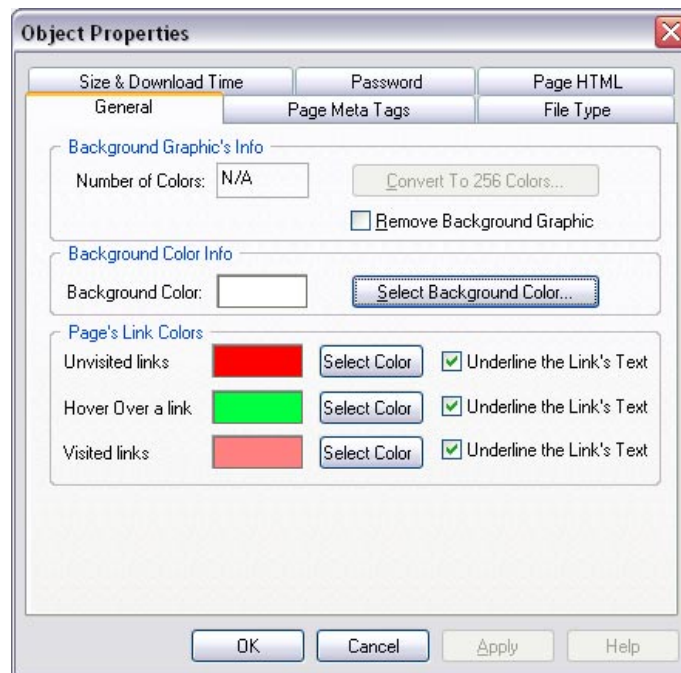
Your dog is so successful that you keep adding pages to the site showing all his blue ribbons and other dog stuff. Eventually the site gets extremely big and you want to break it up into two sites. The problem is it is taking a bunch more memory when you edit the site and the upload times are getting really long. So you break out the dog pages into a separate site.

You'd do this by creating a new Web Site that contained all the stuff that was on the dog pages. You'd add a link from your home page to the new dog site's first page. To the viewer it would look as though nothing changed, but managing the pages and uploads would be much easier for you now.

Here's where it gets important. Your original site was uploaded as the root Web site. If you uploaded the dog site as the root Web site as well, it would overwrite the HTML file for your original site. So, you should choose Place this Web Site in a Folder. Then the original site is left untouched, and the dog site just becomes another folder on your site that is linked to from the original site.

Page Properties Dialog

Right clicking over the background of a Web page and choosing Page Properties activates the Page Properties Dialog Box.



General Tab

This tab lists general information concerning the current page.

- **Background Graphic Info:**
 - **Number of colors:** Lists how many colors your current background uses

- **Convert to 256 Colors:** This will force Web Studio to make a GIF file from the background's graphic. Used in this way, it should increase the speed with which your page loads into visitors' browsers and use less space on your website. This should not be done to backgrounds with many colors, like a photograph.
- **Remove Background:** Placing a check mark here will remove the current background when you click the "OK" button. The page will revert to white background.
- **Background Color Info:**
 - **Background Color:** Enables you to choose a solid color from the Windows color dialog by pressing the "Select Background Color" button.
- **Page's Link Colors:** This section enables you to change the colors used for text links on this page. You can set the color of unvisited links, visited links and the color to use when the mouse is hovering over top of a link. You can also tell it to put an underline beneath the links, or to not have an underline. Note that the link colors set here apply only to the current page. If you want to change link colors on all pages, use WebSite Properties command from the WebSite menu.

