

## Topic Notes: Introduction and Overview

Welcome to Web Design!

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### What is the World Wide Web?

We can get an idea...by going to the web.

**On the web:** Wikipedia Article “World Wide Web” at  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World\\_Wide\\_Web](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Wide_Web)

Some important points just from the first paragraph:

- The web is *accessed* by the Internet, but the Internet is a distinct and different entity.
- The web is formed by documents that contain *hyperlinks*.
- The documents are viewed by a *web browser*.
- The web is just over 20 years old.

No one owns or controls the web, but it is based on a set of standards. The *World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)* issues recommendations for these standards, and we will use W3C resources frequently in this course.

**On the web:** World Wide Web Consortium at  
<http://www.w3.org/>

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### What is Web Design?

In this case, our friend Wikipedia is less helpful:

**On the web:** Wikipedia Article “Web design” at  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web\\_design](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_design)

But it does give us the basics: it’s the process of designing websites.

That is the main focus of what we’ll do here.

This includes content, organization, and appearance.