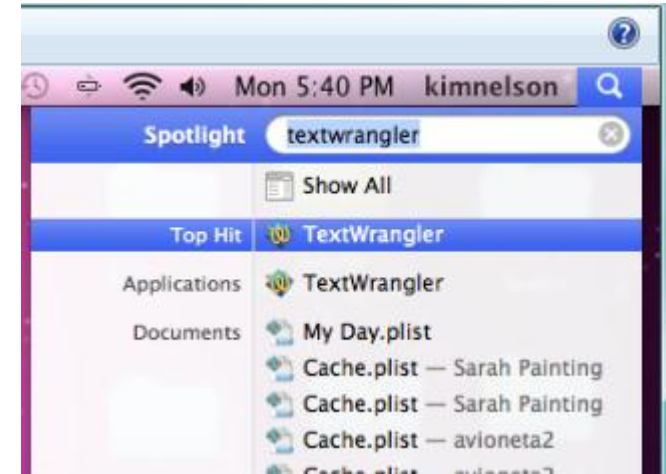# Creating a New HTML File

Using either Textwrangler (Mac) or Notepad++ (Windows)

Creating an HTML file (Mac)

Step one: Go to the Spotlight in the upper right corner of your desktop and type "textwrangler." The Top Hit should be TextWrangler. Highlight it to open the application.
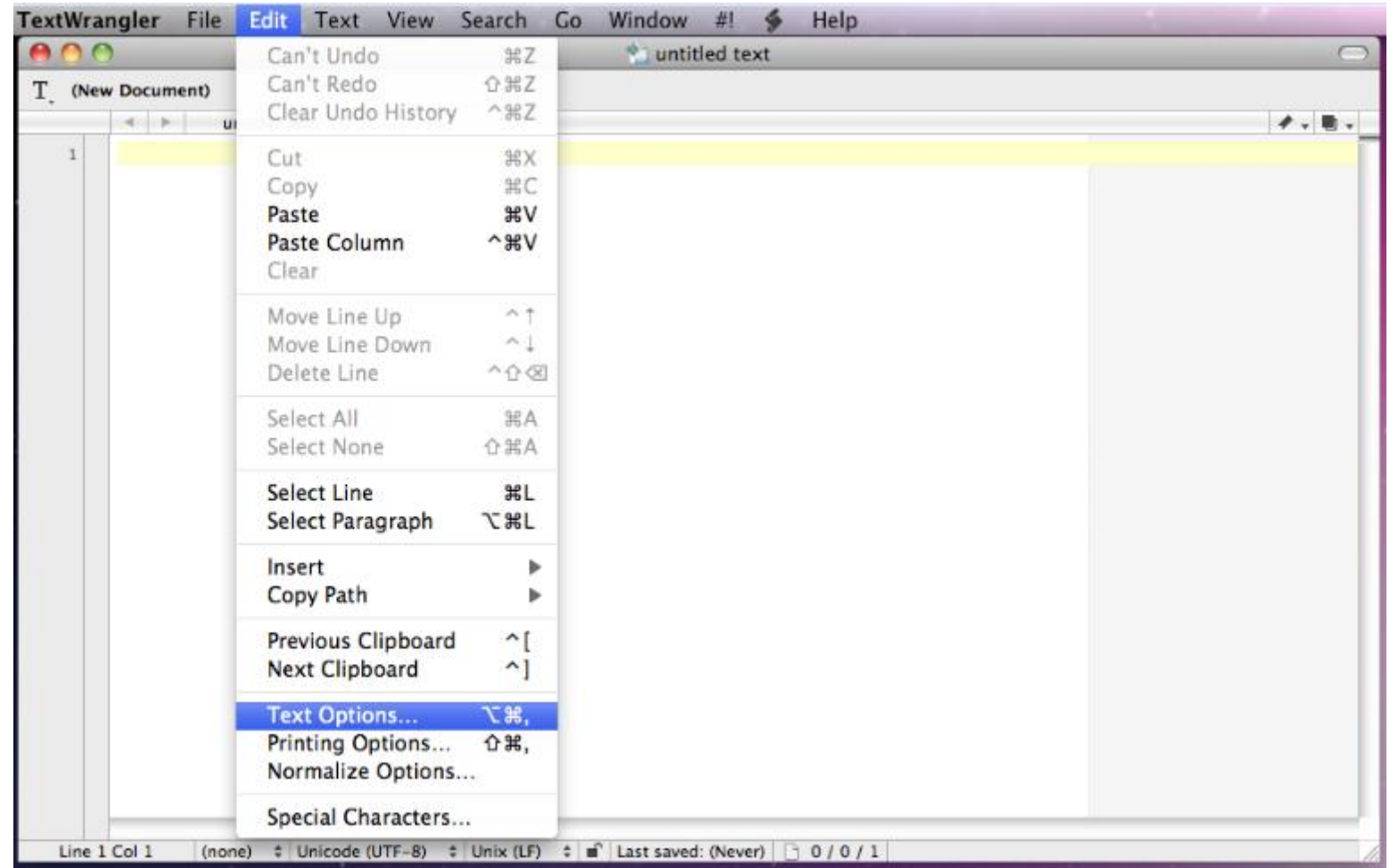

