

# Creating Forms

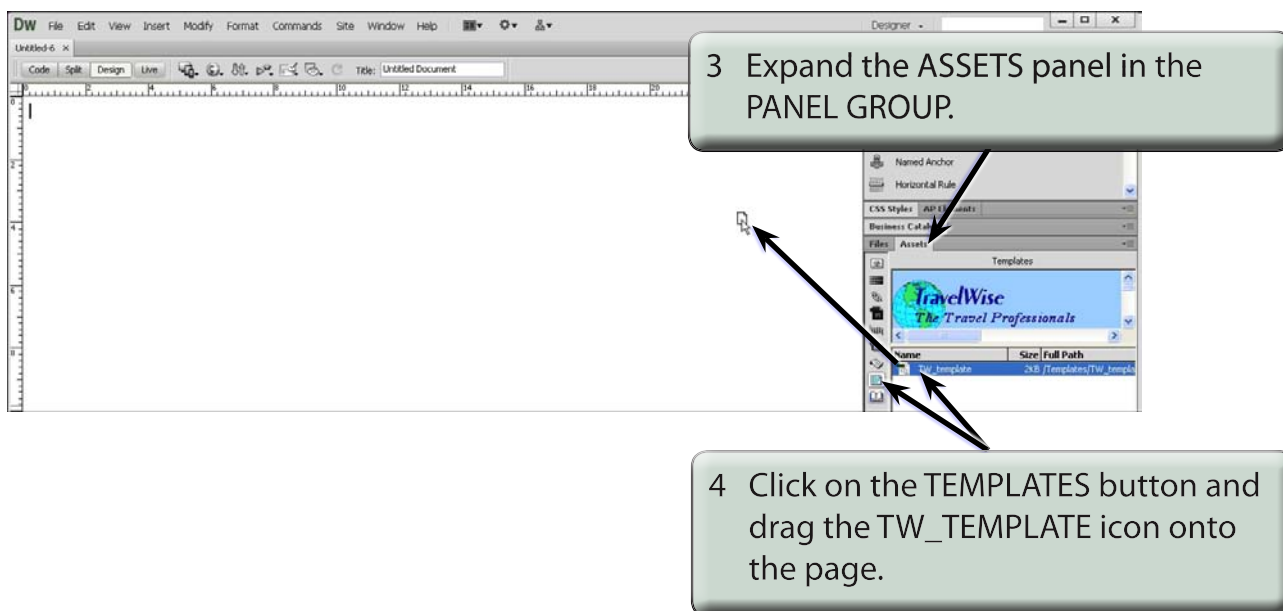
Forms allow information to be obtained from users of a web site. The ability for someone to purchase items over the internet or receive information from internet users has become a standard feature in many web sites. In order to do this, a FORM needs to be created. Creating an interactive form is a two-part process. First you layout the form's objects (called fields) and then you link the objects to a Common Gateway Interface (CGI) script, which has to be done in consultation with an Internet Service Provider.

In this chapter you will create a form for the TravelWise Travel Agency.

## Starting the Page

The form will use the template that was created in the last chapter.

- 1 Load DreamWeaver or close the current page and start a NEW HTML page.
- 2 Set the FILES panel to your TRAVELWISE site and the screen should be set to DESIGNER workspace.



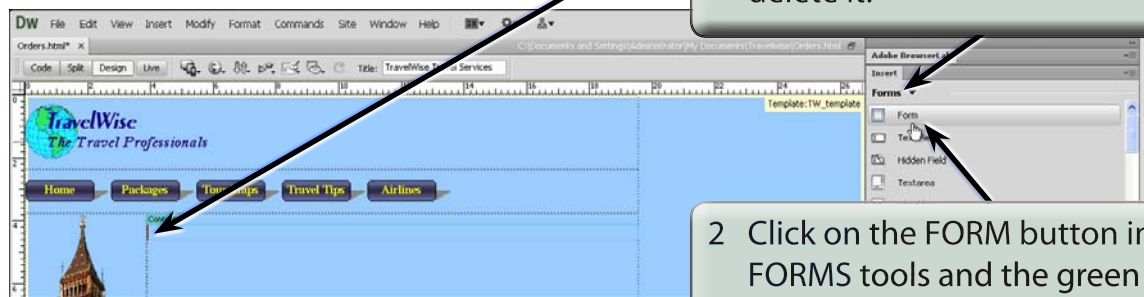
**NOTE:** Dragging the template from the ASSETS panel onto the page is another way of applying a template to a page.

- 5 Save the page as:

Orders or Orders.html

## Inserting the Form Tag

When creating a form you must tell the program that a form is required that it will be asking for information from the user. All the details within a form MUST be contained within an area called a FORM TAG, so whenever you start a form you must first insert a FORM TAG.



