

WebTools Update



What's New in WebTools

- <http://www.webtools.ca.gov/>
- New color scheme and branding
- New left column
 - Popular Links*
 - Related Websites*
- Main navigation
 - New links under "Home" tab*
 - New tabs: Downloads, Search Service*
- What's New container
- Local search

GOVERNOR
SCHWARZENEGGER[Visit his Website](#)

Popular Links

- [State Template V1.2 \(zip\)](#)
- [Template Design](#)
- [Color Schemes](#)
- [Site Search Documentation](#)
- [10 Accessibility Tips](#)
- [10 Usability Tips](#)

Related Websites

- [Internet Development Forum](#)
- [Webmaster User Group Events](#)
- [California eServices](#)
- [Department of Technology Services](#)
- [State Chief Information Officer](#)

What's New?

- [What do you think of our new format? Send us your feedback.](#)
- [Check the new Downloads section \(includes State Template, plus Extras\)](#)
- [Check our new section on DTS site **search service** documentation](#)
- [Curious about the CA logo?](#)

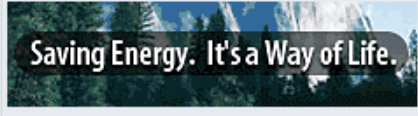


What is WebTools?

WebTools is an online resource for California State agency webmasters that will help support the efforts of implementing new standards and look and feel into the agency website. Specifically, WebTools provides necessary tools, resources and implementation guidelines for the Webmasters to implement the state standards for usability, accessibility and separation of presentation.

The structure of WebTools is designed to approach solutions from multiple angles and from a variety of user perspectives. Webmasters can follow the phased approach (Web Development) where they will be provided general step-by-step information throughout the development lifecycle or they can find information and resources by specific category and topic.

Flex Your Power Website



Saving Energy. It's a Way of Life.

AMBER ALERT: Save a Child



Where is...

- **Plan, Design, Build, Maintain a Site?**
Moved from left column into its own tab called:
Web Development
- **Web Topics & Resources?**
Moved to related section. Example:
Resources >> Accessibility, changed to:
Accessibility >> Related Websites
- **Templates and CSS, changed to:**
Using Templates

Web Development in 4 Phases

1. Planning the Website:

Before you embark on the task of building a new website or migrating an existing site into a new design, take a little time to plan your project a bit. Time spent planning will only make the project move along faster, with fewer unexpected or unanticipated problems. When you migrate an existing site into a new design you have the perfect opportunity to rethink your existing site's strategies and review its content. Many, if not all of the principles discussed in the following page(s) are as relevant to an existing site migration as they are to a brand new site build out.

2. Designing the Website:

Often times, the design process does not follow a sequential order. Many design decisions and actions are done in conjunction with other website planning and building decisions. Through the art of design, a website comes to life and takes the presentation of content to another plain. Design sets the mood for the website and is a powerful tool in providing a good user experience.

3. Building the Website:

Now that you have planned and designed your site, you will be able to draw information and elements from these steps to begin building what you have conceived. This section of the process is more of a step by step approach since it involves using the template packages from this website to technically implement the CA.GOV design.

4. Maintaining the Website:

Due to the nature of the Internet, a website is never really done. Maintenance is a critical stage because a well maintained website reflects the dedication of the webmaster and the other stakeholders to the quality of the content. Remember, your website is only as good as the content you present and maintain. Websites need constant attention and grooming, particularly if multiple individuals share responsibility for updating content.

Maintenance requires some planning with focus on schedules and resources – even if the resource is a team of one. Many webmasters juggle multiple projects and task, thus it is critical to plan for maintenance to ensure the quality of the site is kept up.

Design Resources Online

Articles on Design

- [Back to the User: Creating User-Focused Websites](#) - This article at WDWL covers how to think like users with your site design. Learn how to integrate web design, content, and navigation with branding and marketing as well.
- [Cross Browser and Cross Platform Issues](#) - This article outlines what to keep in mind with your website design and development. Covers differences in gamma, default character width size, liquid pages, screen variations, cross-browser differences, browser support for various graphics formats, and accessibility.
- [Design Choices Can Cripple a Website](#) - "...just pause for a moment and think of all the design choices you have made over the last year, and the reasons why you made them. And think about the huge impact those choices might have had on the performance of the sites you worked on.
- [Home Page Goals](#) - "...home pages are anxiety-inducing for companies. The home page is your first impression. And like the old saying goes, you only get one chance. So home pages themselves have a unique set of design goals."
- [Web Standards... it's not easy... but it's worth it](#) - Good insight about the advantages and disadvantages of web standards, including what it all means, why it matters, a section on tables vs. CSS-p, Netscape 4 issues.
- [Wireframe your site](#) - Wireframing reduces the chance of problems arising later in the development process. A wireframe is a simple, non-graphical view of the space allocation and navigation structure of a site.
- [The Principles of Design](#) - This article By Joshua David McClurg-Genevese provides good insight on general design principles including Gestalt theory.