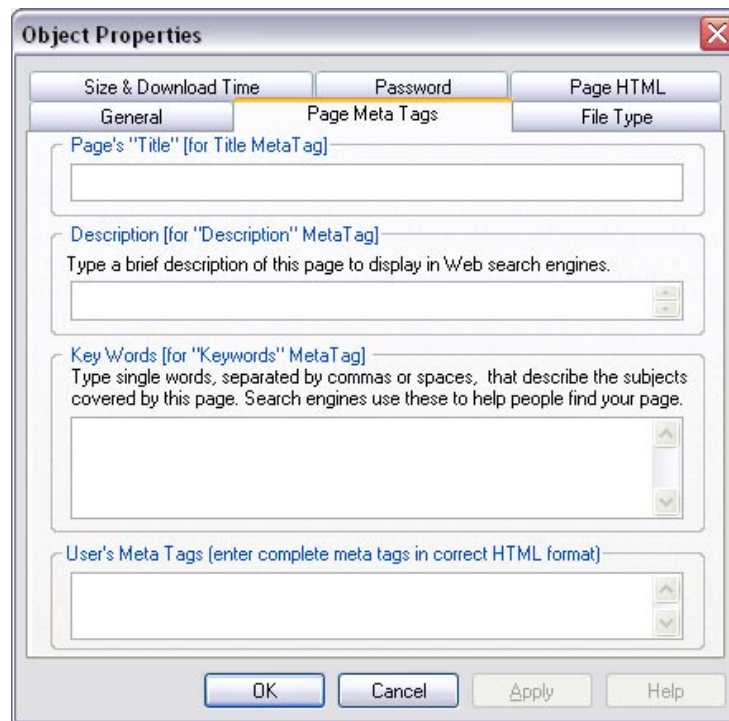
Note: The links on the page will not change colors or underlines. They will change when Previewed and when on the web.

Page Meta Tags

The information entered into this dialog is used by Internet Search Engines. They use it to determine what type of page it is, its relevance to various topics, and to rank you in their website's listings.

This tab enables you to set the Title, Description, and Keywords meta tags *specific* for this page. In addition, it enables you to add any other Meta tags you deem necessary for the page. Any tags entered here will override those entered into the WebSite Properties dialog.

This is useful when you have different topics on your pages.



- **Page Title:** This text, if entered, will be used as the "TITLE" tag for the page. If there is no entry here, the page's name, from the PageList, is used as the Title Tag.
- **Description:** This text, if entered, will be used as the "Description" tag for the page. If there is no entry here, the Description from the WebSite Properties dialog will be used.
- **Key Words:** This text, if entered, will be used as the "Keywords" tag for the page. If there is no entry here, the Keywords from the WebSite Properties dialog will be used.
- **User's Meta Tags:** This enables you to enter your own meta tags to suit your needs. You *must* enter them using the correct HTML syntax for meta tags. If you make a mistake, you'll see the text of your meta tags on your page. This should indicate that you should go back and correct the errors in your meta tags syntax.

File Type Tab (advanced feature)

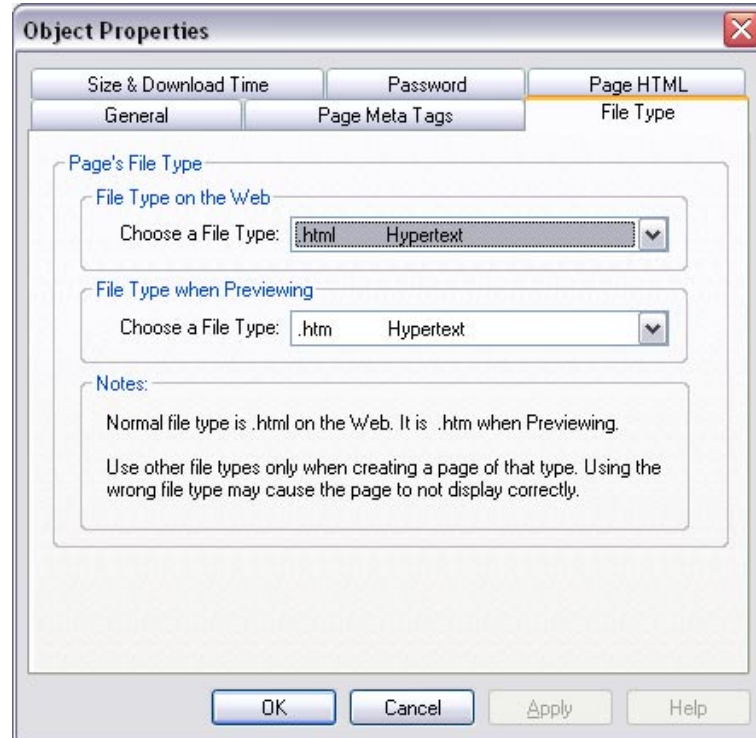
This enables you to specify what type of file you want this page to become when the website is built. The normal settings are ".html" for files when they are no the web; ".htm" when they are being previewed.

