

## Paths

When *linking* to an image in an HTML anchor tag `<a href=" " > link </a>`  
That is when you should use a **Relative** path to the file that might look like:  
“images/knoy/knoy02.jpg”

When uploading a file, deleting a file, or otherwise *manipulating any file* on the server, that is when you should use an **Absolute** path to the file. Absolute paths look like:  
“C:\inetpub\wwwroot\rjglotzbach\images\knoy\knoy02.jpg”

Or

“\\sotdev2\CG456\rjglotzbach\images\knoy\knoy02.jpg”

In some cases, you may want to use an Absolute path when you *link* to a file, as was done the first paragraph above. This would look like:

“/sotdev2/CG456/rjglotzbach/images/knoy/knoy02.jpg”

An *Absolute* path starts from the *root* directory of the file system.

A *Relative* path starts from the *directory you are currently in*.

Notice the key difference between *linking* to a file vs. when you want to use the *file system object*:

When you *link* to a file, use the forward slash /

When you *manipulate* a file, use the backward slash \

Also Notice:

- When using a *Relative* path, there is **not** a beginning slash
- When using an *Absolute* path for *linking* to a file, the absolute path begins with a slash /
- When using an *Absolute* path for *manipulating* a file and there is a drive letter, the absolute path begins with the drive letter, like C:\
- When using an *Absolute* path for *manipulating* a file and there is no drive letter, the absolute path begins with two backward slashes \\  
Two backward slashes \\ signify the root of the file system.