Books on Design

- [Deliver First Class Websites: 101 Essential Checklists](#), by Shirley Kaiser. While the entire book is packed with helpful checklists and explanations, examples, and references to help with designing web sites, several chapters are specifically devoted to various aspects of design for websites.
- [Designing Web Graphics](#), by Lynda Weinman. This glossy, color book is loaded with tips on preparing graphics for the web. Learn how to create great web graphics the easy way.
- [Web Style Guide: Basic Design Principles for Creating Websites, Second Edition](#), by Patrick J. Lynch, Sarah Horton. This best-selling book contains easy-to-understand theory and philosophy on designing, building, and implementing a website, along with helpful illustrations and

New Sections

- **Downloads**
 - Template package
 - Extra modules
- **Search Service**
 - Documentation
 - Related websites

[Home](#) → [Downloads](#) → **default hidden**

Downloads

The recommendations adopted by the CA Portal Review Board on June 16, 2006 and the CA Portal Steering Committee on July 14, 2006 should be used for planning new and redesigned state websites. For more information view our section on [Standards for State Websites](#).

→ [State Template Package V1.20](#)

Extras

In order to incorporate any of the modules below you will need to [upgrade your site code to version 1.20](#) first.

→ [Breadcrumb Navigation](#) (standard and dynamic)

→ [Tab Panel Module](#)

→ [Rounded Corners Container](#)

→ [CA Logo](#)

→ [State Template Checklist](#) (pdf)

Archives

→ [State Template V1.0](#) (zip)

→ [Using the Web Template Presentation](#) (ppt)

[Home](#) → **Search Service**

Site Search Service

The Department of Technology Services (DTS), in cooperation with the California eServices Office, is offering all State of California departments a no-cost web site search service utilizing the DTS Google Search Appliance (GSA) architecture. Service delivery is based on a Tiered service model; some tiers do require a setup cost, an on-going monthly cost or both.

1. Tier 1: no cost
2. Tier 2: no cost
3. Tier 3: one-time setup charge of \$150.00
4. Tier 4: <<not currently available>>
5. Tier 5: one-time setup charge of \$150.00 plus \$150.00 per month. (\$1800.00 per year)

Charges are based on the current DTS consulting rates.

The tiered service model is fully described in the document [DTS Site Search Service](#) (pdf).

To initiate service delivery, call the DTS Service Desk at (916) 464-4311 and request "DTS Site Search Service". Assign the service ticket to "Internet Services". Indicate which level of service you want and convey your contact information. DTS Search personnel will contact you. Even if you are a Tier 1 customer, please open a Service Ticket so we can notify you in the event changes to our system might cause services outages.

Best Practices to Improve Search Relevancy:

- [Use a Robots.txt file and the Robots meta-tag](#) (from RobotsTxt.org)
- [Writing for Search Engines](#) - Help content providers prepare documents for publication
- [Separate Content from Presentation](#)
- Make your sites easy to navigate
- [Use the HTML Heading H1-H6 tags](#)
- Interlink (or cross-link) from other sites
- Validate all HTML content

State Template V1.20

- Instructions for:

First time users

Upgrade



State Template Package

- View samples of the [1-Column](#), [2-Column](#) and [3-Column](#) layout options.
- View the [10 Color Schemes in action](#) (click "view sample template")

The California website design relies on the package of files in the download below to achieve the proper look and feel. The files within the download allow you to begin developing your own website. All of the files necessary to reproduce any of the ten approved color schemes are included within the package. Options for one or two-level navigation and one, two or three column content layout are included.

