Testing Your Targets

It's vitally important, more so than with almost any other kind of Web page, that you test every link on your frames-based pages. You need to make sure that the links open where you think you told them to open. Targets can be tricky—they don't need to be difficult, but they absolutely must be done correctly if you don't want to drive your visitors away for good. **Figure 13.64** shows the evil recursive frame problem: A link to the entire frameset was accidentally targeted to open in one of the frames.
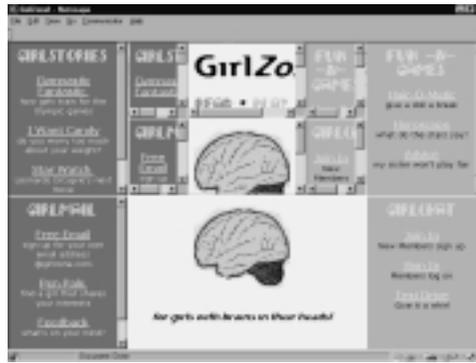
Figure 13.64 A misplaced target can be ugly, at best. Here, we see a recursive frameset—a link to the entire frameset was accidentally targeted to open in the top, center frame.
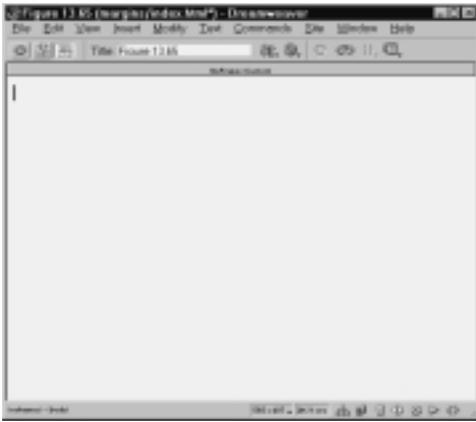
Figure 13.65 From the Document window menu bar, select Modify > Frameset > Edit No Frames Content, and the Document window will display the blank no-frames page.
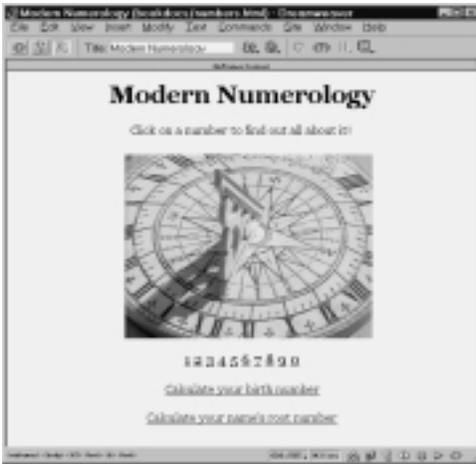
Figure 13.66 With very little effort, I created a no-frames page that includes all the same links as the frameset page. To appease very old browsers, I also avoided frills like tables, background images, and image maps. See Appendix C on the book's Web site for more details.

Creating No-Frames Content

Not everyone who visits your site will have a frames-capable browser. Although most people are using some version or other of Netscape Navigator or Internet Explorer, not everyone is. See Appendix C on the Web site for the details. The point is that if you don't offer your non-frames visitors something, they won't see anything at all.

At the very least, you need to leave a message that says something like, "This site requires a frames-capable browser, such as Netscape Navigator 2 or later, or Internet Explorer 3 or later." Providing links to a site where they can download this software is also a good idea.

But even that is shortchanging your guests, in a way. Without much work at all, you can give them a fully functional page that will connect them with much of the same information.

To create a no-frames page from scratch:

1. To view the no-frames page, from the Document window menu bar, select Modify > Frameset > Edit No Frames Content. The Document window will display the blank no-frames page (**Figure 13.65**).

2. You can edit this page, including page properties such as background color, the same way you would when creating a page from scratch.

 or

 Select the contents of an existing page, and copy and paste into the no-frames page.

Figure 13.66 shows the no-frames page we created as the alternative to the frames-based page shown in **Figures 13.62** and **13.63**.