Step two: To keep TextWrangler in your Dock for easier access, click and hold on the TextWrangler icon in the Dock. When it displays a pop-up menu, choose Options, then "Keep in Dock."
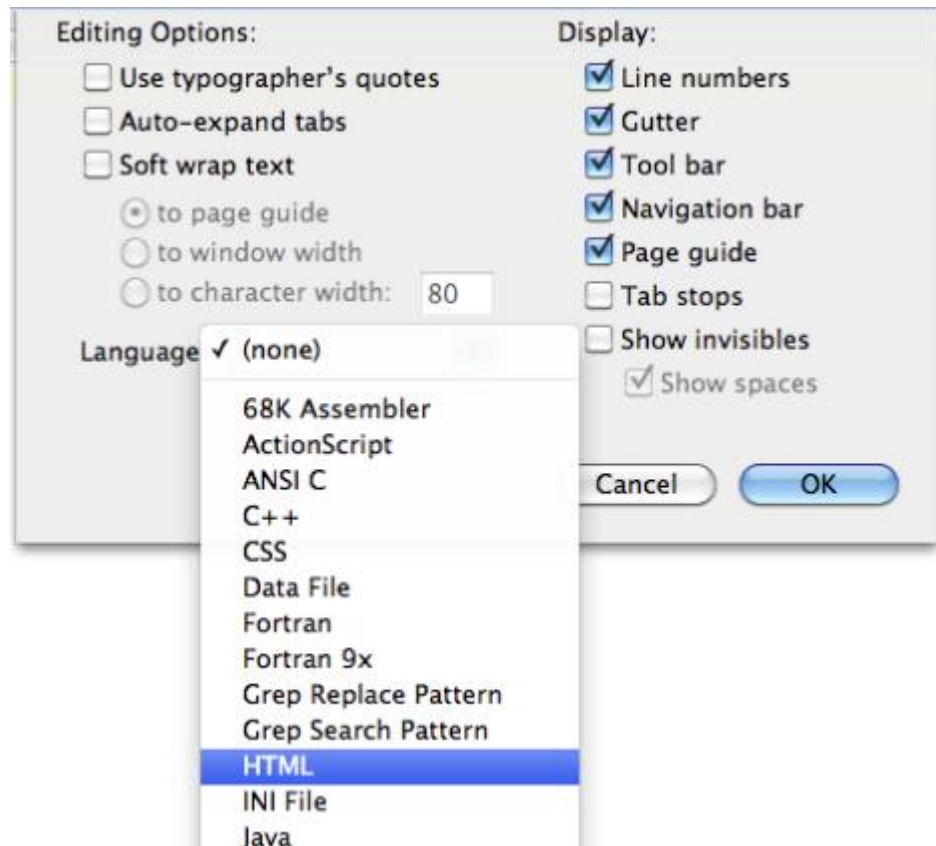
Creating an HTML file (Mac)

