

Getting Started with MX Coder Pack

version 1.0





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1 Overview

In the **Getting Started with MX Coder Pack** tutorial, you will learn how to use the **MX Coder Pack** extension to improve you programming times in **Dreamweaver MX**.

The screenshots inserted in this tutorial are done in PHP, but they are very explanatory even if you code using other language.

2 About This Software

MX Coder Pack is a **Dreamweaver MX** extension that allows you to code faster thanks to its intelligent code completion and function list features.

MX Coder Pack works independently of the programming language. To keep up with the latest **MX Coder Pack** information, visit:

<http://www.interaktonline.com/Products/Dreamweaver-Extensions/MXCoderPack/>

3 Requirements

- ◆ **MX Coder Pack** works only on **Dreamweaver MX 2004** but with all its supported server models.
- ◆ **MX Coder Pack** works on both Windows and MAC.

4 Audience

MX Coder Pack addresses to **Dreamweaver MX 2004 programmers**, and not designers.

5 What's Inside?

The installation kit includes the **MXCoderPack-[version].mxp** file for installation, the Readme file, a PDF **Getting Started with MX Coder Pack** tutorial and a copy of the ownership license.

6 Installing MX Coder Pack

The installation procedure for **MX Coder Pack** is very simple.

1. In your installation kit, first open the **MX Coder Pack** folder.
2. Once inside the folder, you will find a **MXCoderPack-[version].mxd** file.
3. Double click on this file. The Macromedia Extension Manager will automatically begin installing the extension.
4. A Macromedia disclaimer will appear. If you agree to the terms click the “Accept” button.

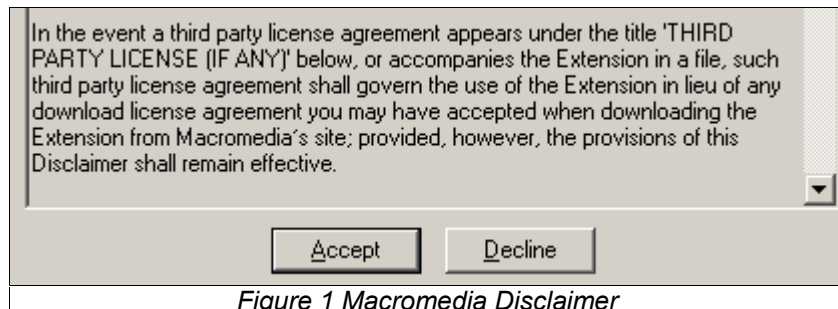


Figure 1 Macromedia Disclaimer

5. When the Extension Manager finishes installing (usually just a few seconds), a dialog box will appear notifying you that the installation is complete.

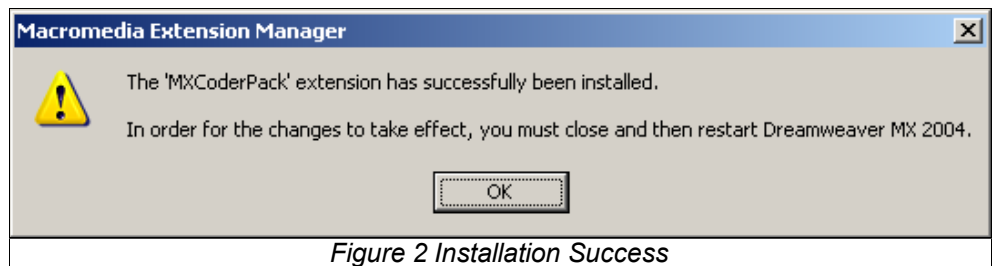


Figure 2 Installation Success

6. If you have Macromedia Dreamweaver open, you must close it then reopen it for the **MX Coder Pack** elements to appear.

