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- [Templates](#)

[iWeb Tip #18 – Facebook and Twitter](#) [iWeb Tip #20 – Redirect Pages in iWeb](#)

[iWeb Tip #19 – Shadowbox in iWeb](#)

On August 22, 2009, in [iWeb Tips](#), by iJason



So I know that I have done 3 other tips similar to this one (Fancyzoom, Highslide, and Lytebox) and I thought I was done posting tips about the fancy popup realm, but when I found this effect I just had to post it. This in my opinion is the mother of all popup effects. Why? Because it supports so many formats natively to it. You can do, of course image, but it can also do swf's, html, flv's, YouTube, mov (Quicktime), even wmv (windows media), and more. It's fantastic and works pretty much just like the other effects. So if you have done my other fancy popup tutorials than you will kindof already understand how this one works. But here goes the tutorial on how to do it.

[View Demo of Shadowbox in iWeb »](#)

Step 1) Make a page in iWeb and add links to your media in one of the following ways:

- **Images:** Drop an image on your page and enable as a hyperlink from the hyperlink inspector and link to “a file” and choose the same image (preferably a higher res version of the photo, at least 800 x 600).
- **SWF's (Flash Files):** Drop an image to represent the swf (could be an image, a shape,

text, you could even launch your swf and do a screen capture (command + shift + 4) and drag over it to get an image to add in.) Basically just get something that will be clickable that we can link to the swf. After adding that image or whatever enable it as a hyperlink and link to the swf file itself.

- **HTML:** Simply enable as a hyperlink your image, shape, text to an external page.
- **FLVs (Flash Video):** Same as the swf, get/make a graphical representation of the video (an image, shape, or text) and enable it as a hyperlink and link to “A File” and choose the .flv file.
- **QuickTime:** Same as the FLV and SWF. Get/make a graphical representation of the video (an image, shape, or text) and enable it as a hyperlink and link to “A File” and choose the .mov file.
- **WMV (Windows Media Video):** Same as the FLV,SWF, and MOV. Get/make a graphical representation of the video (an image, shape, or text) and enable it as a hyperlink and link to “A File” and choose the .wmv file.
- **YouTube:** Get/make a graphical representation of the video (an image, shape, or text) and enable it as a hyperlink and link to an external page. Copy the you tube URL from you tube and paste it in URL field in iWeb hyper link inspector. Then here your going to do one more step. You need to alter the URL just slightly. Your YouTube video code will look like something like this: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qKiIm5EcQ7A> you need to alter it so it looks like this: <http://www.youtube.com/v/qKiIm5EcQ7A>, basically you delete the “watch?”, put a slash after the v, and get rid of the “=” sign. If you don’t do this your YouTube video for this effect won’t work. So this is an important step for you YouTube users.
- This effect works with many other video services like **Vimeo, Google Video, Yahoo Video, etc.** For those sites you don’t need to alter the code like the YouTube, simply make a graphical representation for them and link them to an external page with the URL of the video in it.

Step 2) Publish your iWeb file to a folder, MobileMe, or FTP

Step 3) Download the Shadowbox .zip file by clicking the download link at the top of this page or click [here](#) ».

Step 4) Unzip the shadowbox.zip file (if your mac didn’t unzip it for you), and drop the folder called “shadowbox” into your site folder. Not your page folder, your site folder. You want the shadowbox folder to be right next to your html page.

Step 5) Open your html page (the one with your hyperlinks of course) with an HTML editor. I prefer to use Coda, but again you could use an array of other ones out there (Espresso, TextWrangler, Even TextEdit)(if you use text edit be sure to check the checkbox in the textedit prefs that says ignore rich text commands in html files).

