

# **Javascript email addresses**

By Cal Henderson

If you'd like your readers to be able to contact you, then the simplest method is to provide a mailto: link. This, unfortunately, can leave you open to spammers who trawl the web, hunting for addresses. You can get round this using a quick bit of javascript. Instead of the usual:

```
<a href="mailto:user@domain.com">
```

You can use javascript to visually split the address on the page, fooling the spammers:

```
<a href="Javascript:window.location.href='mailto:user@'+domain.com';">
```

The only downside here is that you break mail links for people who don't have javascript. But don't worry, you can cater for them too:

```
<a href="mailto:user AT domain.com"
onclick="window.location.href='mailto:user@'+domain.com'; return false;">
```

Users with javascript will get the proper email address, and users without will get a purposely broken one, which they can fix themselves.

To make it completely compliant, you can also deal with users who aren't using a mouse but do have javascript capable browsers by hooking the onkeypress event and treating it as a click:

```
<a href="mailto:user AT domain.com"
onclick="window.location.href='mailto:user@'+domain.com'; return false;"
onkeypress="return this.onclick();">
```

*(end of article)*