7 Uninstalling MX Coder Pack

To uninstall **MX Coder Pack** you must :

1. Open the **Macromedia Extensions Manager**.
2. In the Extensions Manager, select **MX Coder Pack**.

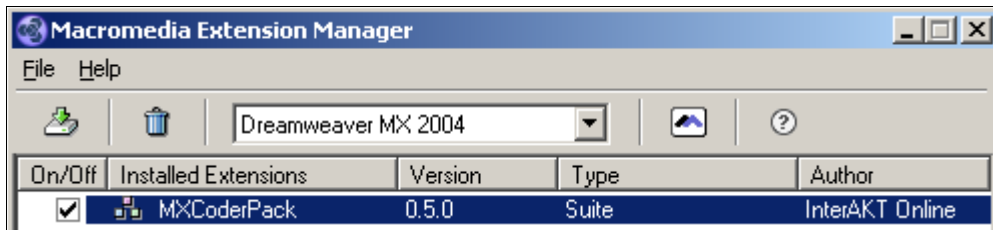


Figure 3 Macromedia Extension Manager

3. Click the **Remove Extension** icon (garbage can).

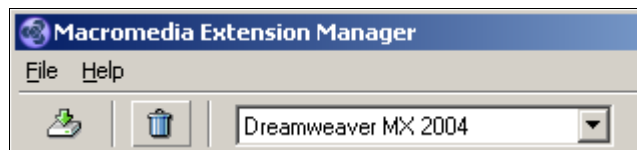


Figure 4 Remove extension icon

4. After selecting to remove the extension, a dialog box appears asking you to confirm the removal. Click **Yes**.

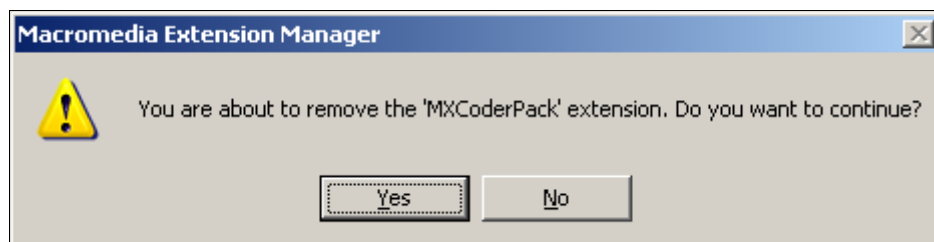


Figure 5 Confirmation window

5. Once you confirm, a window will appear displaying the removal progress.

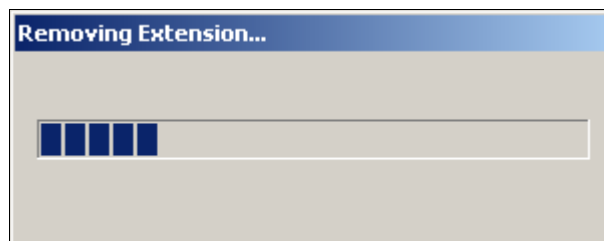


Figure 6 Removal progress

6. When the Extension Manager finishes uninstalling, a dialog box will appear to notify you that the removal is complete.

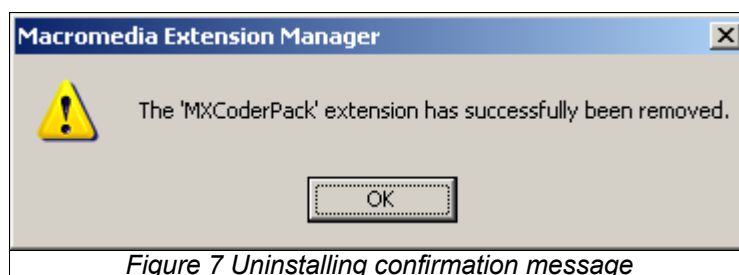


Figure 7 Uninstalling confirmation message

7. If you have Macromedia Dreamweaver open, you must close it then reopen it for the **MX Coder Pack** elements to be completely removed.