Step three: In the TextWrangler window, highlight the Text Options to open a dialogue box.
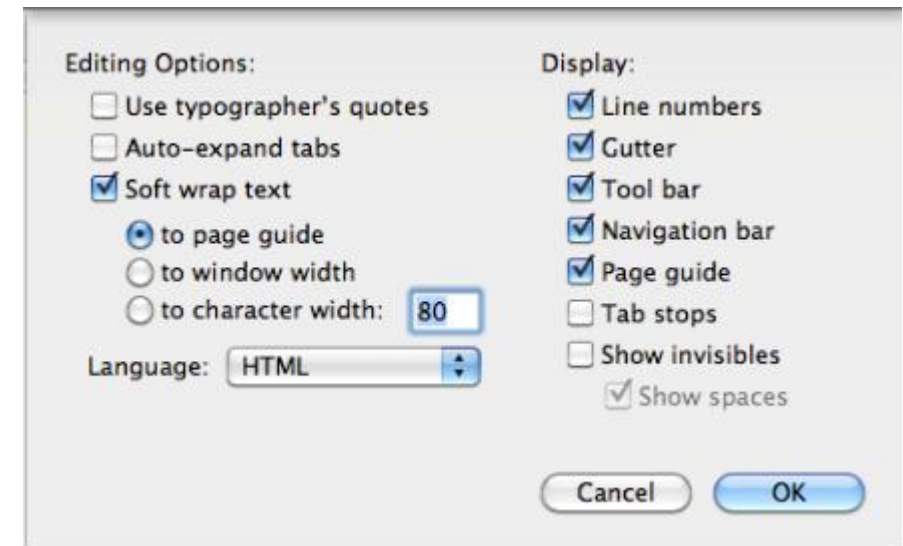
Creating an HTML file (Mac)

Step four: In the dialogue box, select the Language HTML.

Step five: In the dialogue box, check the "Soft wrap text" box and "to page guide" if it is not already chosen. Click OK.

Creating an HTML file (Mac)

Here's an example of the HTML we looked at earlier, as it would appear in TextWrangler.

Notice how the tags, attributes, comments, and links are in different colors.

Also notice the markings for opening and closing tags.

If you click on the triangle, you can collapse the entire element, which is helpful with large files.
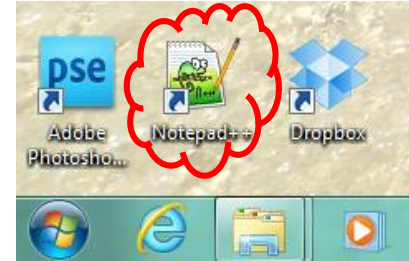
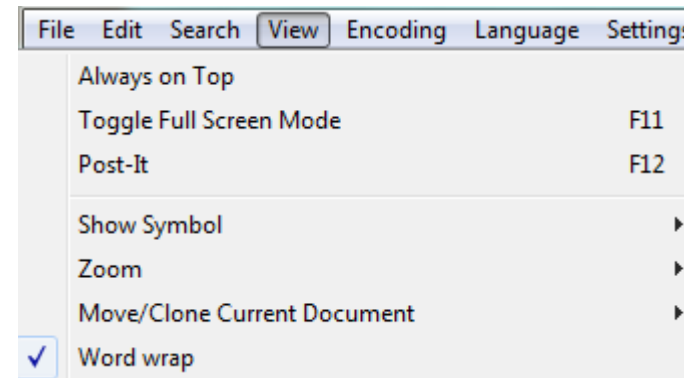# Creating an HTML file (Windows)

Step one: If Notepad++ is not already running, double-click on the icon on your desktop to open the application.

