

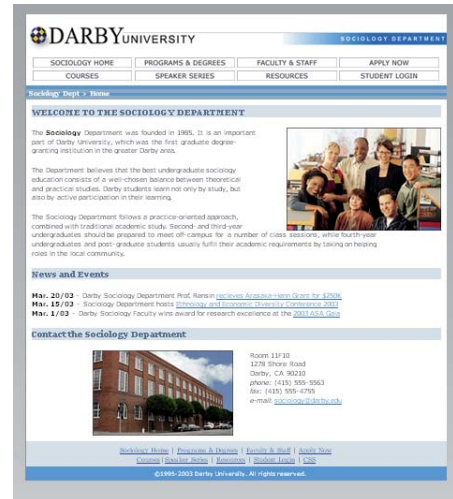
published on 31st Dec 2007

Gradient Background for Web-Pages

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“You might have seen nice backgrounds in some web-pages. By having a nice background, it can make your web-site easier to read and navigate. Quite often, I have been asked on how to have a gradient background. A background that alternates from one color to another color. HTML only supports solid color. So how do you have a gradient as a background?

Let me demystify the secret of achieving a nice colored-gradient background!”



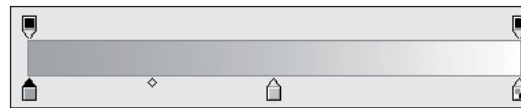
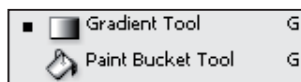
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Creating the multi-colored background

- 1) Create a new graphic file with Photoshop. Do the settings as shown below. Remember this graphic file is for the web, so resolution should keep to about 72 dpi. You notice the height is larger than the width as it needs a larger 'area' to blend to have a smoother transition of colors.

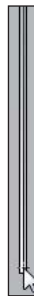


- 2) Pick the **Gradient Tool** with Photoshop and customise the colors according to the background color of the web-page. Create a smoother blend by adding another color-picker in the middle of the 2 colors.

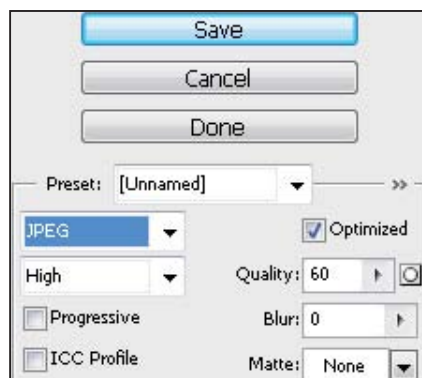


- 3) Apply the gradient by dragging vertically down using the Gradient Tool.

Tip: You can constrain drag by holding the Shift key. That will ensure you drag vertically down!

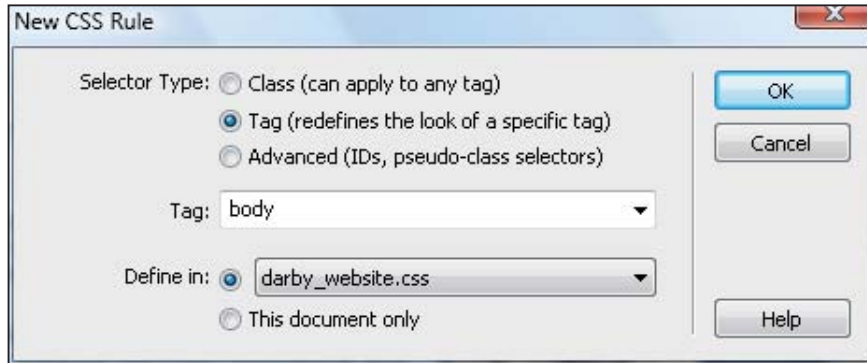


- 4) Go to **File > Save for Web & Devices**. Under Preset, choose **Jpeg** (to ensure smoother graduation) and choose **High** quality. Click **Save** to finalise the settings.

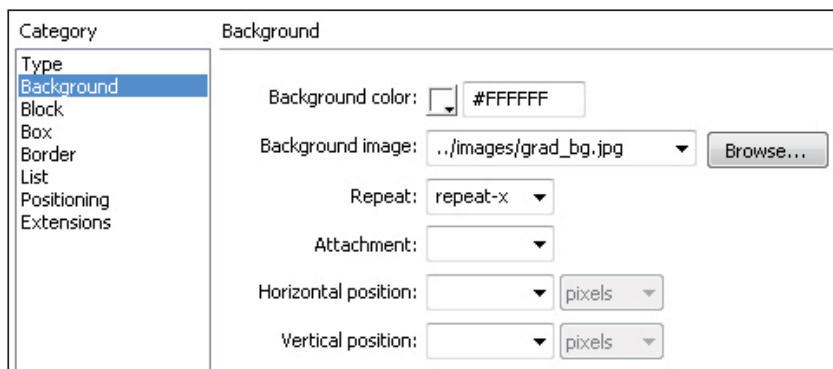


Inserting gradient background in web-page

- 5) Get started to Dreamweaver. Open the web-page that you want to insert the graduated background.
- 6) Create a new CSS (Cascading Style Sheet) rule and choose **Body** tag. Click **OK** button to confirm.



- 7) Choose **Background** under **Category** and select the same background color as the end of your graphic file (In my illustration, I choose white). Choose your just created gradient jpg file. Also select **repeat-x** (horizontal repeat) and apply the rule to the page.



Note: Should your page goes down to more than 1000 px, don't fret, the background color of the body tag will take over and continue on with that color indefinitely! That is way cool!