8 Exploring MX Coder Pack

In this section, you will begin to explore the **MX Coder Pack** workspace, and learn how to use its functionalities.

8.1 Workspace Orientation

There are three areas where **MX Coder Pack** elements appear. The first is in the **Window** menu > **Display Functions List Floater**:

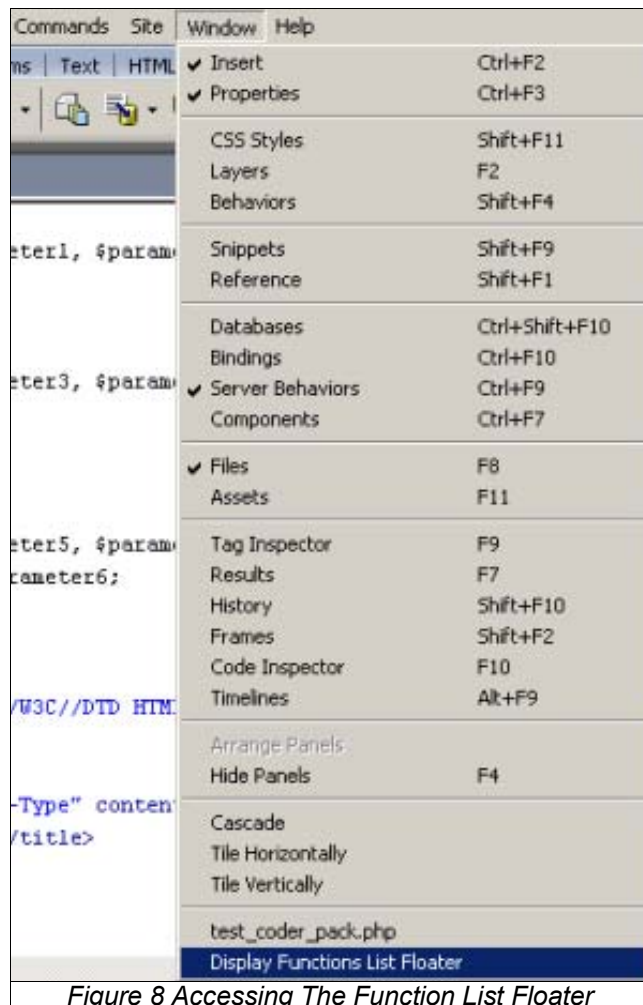


Figure 8 Accessing The Function List Floater

The second area to find other **MX Coder Pack** elements is in the **Document** toolbar displayed by accessing the **View** menu > **Toolbars** option. The **MX Coder Pack** element is called **Code navigation** and it might seem familiar to you because it was a Dreamweaver MX 6 feature, but it was removed from Dreamweaver MX 2004. We inserted it back and now it displays the list of defined functions.

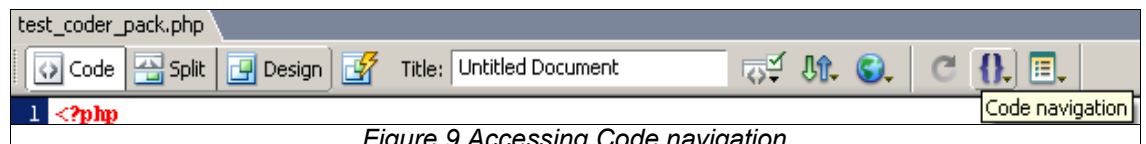


Figure 9 Accessing Code navigation

Finally, you can access the third element by pressing ***Ctrl + Space*** in your page (***Code View***).