Step two: Select the Language tab and then "H" followed by "HTML."
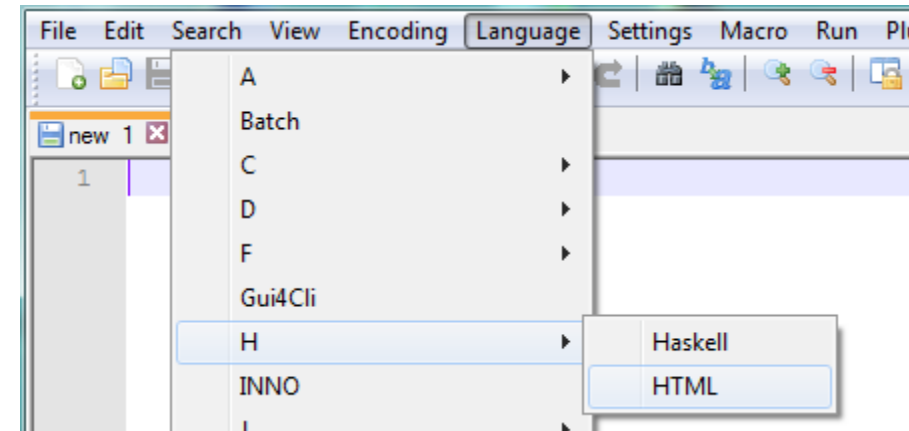
Step three: Select the View tab and then "Word wrap."
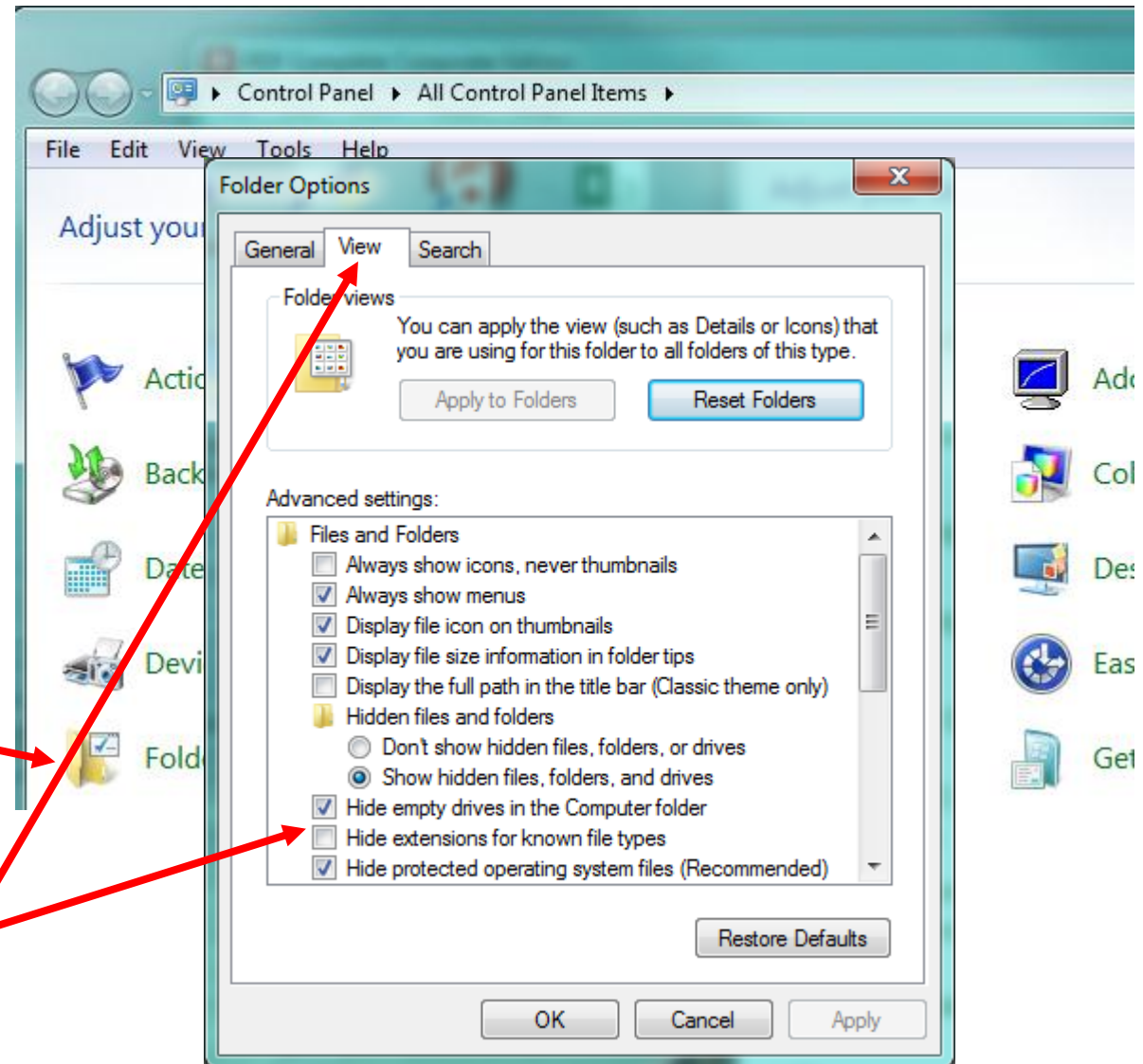
Creating an HTML file (Windows)

Step four: Don't hide extensions of well known files.

By default, Windows File Explorer hides the file extensions of well-known file types. For example, a file named "banana.html" will be shown in the Explorer as "banana" without its ".html" extension.

It's much less confusing if Windows shows you these extensions, so let's change your folder options so you can see them.

First, open Folder Options by clicking the Start button, clicking Control Panel, and then clicking Folder Options.