- [Download State Template Package](#) - V1.20 (zip)
 - [Instructions on How to Use the State Template - For first time users.](#)
 - [Instructions on Upgrading to Version 1.20](#)

State Template Package Contents:

- CAtemplate.html (master template)
- CSS folder (17 css files)
- Images folder (12 folders)
- JavaScript folder (3 files)
- SSI folder (4 files)

Upgrading to V1.20

- 1. DOWNLOAD** State Template Package V1.20
Save into a new folder
- 2. JAVASCRIPT:** "navigation.js" and "department.js"
Copy and paste both files – Replace
(compare code if you had made changes)
- 3. CSS:** Open "css" folder
Copy all files except for "ca_department.css"
Paste into your website's "css" folder

Upgrading to V1.20

4. IMAGES

- **Copy the "images\ca_master" folder**

Paste into your images folder

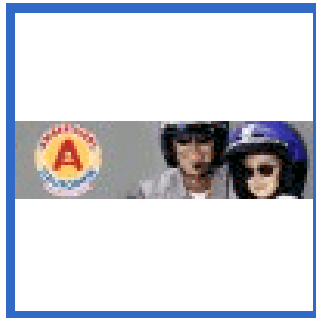
Replace V1.0 "images\ca_master"

No animated gifs

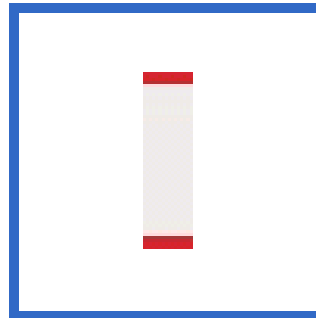
Two options for the governor's banner

Amber alert images are required for the new amber alert

fluid module.



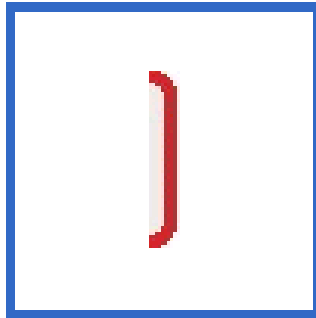
amber_alert.gif



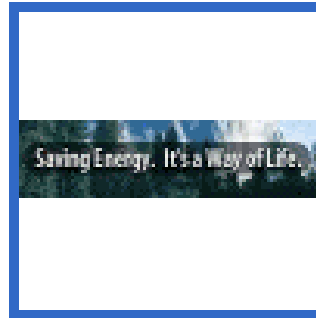
amber_alert_on_back...



amber_alert_on_left.gif



amber_alert_on_right.gif



flex_your_power.gif



gov.jpg



gov_grey.jpg



search_bg.gif



search_button.gif



Upgrading to V1.20

5. MASTER TEMPLATE

- Three sections have been updated in CAtemplate.html v1.20

1. Line 30 in V1.0 (empty)

Add department.js (see screenshot of V1.20 below)

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="javascript/department.js"></script>
```

```
30 <!-- ***** -->
31 <!-- Begin Javascript -->
32
33 <script type="text/javascript" src="javascript/navigation.js"></script>
34
35 <script type="text/javascript" src="javascript/department.js"></script>
36
37
38 <!-- ***** -->
```

Upgrading to V1.20

5. MASTER TEMPLATE

- Three sections have been updated in CAtemplate.html v1.20

2. Fix IE bug - Switch order of </div> and comment, lines 116-117 in V1.0

```
<!-- End content -->
</div>
```

Should be </div> before comment - See screenshot of V1.20 below

```
</div>
<!-- End content -->
```

```
122         <div class="left_column_top">
123             <!-- Put content here -->
124             <h3>Left Column Top</h3>
125         </div>
126         <!-- End content -->
127         <!-- End Column Top -->
128
129         <!-- Begin Column Bottom -->
130         <div class="column_inner">
```

Upgrading to V1.20

5. MASTER TEMPLATE

- Three sections have been updated in CAtemplate.html v1.20

```
160
161      <!-- ***** Middle column begins ***** -->
162      <div id="middle_column">
163          <div class="column_inner">
164
165
166          <!-- ***** -->
167          <!-- Begin Amber Alert - Uncomment to turn on -->
168          <!--
169              <div id="amber_alert_on">
170                  <span id="amber_alert_on_left"></span>
171                  <span id="amber_alert_on_right"></span>
172                  <p><strong>Amber Alert is on</strong><br /><a
173          href="http://www.chp.ca.gov/html/amber-en.html">Please visit CHP's website for more information</a></p>
174              </div>
175          -->
176          <!-- End Amber Alert -->
177          <!-- ***** -->
178
179      <!-- ***** -->
180      <!-- Begin Middle Column Content - Put your primary page content here -->
```