To return to the frames view, just select Modify > Frameset > Edit No Frames Content again.

To use existing code in a no-frames page:

1. In the HTML inspector or your favorite code editor, open the HTML or text for the page you want to use.

2. Select all the code between (and including) the `<body>` and `</body>` tags, and copy it to the clipboard.

3. In the Dreamweaver Document window, view the no-frames page by selecting Modify > Frameset > Edit No Frames Content from the menu bar. The Document window will display the no-frames page.

4. View the HTML for this page—which is really just part of the frameset document. The empty no-frames code should look like this:

```
<noframes><body bgcolor="#FFFFFF">
</body></noframes>
```

5. Select everything between the `<noframes>` and `</noframes>` tags, and delete it.

6. Paste in the HTML from the code you copied in step 2. You should get something like this:

```
<noframes>
<body bgcolor="#000000">
This is all the neat content that's
on my frames page, including <A
HREF="links.html">links</A> and
everything!
</body>
</noframes>
```

7. Save the changes to your HTML, and close the HTML inspector. The page you pasted in will show up in the No Frames Content window.


No-Frames Tips

Check to make sure that:

◆ You don't include any `<html>` or `</html>` tags within the `<noframes>` tags.

◆ You include one, and only one set of `<body>` and `</body>` tags between the `<noframes>` tags.

When you preview no-frames content in your regular browser, it won't show up. Why? Because your regular browser is probably frames-capable, and it will load the frames-based page instead—they are the same document, after all.

See Appendix C, on the Web site, for information about getting and using a non-frames browser for previewing your documents.
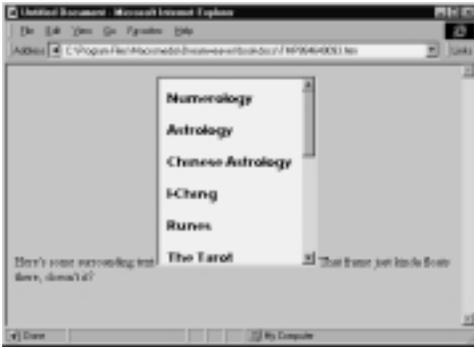
Figure 13.67 The inline frame is a particular feature of Internet Explorer—you'll need to experiment with the IFRAME attributes quite a bit to figure out how they work.

Inline Frames

Internet Explorer (IE) has introduced a proprietary tag called <IFRAME> to make frames appear within a page (**Figure 13.67**). This technique, called inline frames or floating frames, only works with Internet Explorer version 3 or later.

To use inline frames:

1. With the appropriate page open in the Document window, view the HTML code by selecting Window > HTML from the Document window menu bar.

2. Insert the following code

```
<IFRAME SRC="float.html">
</IFRAME>
```

where "float.html" is replaced by the URL for the content you want to appear in the floating frame.

3. Type or paste some no-iframes content between the two tags, such as "To view this page, you need IE 3 or later."

4. Press Ctrl+S (Command+S) to save the changes to the code.

You'll need to view this page in IE to see the iframe.

This is the code for the iframe in **Figure 13.67**:

```
<IFRAME name="toc" src="toctoc.html"
frameborder=1 height="80%" width=200
scrolling=yes align=center, bottom>
You must use Internet Explorer to view
the inline frames on this page, but you
can get the same content <a
href="toctoc.html">here</a>.
</IFRAME>
```

✔ Tip

■ You can create the same visual effect by using borderless frames in combination with scrollbar options, and the page will be viewable by many more visitors.

Other IFRAME Attributes

You can adjust the appearance and behavior of an IFRAME by using these other attributes within an IFRAME tag. You should recognize most of these attributes from this and other chapters. As always, the pipe (|) means "or."

```
name="name"
align=top|middle|bottom|left|right|
  center
```

(Pick two, as in align="top, center".)

This has more to do with the relationship between the frame and the other content than with the position of the frame.

```
frameborder=1|0 (1=yes, 0=no)
height=x|"x%"
width=x|"x%"
marginheight=x
marginwidth=x
scrolling=yes|no|auto
```

335