

Text Editor Recommendations

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For several of the classes I teach, you need to create text files. This includes programming files, HTML files, CSS files, and configuration files.

To edit such files, we expect you to use a text editor, not a WYSIWYG editor.

Text editors are different from word processors. Word processors are designed to make documents. Text editors only edit text. They do not handle margins and fonts and bold and italic and underline.

Text editors just handle simple characters. But they also do very helpful things like syntax highlighting and checking.

1 Microsoft Windows

If you are using a Microsoft Windows operating system, we recommend the text editor named **Notepad++** which you can find free on the Internet.

<http://notepad-plus-plus.org/> is the homepage for Notepad Plus Plus. It is free. It runs on Microsoft Windows.

2 Apple Mac OS X

If you are using an Apple operating system, we recommend **TextWrangler**.

<http://www.barebones.com/products/textwrangler/> is the homepage for TextWrangler. It is free. It runs on Mac OS X.

3 Linux

If you are using a Linux operating system, maybe Ubuntu, we recommend Sublime Text.

SciTE: free for MS and Linux, paid for OS X.

gedit: for Linux.

geany: for MS and Linux.

kate:

textmate2: free

4 Spend Money

<http://www.sublimetext.com/> is the homepage for Sublime Text. Sublime Text is available for OS X, Windows and Linux. You can evaluate it for free, but it costs money (\$59 the last I checked) for continued use.

5 Use A Word Processor Anyway

You can actually use a word processor, but if you do, be careful to save your work as plain text. Something like Libre Office (Open Office) should work fine. It's not as bad as I make it sound.

<http://www.libreoffice.org/> is the homepage for Libre Office.