

Create a Multi-level Menu

Objective

Learn how to use Menukit to create a hierarchical menu with more than one level of submenus.

1. Create a single level menu.

Follow the instructions in the 'Simple Menu' tutorial to create a single-level menu with 12 menu items on a page named index.htm. Do not create the page stubs yet.

Using 'index.htm' as the active page, open Menukit.

NOTE We want Menukit to create a set of page stubs in step 5 but it will only create stubs for missing pages.

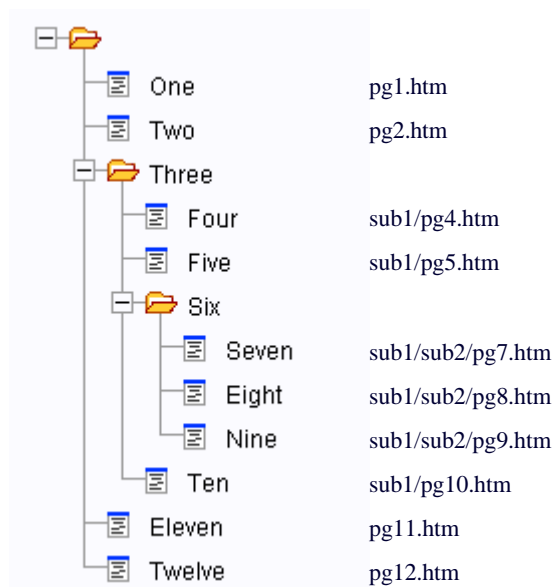
If you want to use the same site as the previous tutorial you can simply delete the page stubs that were generated...
... or you can unpack these files from chkpt1.zip in the [support files](#).

2. Required menu structure.

The diagram below shows the shape of the structure we want. It consists of a main menu with two nested submenus.

Note. To make the diagram we just took a screenshot of a Menukit Explorer menu that clearly shows the required hierachical structure.

We decided to organise a similar directory structure for the site files.



It is not necessary to make the directory structure the same as the menu structure. We did it just to make it easier to remember where our pages are stored.

Required menu structure


The diagram shows page pathnames opposite the menu items that link to them.

The first level directory is named 'sub1' and the second level directory, nested within it, is named 'sub2'.

3. Create the structure.

Click the 'Structure' tab to bring it forward.

First, we will make items Seven, Eight and Nine a submenu of item Six...

...while holding down the Shift key, click item Seven and then item Nine. With these 3 items selected, click the Indent button .

See how these items are now shown as a submenu of item Six in the Treeview.

Hold down the Shift key and click item Four and then item Ten (selecting 7 items altogether). Click the indent button.

That's all it takes. We have finished creating the required structure.

The Treeview in the Structure tab should now look like this:

Label	Link	Target	Alt
One	pg1.htm		Page One
Two	pg2.htm		Page Two
Three	pg3.htm		Page Three
Four	pg4.htm		Page Four
Five	pg5.htm		Page Five
Six	pg6.htm		Page Six
Seven	pg7.htm		Page Seven
Eight	pg8.htm		Page Eight
Nine	pg9.htm		Page Nine
Ten	pg10.htm		Page Ten
Eleven	pg11.htm		Page Eleven
Twelve	pg12.htm		Page Twelve

You can open/close a submenu in the Treeview at any time by clicking on the icon to the left of its parent.

4. Update the links.

If you followed the instructions in the 'Simple Menu' tutorial then the links are pg1.htm, pg2.htm, etc. We need to change these links to reflect the new directory structure as shown in the diagram above.

Hold down the Shift key and click on item Three and then on item Ten. You should now have the 8 items Three through Ten selected.

Click  to open a new multi-edit window.

Change the link for item Four from 'pg4.htm' to 'sub1/pg4.htm'.

Update the remaining links to reflect the directory structure in the diagram above. i.e. the pages for items Four, Five and Ten have a path 'sub1/'.

Items Seven, Eight and Nine have the path 'sub1/sub2/'.

Click OK to return to the Structure Tab.

Notice how the links on items Three and Six are removed in the edit window. Parent items open/close submenus and do not link to pages.

The Treeview in the Structure tab should now look like this:

Label	Link	Target	Alt
One	pg1.htm		Page One
Two	pg2.htm		Page Two
Three			Page Three
Four	sub1/pg4.htm		Page Four
Five	sub1/pg5.htm		Page Five
Six			Page Six
Seven	sub1/sub2/pg7.htm		Page Seven
Eight	sub1/sub2/pg8.htm		Page Eight
Nine	sub1/sub2/pg9.htm		Page Nine
Ten	sub1/pg10.htm		Page Ten
Eleven	pg11.htm		Page Eleven
Twelve	pg12.htm		Page Twelve

5. Create Page Stubs.

Click the Menu tab. Place a tick in the 'Create page stubs' checkbox.

Save and exit Menukit.

At this stage your site files should look like the contents of `chkpt2.zip` which you can find in the [support files](#).

Menukit generates 12 new pages as well as the folders `sub1` and `sub2`. Save all open files and upload the site to your server and test.

Note that these are only basic page stubs and they do not contain the menu. If you use the menu to load any of them you will need to use the 'Back' button on your browser to get back to the `index.htm` page.

In the next tutorial, "Import a Menu", we'll see **one way** that we could use Menukit to copy the menu from page `index.htm` onto each of the page stubs so that we end up with a self-contained navigable website.

Later, in the Templates tutorials, we'll look at **a much better way** of doing this using a Dreamweaver template.