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Official Netscape Navigator Book

Netscape Navigator Gold 3.0

WINDOWS EDITION

BOOK



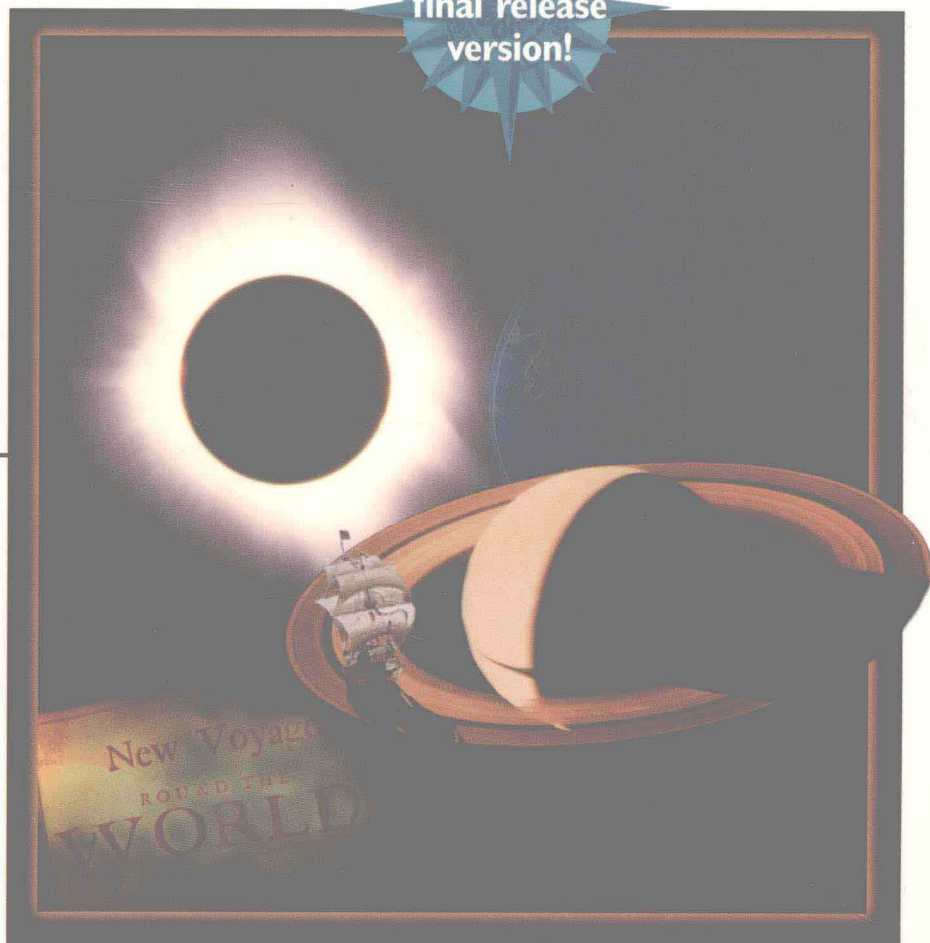
The official guide to the
premiere Web navigator
and HTML editor

- Navigate the Net
- Create Web pages with ease
- Communicate with the world

Bestselling Author
ALAN SIMPSON



Based on
final release
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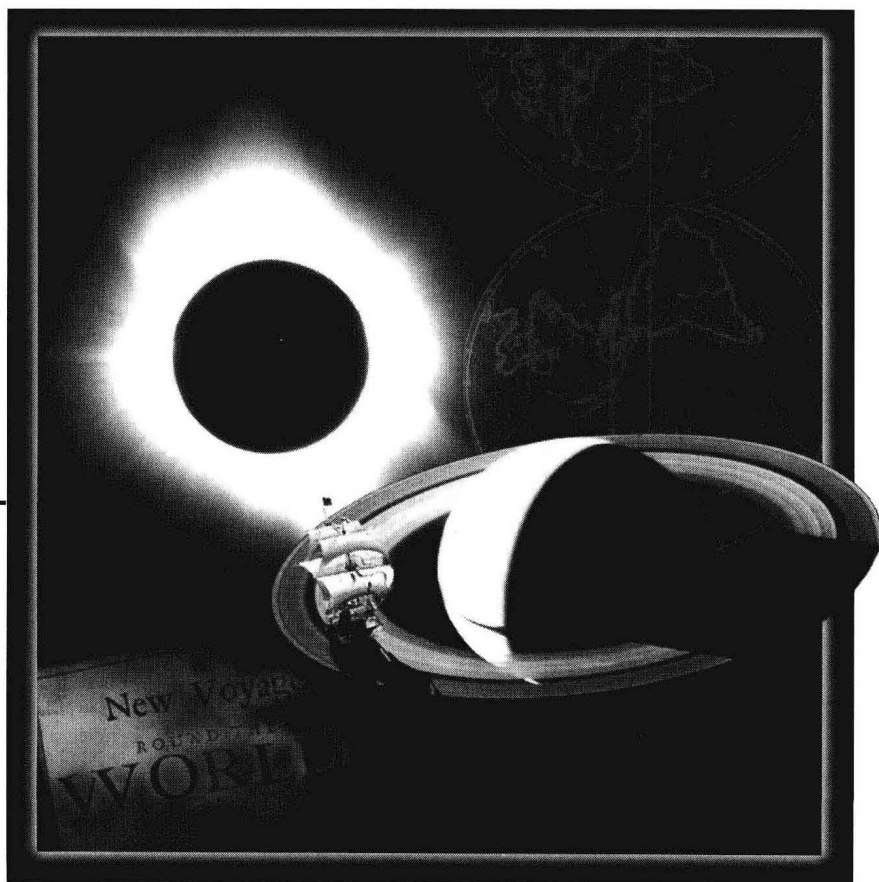
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The official guide to the
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ALAN SIMPSON