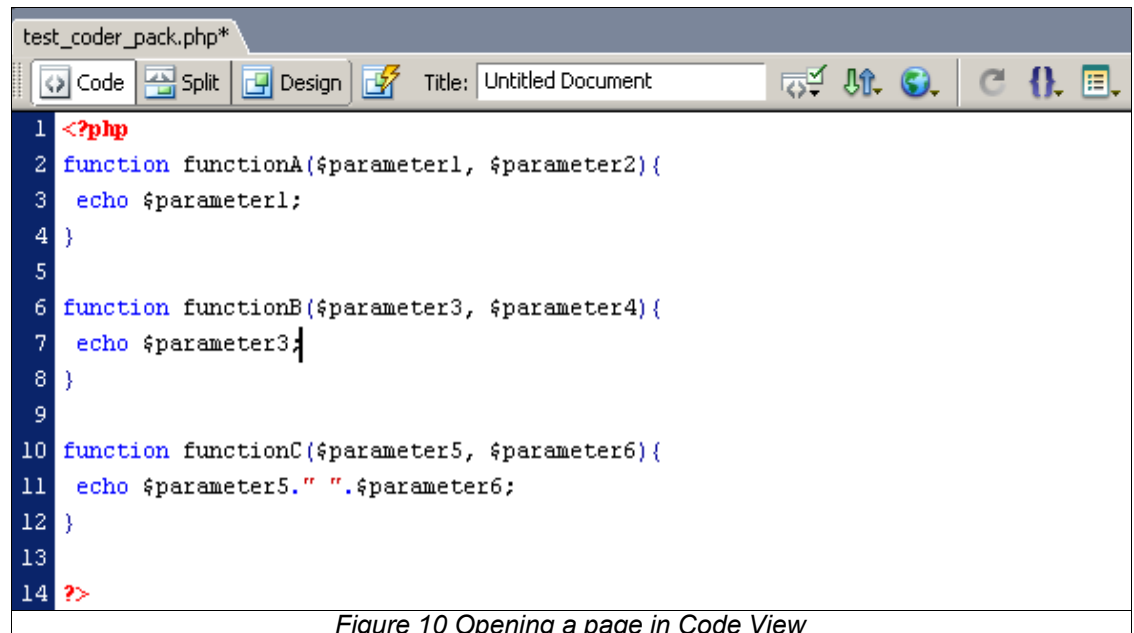
For more information about the **MX Coder Pack** elements, please refer to the **Using MX Coder Pack** section further in this tutorial.

9 Using MX Coder Pack

Let's see how you can use **MX Coder Pack**.

9.1 Displaying the Defined Function List

Open in *Code View* a page where you have some functions defined:



```
test_coder_pack.php*
Code Split Design Title: Untitled Document
1 <?php
2 function functionA($parameter1, $parameter2){
3     echo $parameter1;
4 }
5
6 function functionB($parameter3, $parameter4){
7     echo $parameter3;
8 }
9
10 function functionC($parameter5, $parameter6){
11     echo $parameter5." ".$parameter6;
12 }
13
14 ?>
```

Figure 10 Opening a page in Code View

Display the **Function List** from the **Window** menu > **Display Functions List Floater**:

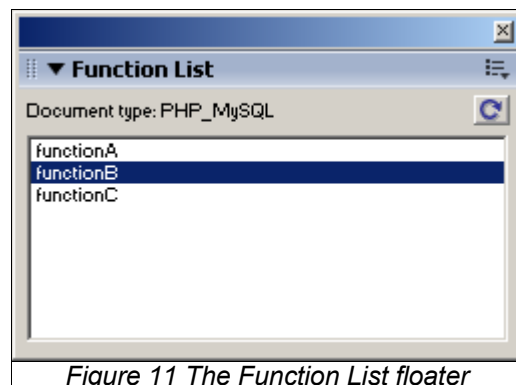


Figure 11 The Function List floater

All the functions defined in the page will be displayed in the floater and you will be able to easily jump to a certain function definition simply by clicking on the corresponding function name.

```

<?php
function functionA($parameter1, $parameter2){
    echo $parameter1;
}

function functionB($parameter3, $parameter4){
    echo $parameter3;
}

function functionC($parameter5, $parameter6){
    echo $parameter5." ".$parameter6;
}

?>

```

Figure 12 Highlighting the selected function

As you can see, the function you've selected from the **Function List** floater is highlighted in the page.