These settings are specific to the page whose properties are being displayed.

Using a different file type is useful if you have a page that is 100% custom code, for example. If your page has ASP code for database access it has to have the file type of .asp or it won't work on your site.

There are 23 different file types available here.

Note that simply changing the file's type doesn't necessarily make it a file of that type, the content that you put into the page must also be of that type.



File Type on the Web: Choose the type of file you want for this page when it is on your actual website.

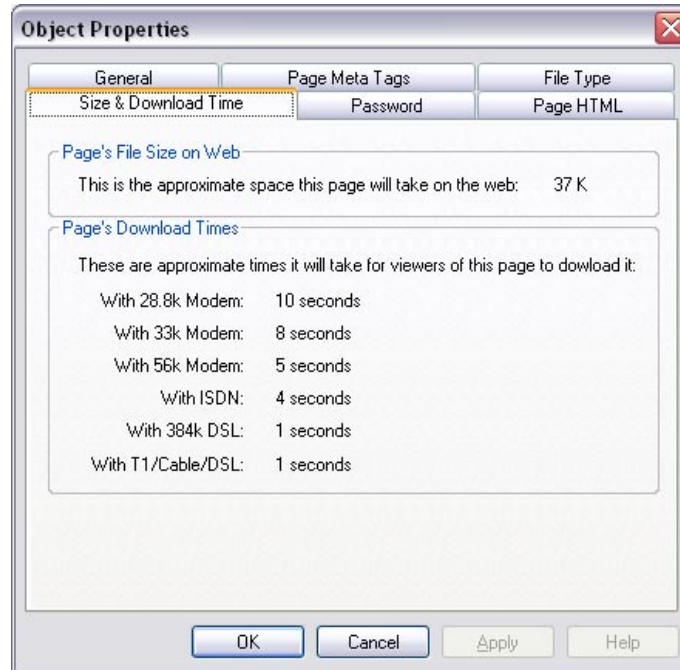
File Type when Previewing: Choose the type of file you want for this page when it is being previewed on your computer.

Available File Types: .html; .htm; .shtm; .shtml; .xhtml; .htt; .js; .scpt; .css; .ssi; .htx; .asp; .asa; .php; .php3; .cgi; .perl; .pl; .pm; .xml; .dtd; .wml; .smil; .cfm

Advanced Note: this feature can be used in conjunction with the Page Properties PageHTML tab. That tab has a button labeled "Build Page Without HTML Tags" that tells Web Studio to not add any HTML of its own, regardless of what objects you have on your page. When using this feature, you must add your own custom code (HTML or any other) to the "Before All Tags" section of the PageHTML tab. This is where Web Studio looks to find the HTML to use on a page that is being built without HTML tags.

