

Five Things You Should Know about the New HTML Editor

The **HTML editor** is available wherever there is a text area, including discussion forums, course mail, and quiz essay questions. The **HTML editor** is a WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) editor that allows you to quickly create or edit formatted online content without knowledge of HTML (Hypertext Markup Language).

Here are five things you should know about using the **HTML editor**:

1. When you select the **HTML Editor** link, the toolbar now opens within your working window. This means you no longer have to toggle between two windows when using the editor.
2. You can control the visibility and size of the editor by using the **Collapse/Expand Toolbar** arrow and the **Maximize/Minimize** button. These are the first two options you see on the editor.
3. The editor now has an **Insert Equation (Σ)** tool that allows you to insert a variety of mathematical equations with options such as auto-sizing parentheses, radicals, integrals, trigonometric functions, and special symbols. This feature is available to everyone, including students, and is located in lesson content items such as **drop boxes** and quiz **essay** questions. The equation editor is a Java-based tool that generates MathML but converts the content into a GIF equation.
4. The **Insert Media** option, located in the pull-down menu next to the **Insert Image** icon, enables you to upload or link to Flash (.swf) files. When uploading a Flash file, you have the option to place it within a course/group, in multiple places within the same course/group, or in multiple courses groups using the **Media Properties** window. **Note:** This tool is not available with the reduced HTML editor toolbar (see #5).
5. The **HTML editor** now has two modes that are implemented to best support what you are working on: 1) A full menu bar, found in most content-creating places such as **discussion forums** with 24 buttons and 32 options (including those located under the down arrows, and 2) a partial menu bar with 16 buttons, found under course administrative areas such as the **Event Editor** and the **Calendar** tab. **Note:** The **HTML Editor** link does not appear for unsupported browsers such as Safari.



Full HTML editor toolbar



Partial HTML editor toolbar

To Find out More about the New HTML Editor

To learn more about this and other topics related to ANGEL, Penn State's Course Management System, check out the ANGEL Community Hub at <http://ets.tlt.psu.edu/angel/>.