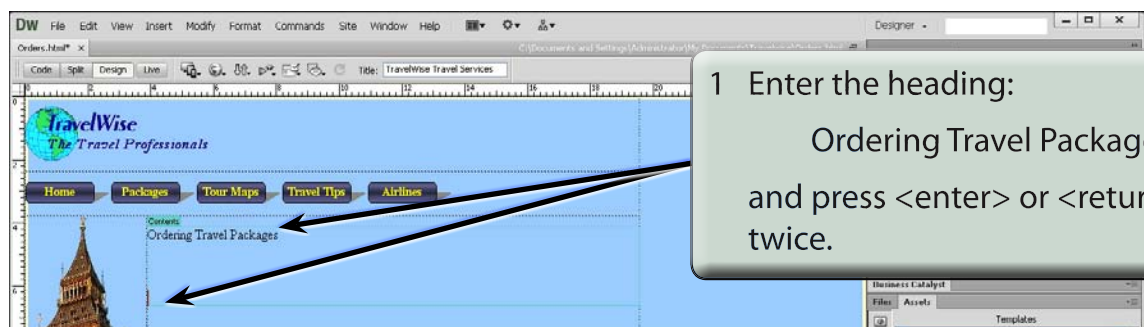
1 Set the INSERT panel to the FORMS tools then highlight the CONTENTS text in the CONTENTS region and delete it.

2 Click on the FORM button in the FORMS tools and the green contents frame should expand.

## Entering the Text of the Form

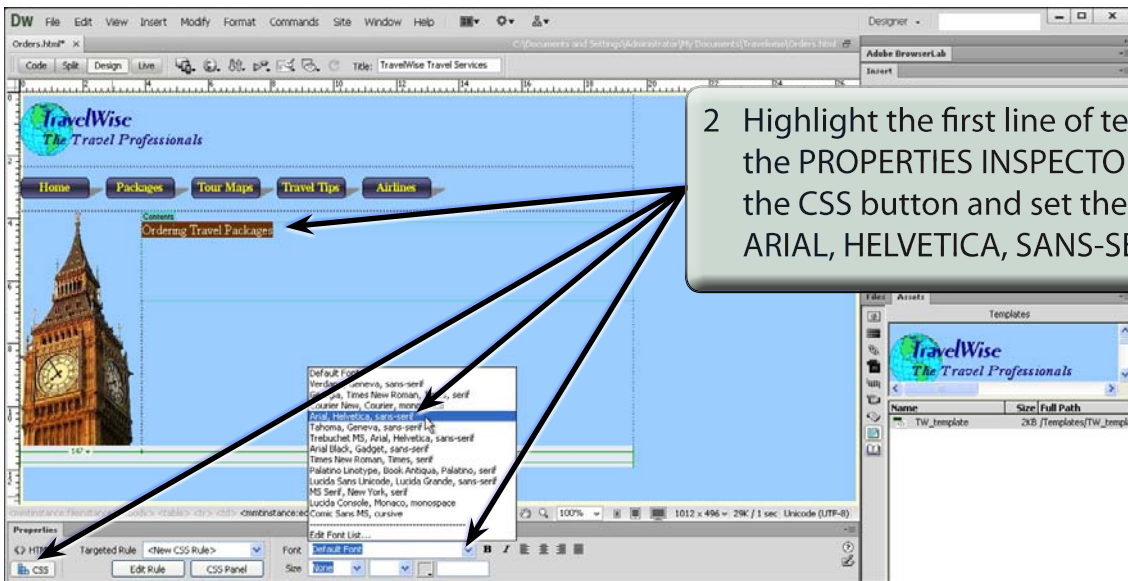
Some text needs to be provided at the top of the form to explain details about the form to users.