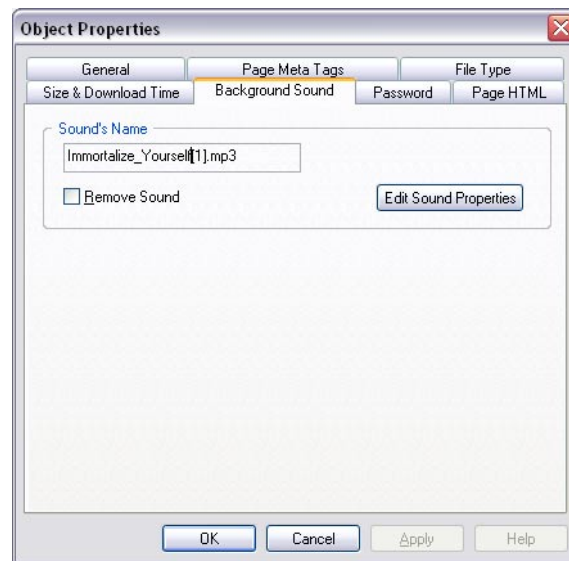
Size and Download Times Tab

This tab determines the total memory size of your page and how long it will take to download with various modem speeds and with various high speed connections. Use this to get an idea of how long it will take your viewers to download your pages.



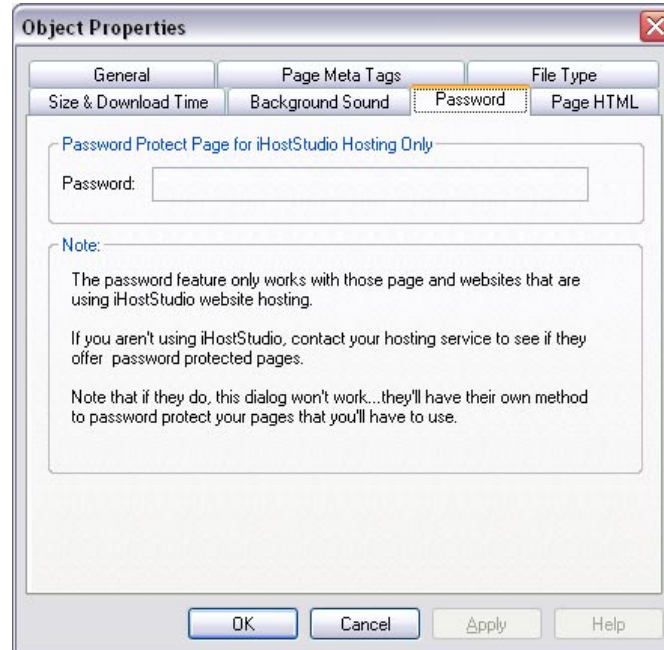
Background Sound Tab

You can manage any sound files associated with the Background using this tab.



- **Sound's Name:** Lists the file name of the sound that is associated with the Background.
- **Remove Sound:** Click this check box to remove the sound from the background..
- **Edit Sound Properties:** Enables you to decide to have the background sound play once when the page loads or loop some number of times, or continuously while the visitor is on that page.

Password Tab

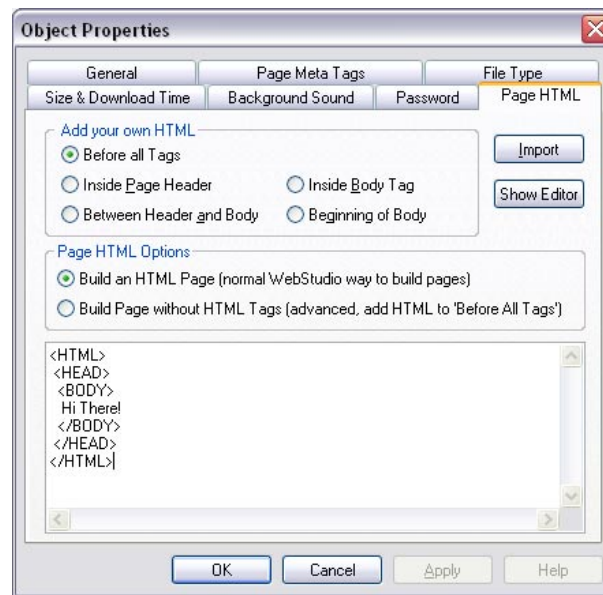


- **Password:** this tab enables you to enter a password to protect the page from unauthorized visitors when on the web. Note that this feature is only supported if you use our iHostStudio hosting service. This is because password protected pages are a function of the hosting server you use.