Official Netscape Navigator Gold 3.0 Book, Windows Edition
The official guide to the premiere Web navigator and HTML editor
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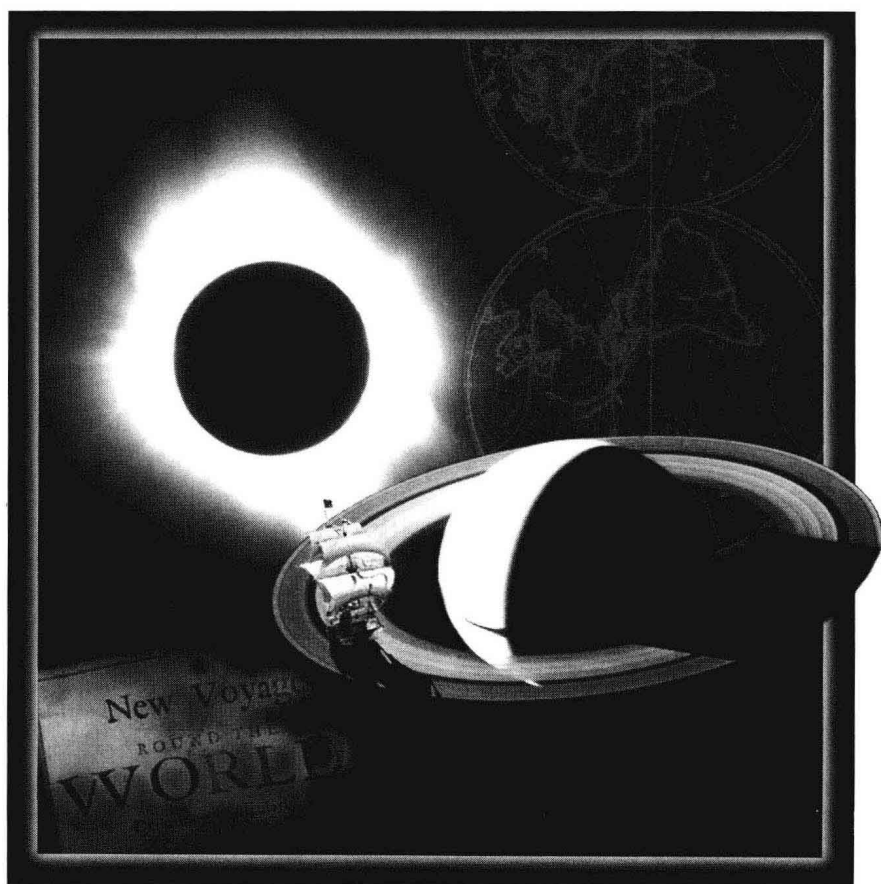
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Netscape Navigator Gold 3.0

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BOOK



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DEDICATION

To my gang: Susan, Ashley, Alec, Tigger, Clifford, Tracker, and Lana.

Introduction

When I first dipped into cyberspace a couple of years ago, everything was a hassle. Getting online was a hassle. After I was online I had to learn to use half a dozen different programs to access my e-mail, the World Wide Web, newsgroups, FTP, and all the rest. Getting a presence on the Web was even harder. It took forever to become fluent in HTML. And even when I gained a certain fluency, developing pages was a tedious, time-consuming process. Then *getting* those pages published on the Web—well, I don't even want to *think* about what a hassle that turned out to be.

Now, a mere two years later, that has all changed. A couple of mouse clicks and I'm online. Another couple of mouse clicks and I have instant access to my e-mail, the World Wide Web, newsgroups, FTP sites—the works. All from within one simple, intuitive Web browser.

Authoring and publishing on the World Wide Web is simple, too. Little or no HTML is required there anymore. I just design the page as I would a word processing document and let the computer worry about putting in all the appropriate tags. And publishing? Piece of cake. A couple of mouse clicks and those pages are available worldwide.

And the real miracle is that all of this capability is available from one simple-to-use program—Netscape Navigator Gold 3.0. Wow! And just for good measure, version 3.0 of Gold also gives me immediate access to multimedia Web sites, 3D Virtual Worlds, and a toll-free long-distance conference call system with voice, chat, and drawing board capability. It's all like some kind of dream come true.