9.1.1 Docking the Function List Floater

You can dock the floater to the **Code** panel for example. Simply click on the button placed far right and choose **Group Function List with > Code**.

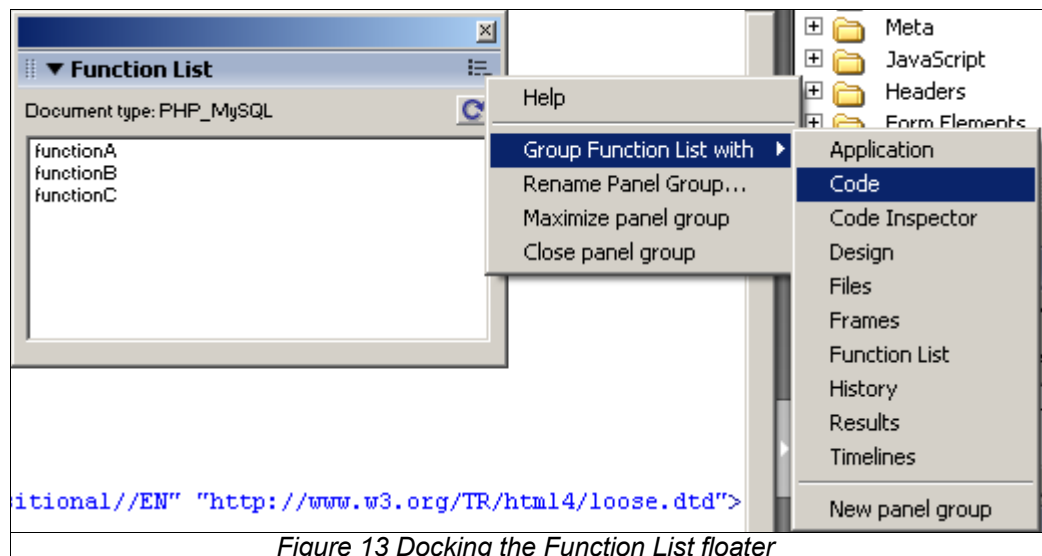


Figure 13 Docking the Function List floater

The **Function List** will be inserted as a tab in the **Code** panel:

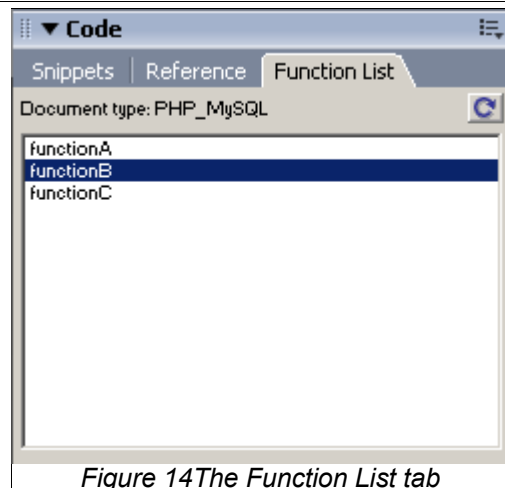


Figure 14 The Function List tab

9.2 Using the Code Navigation Feature

The same feature (as the one fulfilled by the **Function List** floater) is available from the **Code navigation** button.