### A Adding the Sub-Heading



1 Enter the heading:  
Ordering Travel Packages  
and press <enter> or <return> twice.

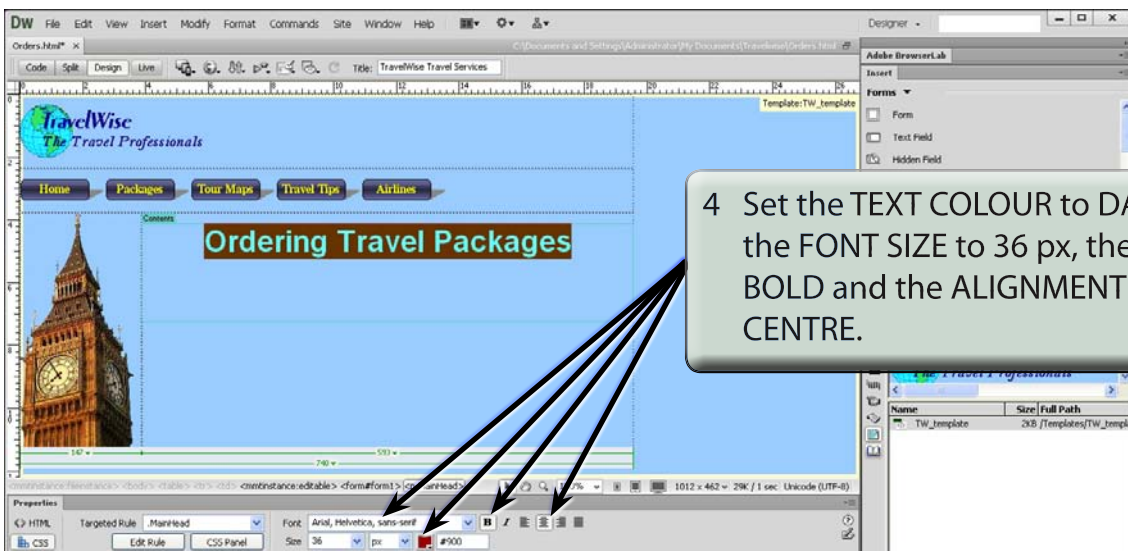
**NOTE:** As you create the form a red dotted frame will appear. This is the FORM tag and everything in the form should be within it.



2 Highlight the first line of text and, in the PROPERTIES INSPECTOR, turn on the CSS button and set the FONT to ARIAL, HELVETICA, SANS-SERIF.



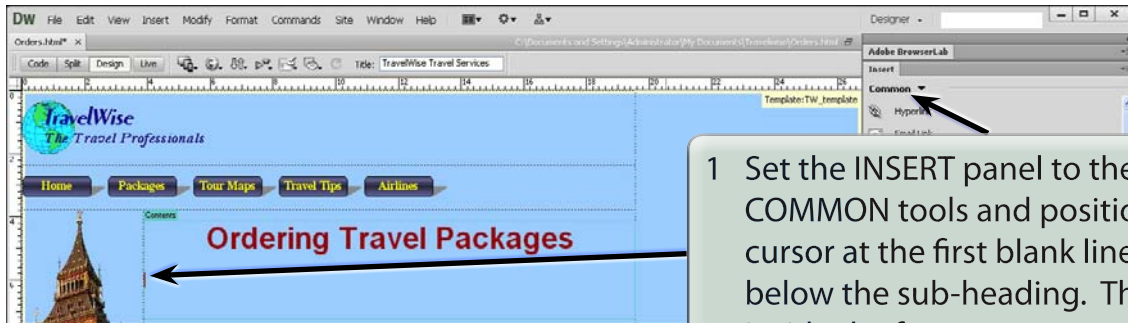
3 In the NEW CSS RULE dialogue box set the SELECTOR TYPE to CLASS, enter MAINHEAD in the SELECTOR NAME box and select OK.



4 Set the TEXT COLOUR to DARK RED, the FONT SIZE to 36 px, the STYLE to BOLD and the ALIGNMENT to ALIGN CENTRE.

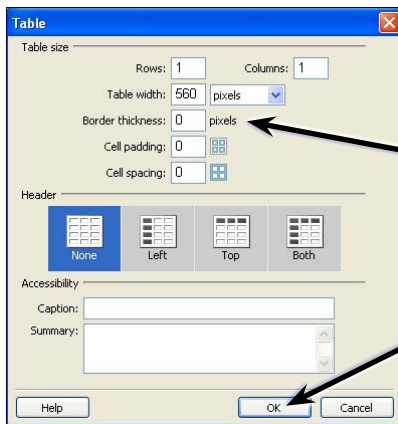
## B Entering a Message

A message about the order form will be added under the heading in a table.



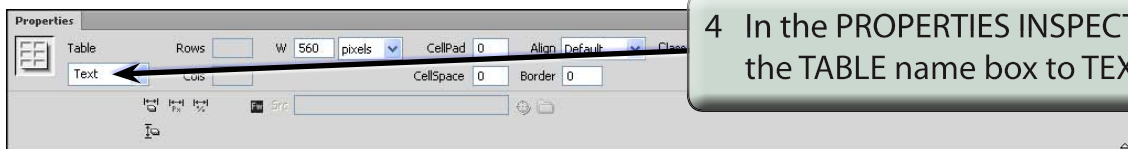
1 Set the INSERT panel to the COMMON tools and position the cursor at the first blank line directly below the sub-heading. This is inside the form tag.

2 Click on the TABLE button in the COMMON tools.



3 Set the table to 1 ROW, 1 COLUMN, a WIDTH of 560 pixels, a BORDER THICKNESS of 0, a CELL PADDING of 0 and CELL SPACING of 0, then select OK to insert the single-celled table.

**NOTE:** The table is set to a fixed width of 560 pixels so that it can be aligned with other objects in the form.



4 In the PROPERTIES INSPECTOR set the TABLE name box to TEXT.