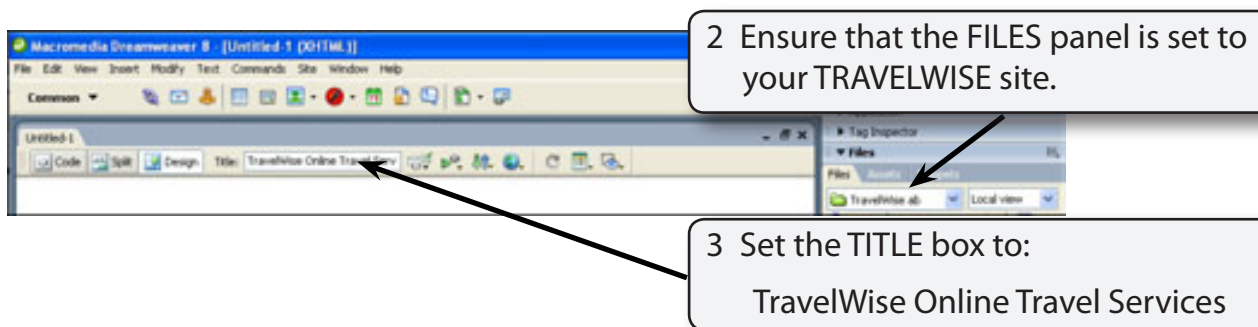# Using Templates and Layout Tools

When you want to create more detailed web sites that have more design elements to them using TEMPLATES is one of the most effective methods to use. Templates are page setups that can be applied to other pages. They are basically master pages. DreamWeaver also provides LAYOUT tools which can be used together with Templates. Layout tools allow you to create more detailed tables than the TABLE command.

To illustrate these two features the TravelWise web site will be adjusted.
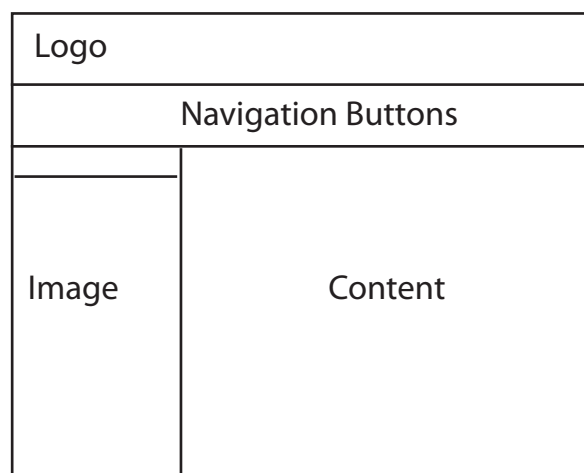
Creating the Template

The template will be created from a blank page, however an existing page can be converted into a template if necessary.

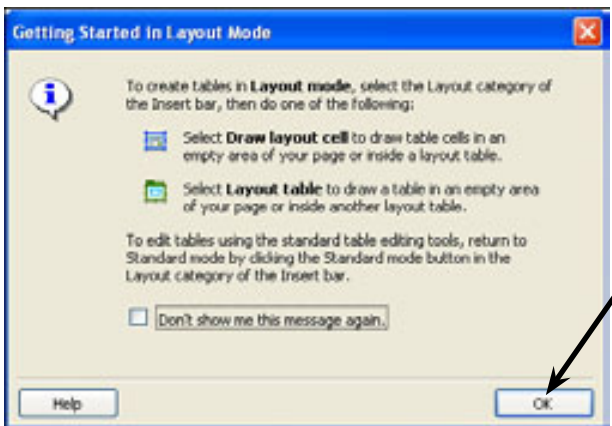1   Load DreamWeaver, or close the current page and start a new BASIC HTML PAGE.

2 Ensure that the FILES panel is set to your TRAVELWISE site.

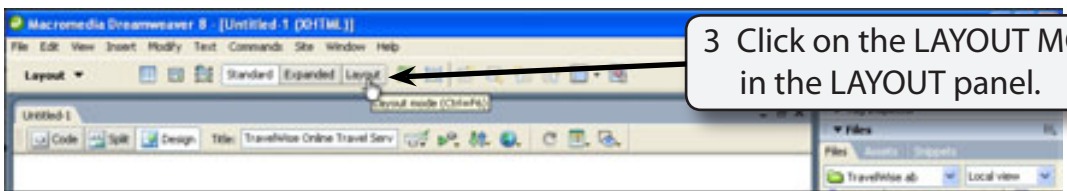3 Set the TITLE box to:

TravelWise Online Travel Services

4   A template for the site will be created then applied to a series of other pages. The design of the template will have the following structure.