If you don't use iHostStudio, and you should, ask your hosting service if they support password protected pages and what HTML you'll need to add to your page to make it work.

Page HTML Tab (advanced feature)

Enables you to add custom HTML to your page via manual typing or using the "Import " button to add from a file. For advanced users.

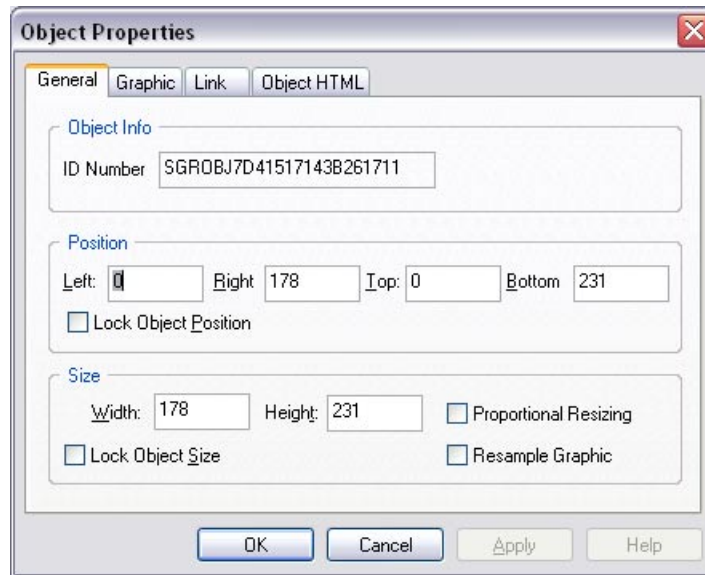


- **Before All Tags:** This places any custom HTML instructions before any of the standard HTML tags on the page. This is used, for example, with ASP and Visual Basic to access database information from a site. Usually this HTML will be related somehow to the object it is contained in.
- **Inside Page Header:** Places any custom HTML instructions inside the Page Header for the page this object is on. This is useful if an object requires a Javascript that must reside in the Header.
- **Between Header and Body:** Places the custom HTML between the </Head> and <Body> tags.
- **Inside Body Tag:** Places the custom HTML inside the <Body> tag.
- **Beginning of Body:** Places the custom HTML immediately after the <Body> tags.
- **Import Button:** The import button enables you to import your own HTML from a file on disk. Web Studio can load any of 23 different types of Hypertext or other Markup Language files into the HTML Tab. Click the button and using the Windows Open dialog load your file.
- **Show Editor Button:** This brings up the HTML editor window. The editing area in the Page HTML Tab is fine for adding small amounts of HTML to an object. If you have a lot of HTML to add, use the HTML editor feature. This enables you to import HTML files from disk, utilized the standard Cut, Copy, Paste and Undo editing features, and it give you a lot more room to work.

Object Properties Dialog

Right clicking over any object and choosing Properties displays the Object Properties Dialog Box. Different types of objects will have different Tabs in their properties dialog. All objects have the General tab.