Next, in the View tab, under "Advanced settings," scroll down until you see "Hide extensions for known file types" and uncheck this option. Click OK and you'll now see the file extensions in the Explorer.

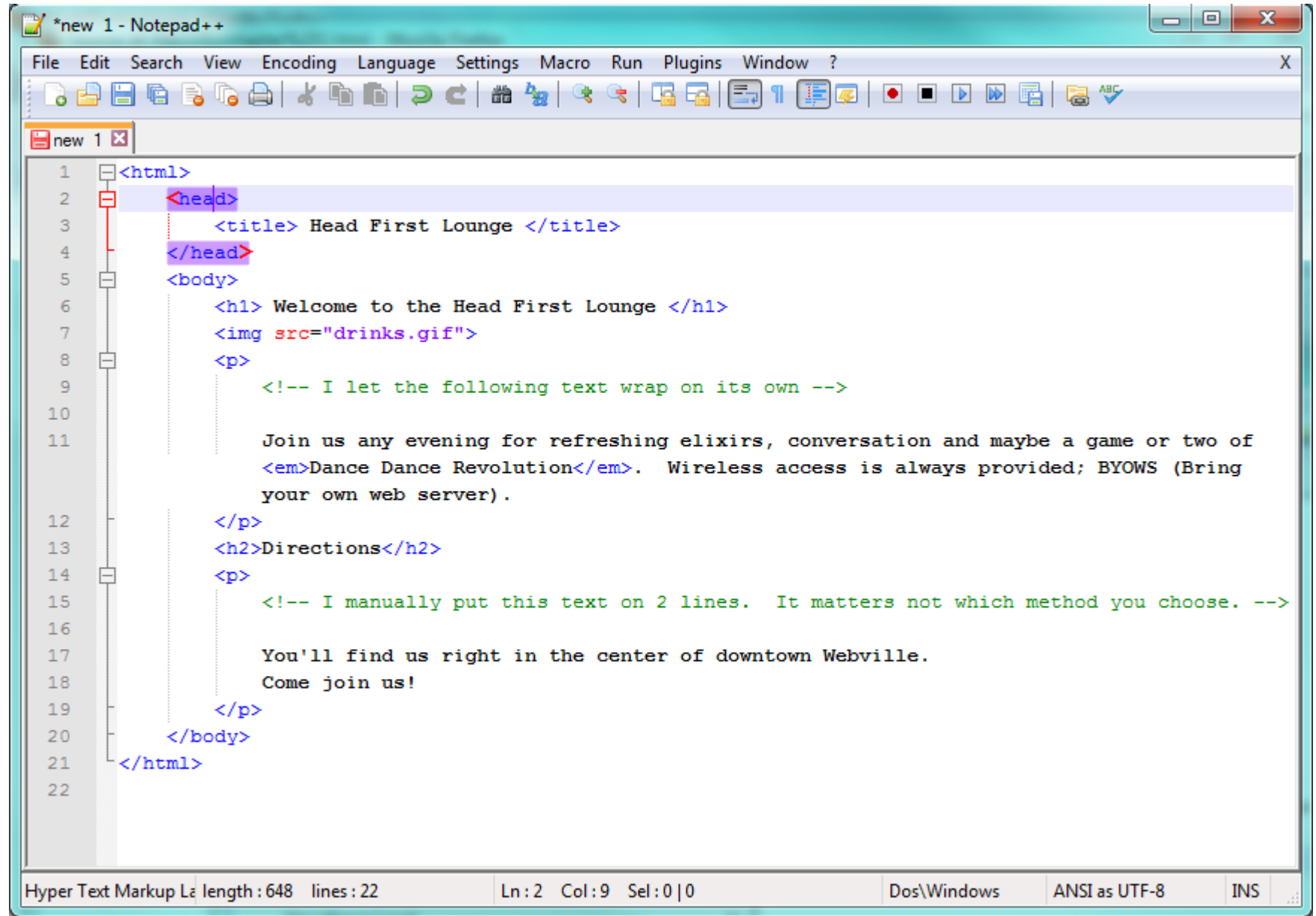# Creating an HTML file (Windows)

Here's an example of the HTML we looked at earlier, as it would appear in Notepad++.

Notice how the tags, attributes, comments, and links are in different colors.

If you click on one tag, it's closing tag is highlighted.

Also notice the markings for opening and closing tags.

If you click on the "-", you can collapse the entire element, which is helpful with large files.