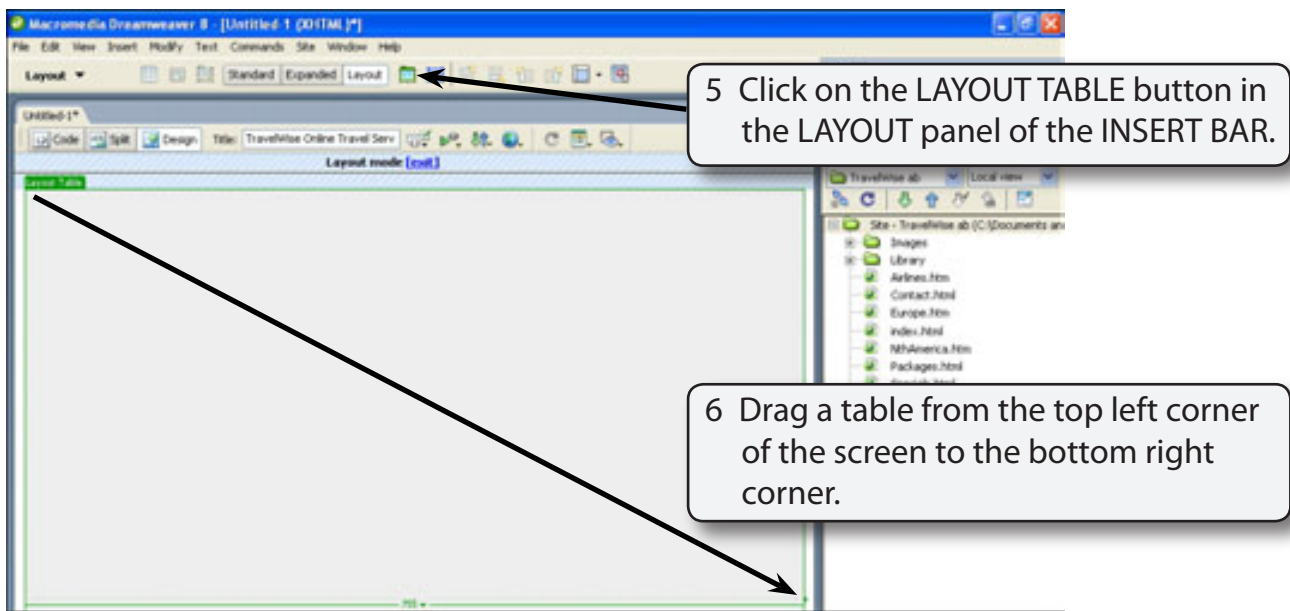| Logo	
Navigation Buttons	
Image	Content

NOTE: The small cell above the image cell will be blank. It will serve
         to separate the image from the navigation buttons. It is called
         a SPACER cell.

A   Adding the Layout Table

1   Set the INSERT BAR to the LAYOUT panel.

2   There are three LAYOUT modes available: STANDARD, EXPANDED and LAYOUT.
     When you first open a DreamWeaver page it is in STANDARD MODE. When you
     change the screen to EXPANDED and LAYOUT MODE some of the COMMON tools
     such as tables are disabled.

3 Click on the LAYOUT MODE button
   in the LAYOUT panel.

4 Select OK to the Information Box
   which explains the two main buttons
   used in LAYOUT mode.

NOTE: The two buttons to the right of the LAYOUT MODE box are
         the Layout tools. The buttons to the left of STANDARD MODE
         are the standard TABLE and LAYERS tools which are disabled
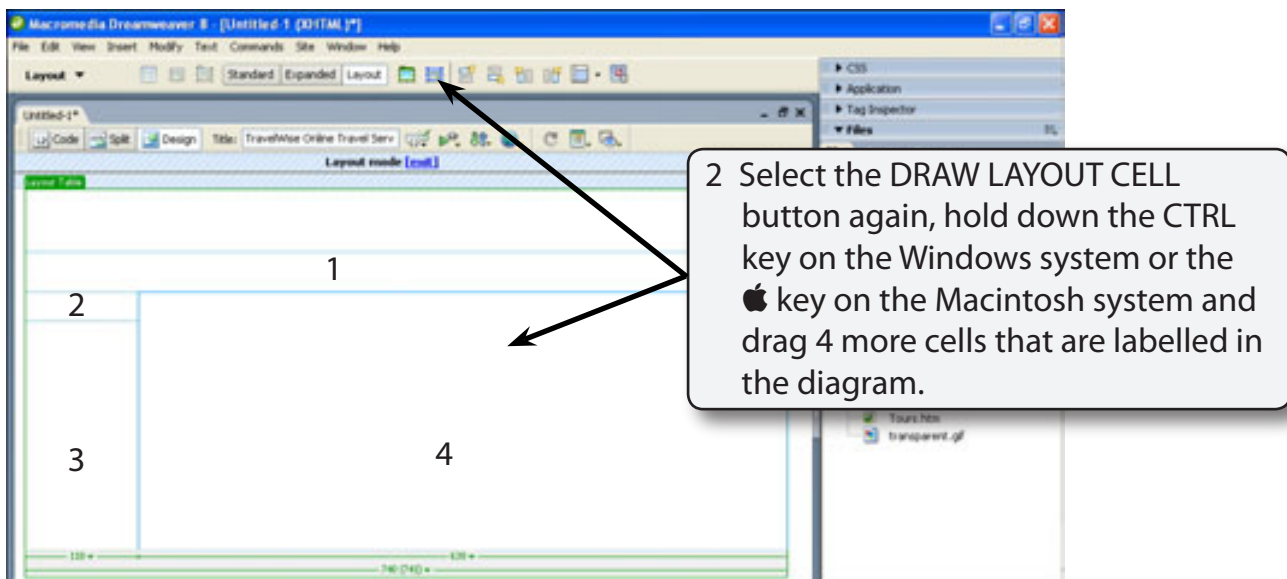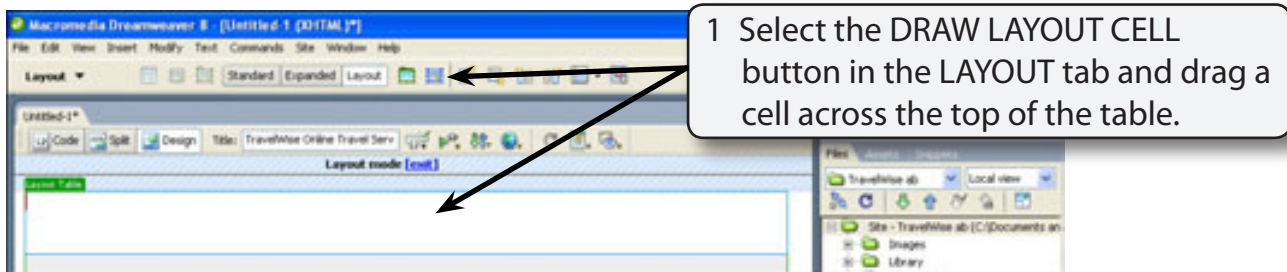   when LAYOUT MODE is selected.