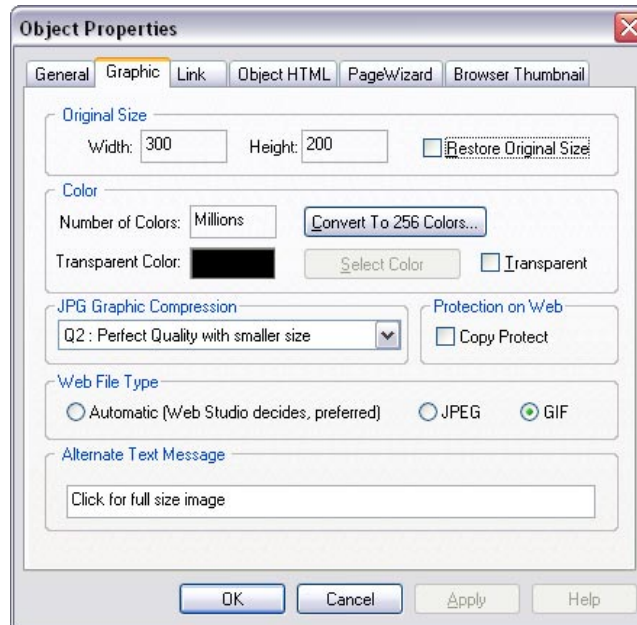
General Tab



- **Object Info:** This is the numeric identifier of the graphic. If you choose to use Custom HTML via the HTML object you can refer to these ID's to manipulate the object.
- **Position:** Gives a numeric location of where the object is located on the page. Enables you to position the object exactly where you want it and "lock" the location of the object. It also enables you to specify exactly where you want each side of the object and its size.
- **Lock Position:** This will lock the object in to position on your page. In the dialog, it will disable the Position fields but keep the Size fields available so you can change its size.
- **Size:** Gives a numeric dimension for the size of the object in pixels. Enables you to size objects exactly as you want them and to "lock" the size of the object.
- **Lock Size:** This will lock the object's size so it cannot be resized using the mouse. In the dialog it also disables the Size fields. When you change the position or top or bottom in the dialog it will calculate what the other values should be to maintain the original size.
- **Proportional Resizing:** Enables you to resize an object to an exact height or width while maintaining its original proportions.

- **Resample Graphic:** When you resize a graphic its quality goes down. Choosing Resample will tell Web Studio to make the resized graphic look better.

Graphic Tab



- **Original Size:** Shows the original size of the object in pixels and enables you to restore the object to this original dimension. This will be different than the present size of the object only if it was resized.
- **Restore Original Size:** If the original graphic has been resized larger or smaller, checking the Restore Original Size checkbox will resize the graphic to its original size when the OK button is pressed.
- **Color:** Enables you to make decisions about transparency. If the object should be transparent and what will the transparent color should be.
- **JPEG (or GIF) Graphic Compression:** Enables you to specify the amount of compression to apply to this graphic when it is on the web. There are 9 quality levels of compression available. Level Q1 applies no compression at all. Level Q9 is maximum compression and visibly degrades the image. The default compression quality level is Q2, which provides compression with virtually no loss of visual quality.
- **Note:** the heading for this section changes from GIF to JPEG depending on what type of file Web Studio will create for this graphic. Use this feature to determine what type of graphic will be created.
- **Protection on Web:** Enables you to protect your graphics and photos from illegal copying from your web site. When checked, Web Studio will put a transparent image in

front of the graphic. When a visitor to your site attempts to right click on the graphic to copy it, only the transparent, or blank, image will be copied.

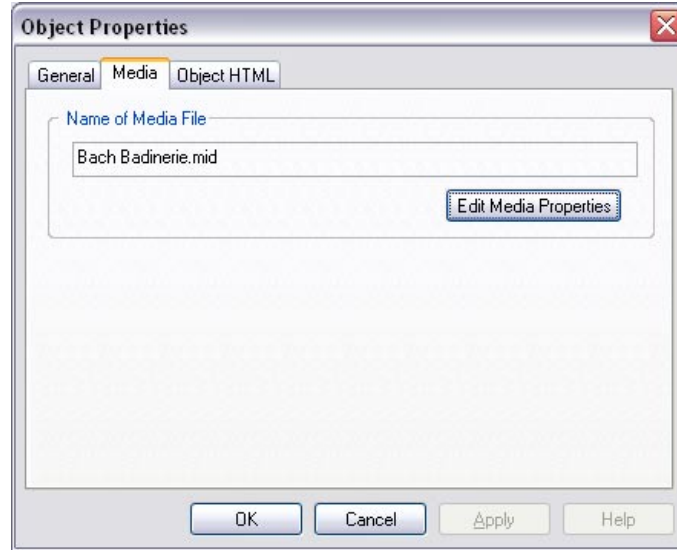
Note: It is impossible to completely protect graphics on the web. Web Studio offers this feature, along with the "No Right Click" feature in the CoolStuff gallery, as a way to keep the "honest" people from copying graphics. There are still a way to copy a graphic that has these two features turned on. However, most people don't know how and Web Studio cannot protect against this other method.