WHAT THIS BOOK IS ABOUT

As you probably know, this book is about Netscape Navigator Gold, version 3.0, the world's most popular Web browser. Well, actually, the term *Web browser* hardly seems appropriate anymore, because Navigator gives you access to virtually *all* the Internet services. I suppose we should call Navigator an Internet browser, now.

What's the "Gold" about? What makes Gold different from the non-Gold Navigator is this: Gold provides an intuitive WYSIWYG editor for creating Web pages without HTML. And a simple button for posting those complete pages to the World Wide Web without all the usual headaches.

WHO SHOULD READ THIS BOOK

Given the fact that you've chosen the Gold version of Navigator rather than the non-Gold version, I'm assuming that you're interested in publishing on the World Wide Web. Maybe you're just looking to put up a personal Web page. Maybe you want to promote a business. Perhaps you want to set up a virtual storefront and actually conduct a worldwide business on the Web. Regardless of what kind of presence you're looking to create, I'm sure you'll find this book helpful. I've dedicated at least two thirds of the book to business and to Web authoring and publishing.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Here's what you need to know before you can use this book effectively:

- You should already know Windows 95 basics, such as how to open and close programs, and what folders and files are all about.
- You should know that the Internet exists and basically what it's about.

WHAT YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW

Things you *don't* need to know to use this book:

- You *don't* need to know anything about the Internet, other than the fact that it exists and you'd like to be a part of it.
- You *don't* need to know anything about Unix, HTML, programming, modems, or other "technical stuff."
- You *don't* even need to know how to get online. We know there are many newbies out there and we've got ya covered.

WHERE TO START

It's hard to write a single book that will cater to Internet "newbies" (people who have never been online), as well as to Internet gurus. But I've tried to organize the information such that you gurus (and aspiring gurus) could hop right in at Chapter 1. The newbies can do a quick catch-up to the gurus using some other, isolated chapters. Here's where I would recommend you start reading in this book based on your current Internet experience level:

- **If you have never been on the Internet** the first thing you want is access to the Net. After you skim the rest of this Introduction I suggest you go straight to Chapter 30, "Getting Online (for Newbies)." If necessary, use Chapter 31, "Windows 95 Tweaking & Troubleshooting" to work out any problems you have getting online. Then come back and start at Chapter 1.
- **If you are already comfortable cruising the Internet and World Wide Web** just finish the rest of this brief Introduction and start at Chapter 1.



HOW THIS BOOK IS ORGANIZED

This book is divided into several parts, with each part further divided into several chapters. There's no need to read the book cover-to-cover. You can pretty much hop in and out of parts and chapters to learn just what you want, or need, to learn at the moment. The parts are organized like this:

- **Part I: *Being Online*:** For those of you who are experienced with earlier versions of Netscape Navigator, this section provides a quick ramp-up to Gold 3.0's hottest new features, including multimedia and browsing 3D virtual worlds. Perhaps more important, this part of the book quickly takes you from being a Web "spectator" to being a Web author/publisher/businessperson.
- **Part II: *Creating Custom Web Sites*:** Right into the thick of it, this section teaches you just about everything you need to know to create cool Web pages in Netscape Navigator Gold. You can even add multimedia capabilities to your site. No prior experience required.
- **Part III: *Power Publishing*:** For the truly hard-core, this part of the book takes you beyond "basic" Web publishing and shows you how to jazz up your Web site with better graphics, clickable image maps, frames, and JavaScript.
- **Part IV: *Getting Down to Business*:** Here's where you can take your newfound Web publishing expertise from a hobby to a business. Learn about all the new ways in which the Internet supports secure financial transactions, create forms for interacting with customers and prospects, and promote your site to drum up business.
- **Part V: *More Golden Internet Services*:** As I said, Navigator is no longer just a Web browser—it's an Internet browser. And here's where you'll learn to use Navigator for toll-free long distance (CoolTalk), e-mail, newsgroups, FTP, Gopher, and Telnet. Advanced Web capabilities supported by Navigator—such as plug-ins, Java support, and LiveConnect—are covered here as well.

- **Part VI: This 'n' That, Technical Stuff:** Odds and ends are covered here, including getting online for you newbies, Windows 95 tweaking and troubleshooting, and personalizing Netscape Navigator.
- **Part VII: Appendices:** Take a look at the appendices for more useful information! Appendix A describes *Navigate!*, the official electronic publication of Netscape Press. Appendix B details the contents of the Companion CD-ROM. Appendix C gives important directions for installing Netscape Navigator Gold. Appendix D lists the special and foreign characters supported by Navigator. Appendix E identifies color names and triplets and Appendix F identifies all JavaScript's reserved words in a list for easy reference.

ABOUT THE CD-ROM

The CD-ROM that comes with this book offers many invaluable tools that will sharpen your Web authoring skills and help you make better, more compelling Web sites. See Appendix B for the whole enchilada, as well as installation instructions for the various programs.

LET ME KNOW...

I'm always open to suggestions and appreciate any feedback from readers that lets me know what I'm doing right and where I can make improvements. You can contact me at any of the following addresses and numbers:

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Thank you for buying this book. I hope it serves you well.

Alan Simpson



PART I:

Being Online

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