5 Click on the LAYOUT TABLE button in the LAYOUT panel of the INSERT BAR.

6 Drag a table from the top left corner of the screen to the bottom right corner.

7   The dimensions of the layout table can be accurately set.

8 In the PROPERTIES INSPECTOR set the WIDTH box to 740 and the HEIGHT box to 350.

NOTE: As with normal tables you can also use the PROPERTIES INSPECTOR to set cell padding, cell spacing and background colour.

B   Adding the Layout Cells

After the table has been set, individual cells can be added to the table.

1 Select the DRAW LAYOUT CELL button in the LAYOUT tab and drag a cell across the top of the table.

2 Select the DRAW LAYOUT CELL button again, hold down the CTRL key on the Windows system or the key on the Macintosh system and drag 4 more cells that are labelled in the diagram.
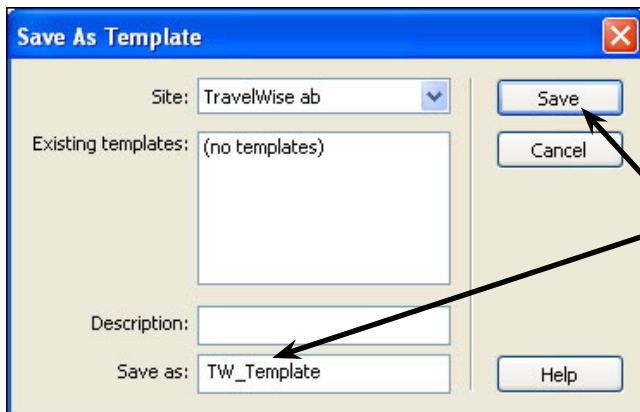
NOTE: i   The small cell (2) is the SPACER cell to separate the navigation buttons (cell 1) from an image in cell 3. It will not have any content.

ii   The CTRL or key allows you to draw cells without having to re-select the DRAW LAYOUT CELL button.

iii   You can click on the border of any cell and use its 'handles' to adjust the cell size.
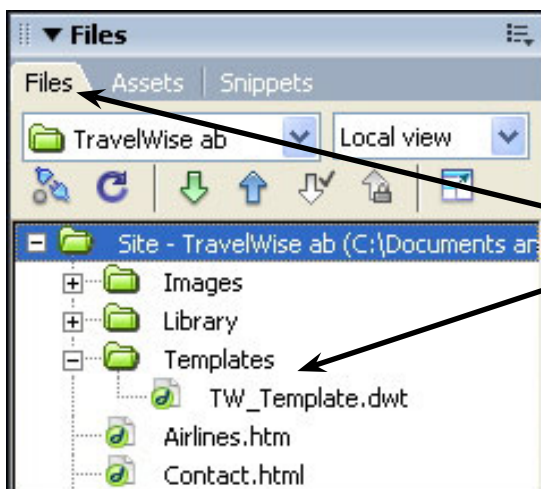
Saving the Page as a Template

The page can now be saved as a template rather than as a normal page. By doing this other pages can be given its design.

1   Display the FILE menu and select SAVE AS TEMPLATE.

2 In the SAVE AS TEMPLATE dialogue box set the SAVE AS box to

TW_Template

and click on SAVE.

3 DreamWeaver saves the page in a folder called TEMPLATES within your site's folder. Open the folder to see the template.