- **Web File Type:** Enables you to choose what type of file to use the graphic object. Graphics you add are set to Automatic. This setting allows Web Studio to determine what type of graphic to create based on the properties of the graphic itself. You can choose GIF or JPEG, which are the two graphic formats supported by the web. Choosing one of these will force it to be that type, even if it is not the best format. Choosing the wrong format can result in files that are extremely big, or with colors that look bad. If you have a large file, try the other format; if you have poor colors, try the other format.
- **Alternate Text Message:** Enables you to add additional information about the object. The visitor will see it when they place the mouse cursor over the object on the Web page. It is also used when the user has turned Graphic Display off in their browser. The text is displayed instead of the graphic.

Note: all browsers do not support this feature.

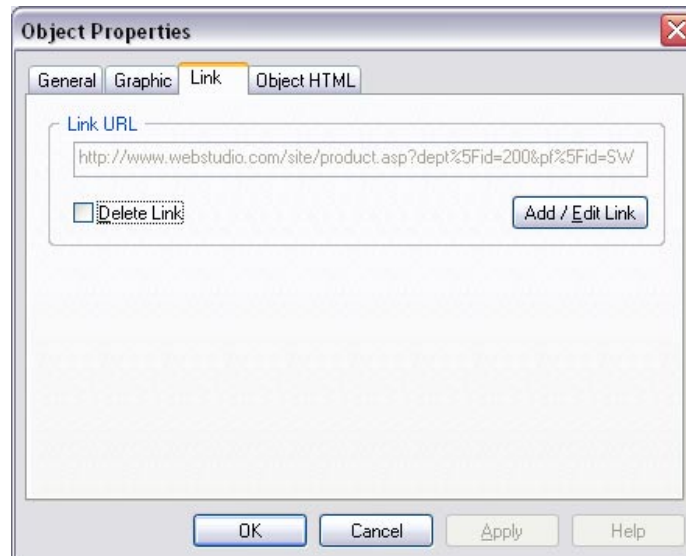
Note: this is a good place to place text describing your site. Search engines will see this text and use it to help determine your rankings in their search listings.

Media Tab



- **Name of Media File:** The Windows file name of the media file that has been attached to the object.
- **Edit Media Properties:** This displays the Add/Edit Media dialog. This enables you to set when the media will play and how long.

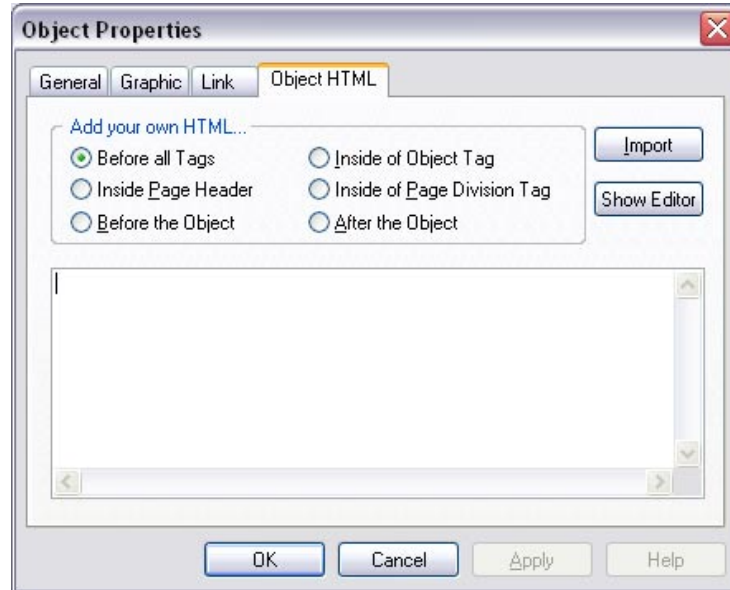
Link Tab



- **Link URL:** Shows the URL, or Web Address, of the link that has been applied to the object.