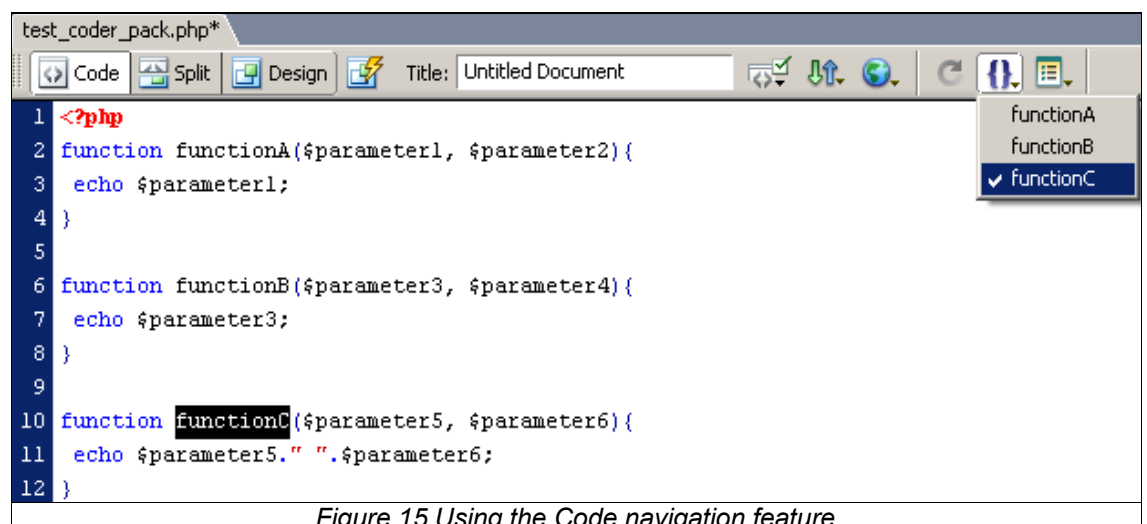


Figure 15 Using the Code navigation feature

9.3 Using the Code Hints Menu

Next, let's see the code completion capability. Type `echo $` and then press the **Control + Spacebar** keys. A code hints menu appears with all the parameters defined in the page:

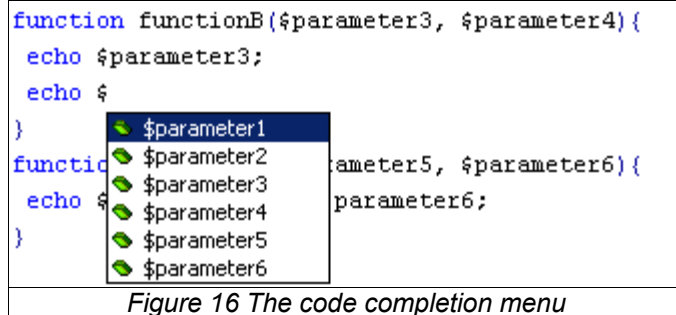


Figure 16 The code completion menu

If no piece of code has been written or if no matches have been found, the default **Dreamweaver** code hints menu will appear:

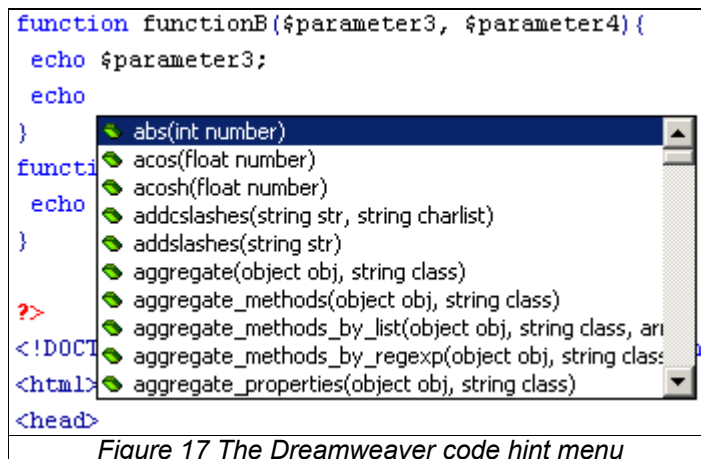


Figure 17 The Dreamweaver code hint menu

It's as simple as that!

10 Conclusion

We hope that by following this tutorial, you are now convinced that by using **MX Coder Pack** you will save a lot of programming time.



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