

Using Dreamweaver

Actinic Ecommerce online store pages are built from a range of HTML templates. The Actinic Developer Macromedia Extensions allow you to open a previewed HTML store page within Dreamweaver or UltraDev (v3 or v4), and see where each template begins and ends. This works by adding a Properties Inspector to your web editing software that inspects XML tags that Actinic Developer inserts into the previewed store pages. These XML tags mark the beginning and the end of each template's inclusion in the previewed store page.

To install the Actinic extensions, locate the file called 'ActinicAssistant.mxp' in an Actinic Developer installation sub-folder (typically C:\ Program Files \ Actinic ecommerce v6 \ Extensions \ Dreamweaver \ Actinic_Assistant \ ActinicAssistant.mxp) and double-click on it. After accepting the license terms of using the extensions, you will see the Macromedia Extensions Manager.

This shows that the Actinic extensions, known as 'Actinic Assistant', have been successfully installed.

To use the extensions:

1. Select menu Design | Options, go to the Miscellaneous tab and uncheck the Compact HTML/CGI field.
2. Preview the entire store.
3. Whilst previewing, browse to a page you want to inspect in Dreamweaver.
4. Copy the URL of the page (e.g. 'C:\Program Files\Actinic ecommerce v6\Sites\Site1\PreviewHTML\P_catalogbody.html' from the field at the top of the browser) to the clipboard by highlighting it and pressing 'Ctrl+C'.
5. Open Dreamweaver/UltraDev and select menu File | Open.
6. Paste the address of the previewed store page in the File name window and click Open. This will open the previewed page in your web editor.
7. Ensure that 'View | Visual Aids | Invisible Elements' is checked.

Throughout the previewed page, you will see an Actinic symbol. This symbol marks the beginning and the end of the inclusion of an Actinic template. When you click on a symbol, the 'Properties' window will display the template or reference name in Actinic:

The fields in this are explained below:

Path	The full path to the template
Edit	Click this button to open the template for editing
Type	Either 'begin' or 'end'. Indicates whether the tag shows the beginning or the end of the inclusion of an Actinic template.
Filename	The name of the template.
Template Help	Click this button to open up a guide that explains what each template does and what NETQUOTEVAR data placeholders are in each template. This guide is printable. See the Templates chapter for details of NETQUOTEVARs.
Regenerate	Click this button to regenerate the store preview in Actinic Developer. You will need to switch back to your web editor after the preview happens and then reload the changes page into the editor. You will be prompted about this automatically.

The normal way that these tags would be used is as follows:

1. Locate the tags that surround the area of the page you are interested in customizing. If you are not sure which is the correct template, click the Template Help button for a guide on the template you are investigating. Keep this guide open for when you are editing the template.
2. Click Edit to open that template for editing.
3. Customize the template, save it and close it.
4. Click Regenerate to regenerate the preview using your customized template.
5. Switch back to the web editor and reload the page to see your changes.