- **Add/Edit Link:** Displays the Add/Edit Link dialog. You can change the name of the link, its description, the URL of the link, tell it to open a new window when it is clicked on.
- **Delete Link:** Click this check box to delete the link from the object. The link will be deleted when you press the OK button.

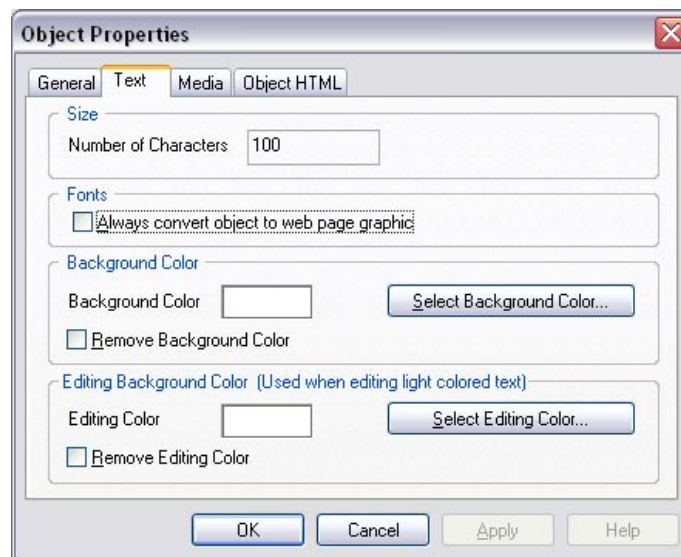
Object HTML Tab (advanced feature)



- **Before All Tags:** This places any custom HTML instructions before any of the standard HTML tags on the page. This is used, for example, with ASP and Visual Basic to access database information from a site. Usually this HTML will be related somehow to the object it is contained in.
- **Inside Page Header:** Places any custom HTML instructions inside the Page Header for the page this object is on. This is useful if an object requires a Javascript that must reside in the Header.
- **Before the Object:** Places any custom HTML instructions before the selected object's HTML tags.
- **Inside the Object Tag:** Places any custom HTML instructions inside the selected object's HTML tag.
- **Inside of Page Division Tag:** Places any custom HTML instructions inside the Page Division tag that contains this object.
- **After the Object:** Places any custom HTML instructions after the selected object's HTML tags.

- **Import Button:** The import button enables you to import your own HTML from a file on disk. Web Studio can load any of 23 different types of Hypertext or other Markup Language files into the HTML Tab. Click the button and using the Windows Open dialog load your file.
- **Show Editor Button:** This brings up the HTML editor window. The editing area in the Object HTML Tab is fine for adding small amounts of HTML to an object. If you have a lot of HTML to add, use the HTML editor feature. This enables you to import HTML files from disk, utilized the standard Cut, Copy, Paste and Undo editing features, and it gives you a lot more room to work.

Text Tab



- **Size:** Show the number of characters in the selected text object.
- **Fonts:** Enables you to choose to have this text object always converted to a graphic when upload to the internet. This is handy when you are using fonts in this object that you know are not web safe.
- **Background Color:** This enables you to select a background color for the text object. The standard Windows Color Dialog is displayed.

You can also remove a background color by checking the Remove Background Color check box.

- **Editing Background Color:** This enables you to select a color that is used as the background while you are editing text in a text object. This comes in handy when you have light colored text in a text object. With the standard white editing background it is

impossible to see white text. Changing the editing background color to a medium gray or the same as your page's background enables you to see it as you edit.

You can also remove the Editing Background Color by checking the Remove Editing Color check box.