How to create image maps

An image map is an image that has been divided into regions, or *hotspots*. When a visitor clicks a hotspot on your web page, an action occurs; for example, another web page opens. An example is a geographic map that links each country in the map to another page in your site or an external website containing information about that country.

Creating an image map

1. Start Adobe Dreamweaver CS5 and open the document in which you want to create an image map.

2. Make sure the Common category is selected in the Insert panel.

3. Click the down arrow on the Images button and select Image from the pop-up menu (**Figure 1**).

    The Select Image Source dialog box opens.

4. Locate an image for the image map, select it, and click OK (Windows) or Choose (Mac OS).

    The Image Tag Accessibility Attributes dialog box opens.

5. Enter alternate text for the image, and then click OK.

    The image is added to the page (**Figure 2**).

6. Select the image in the Document window. In the Property inspector, type a name for the image map in the Map text box.

    Note: Naming conventions for image maps follow the same rules as filenames: no spaces or special characters.
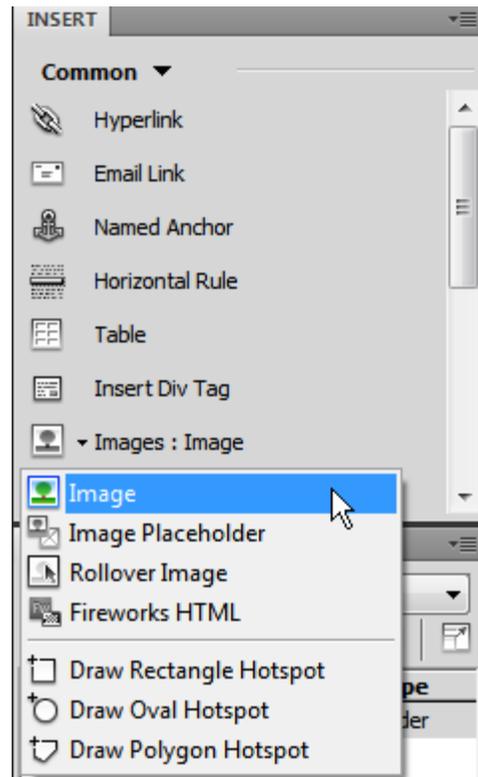

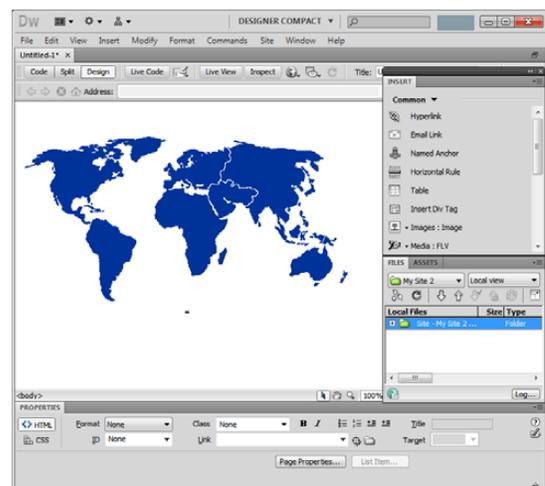**Figure 1** Images pop-up menu

Figure 2 Image inserted

7. Select one of the hotspot tools located below the Map name, and draw a rectangle, circle, or polygon around a part of the image (**Figure 3**).

    As soon as you begin drawing, you are prompted to enter an Alt tag for the hotspot.

8. Click OK, enter a descriptive name in the Alt text box in the Property inspector, and then finish drawing the hotspot.

9. After drawing your hotspot, add a link to a page in your site or to an external URL (**Figure 4**).

10. Repeat steps 7–9 to add other hotspots in the image map.

11. Save the page.

12. Select File > Preview In Browser and select a browser from the submenu to preview the page and test each link.
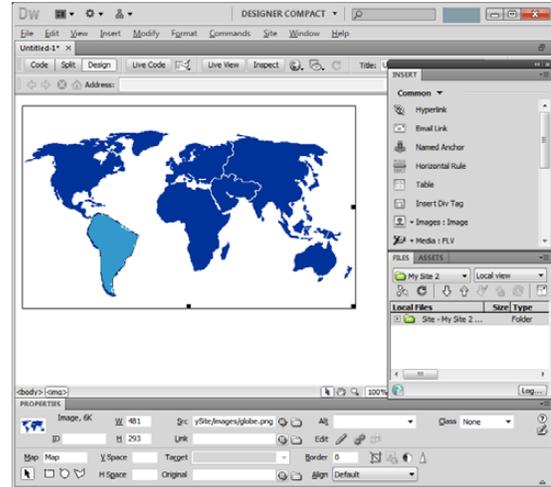

Figure 3 Image map

Figure 4 Hotspot Property inspector