Step 6) Add this code before the </head> tag of your HTML page:

```
<!-- Start of Shadowbox Code -->
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="shadowbox/shadowbox.css">
<script type="text/javascript" src="shadowbox/shadowbox.js"></script>
<script type="text/javascript">
Shadowbox.init({
  players:    ['img', 'html', 'iframe', 'qt', 'wmp', 'swf', 'flv']
```

```
});
</script>

<!-- End of Shadowbox Code -->
```

OR you could also just do a find and replace by finding:

```
</head>
```

and replace with

```
<!-- Start of Shadowbox Code -->

<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="shadowbox/shadowbox.css">

<script type="text/javascript" src="shadowbox/shadowbox.js"></script>

<script type="text/javascript">
Shadowbox.init({
players:    ['img', 'html', 'iframe', 'qt', 'wmp', 'swf', 'flv']
});
</script>

<!-- End of Shadowbox Code -->

</head>
```

Where it says players, go ahead and delete any/all the players that you don't need. So for example if your not linking to an swf flash file, delete the 'swf', code.

Step 7) Find your hyperlinks that we created in iWeb in the html code here and add a

```
rel="shadowbox"
```

to your **image links** so it looks like this

```
<a href="myimage.jpg" rel="shadowbox" title="Whatup">My Image</a>
```

An easy way to find your links is to do a search for "title", then you can spot the link code and put the rel="shadowbox" right before the title tag.

For your **video links** you need to add a width and height dimension to it, so for all flv, swf, mov, wmv, html, and youtube like links you'll need to add this code instead:

```
rel="shadowbox;width=640;height=480"
```

Just adjust the dimension to match your swf, webpage, or video. Here's an example for a quicktime video.

```
<a href="mymovie.mov" rel="shadowbox;width=480;height=640" title="My Movie">My
Movie</a>
```

You can also **group items** to together in a slideshow like way by adding a grouping text to all the shadowbox code you add to the links. Here's what it would look like:

```
rel="shadowbox[Group]"
```

Just be sure to add that [Group] to all the links you want to be connected. You can have 2 or more separate groupings by just making a different text group like [Group2], and add it to the other ones you want to group.

For **YouTube videos** you have to use this code:

```
rel="shadowbox;width=425;height=344;player=swf"
```

Same principle goes with adjusting the width and height for your YouTube video. So your YouTube link would look something like this:

```
<a href="http://www.youtube.com/v/qKiIm5EcQ7A"
rel="shadowbox;width=425;height=344;player=swf" title="YouTube Video">.

**Note:** Shadowbox can be used for free for non-commercial websites. If you are going to use it for commercial purposes you must purchase a license. You can do that by visiting their website at [www.shadowbox-js.com](http://www.shadowbox-js.com). Also included with the iWeb version of shadowbox that I have made is a JW FLV Player. It also can be used for free for non-commercial websites. If you use the JW FLV Player to play flv files for commercial purposes you must purchase a license. You can do that by visiting <https://www.longtailvideo.com/players/order2>.

**\*\*Also note that this effect cannot be used with links using a shape or text box. Link only a true graphic (jpg, png, gif, etc) or link the text itself.**

I know it can get a bit complex getting into the code, especially if you've never really dealt with html code much before. But just take it slow and go step by step and you'll get it. If you mess up, just go back to iWeb and republish and you can start over. I think this is the best of the popup effects cause it deals with all media formats so easily. So I hope you enjoyed the tip and if you feel like this helped you in some way consider donating to the iWeb cause. The more donations I get the more time I'll put into making more tips like this.

Thanks for visiting iWebUnlimited.com

—iJason

If you enjoyed this article, please consider sharing it!



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## 47 Responses to “iWeb Tip #19 – Shadowbox in iWeb”

1.  [Patrick](#) says:

[July 8, 2010 at 9:51 pm](#)

This works great! I had no problems getting this to work but my Youtube Videos don't play automatically. Anyway to make this happen and also any way to make them play in HD automatically.

Thanks  
patrick

[Reply](#)

2.  [Stephanie](#) says:

[July 13, 2010 at 2:07 am](#)

I cannot seem to get this to work using a vimeo vid. It starts to open the shadowbox, but then just opens the whole vimeo web page instead (as in redirects from my website & opens the vimeo site/page). Any ideas?

[Reply](#)

3.  [ifurlo](#) says:

[July 26, 2010 at 8:54 am](#)

Hello, very nice site!  
I have a question: if I wanted to open a link in a iframe how can I do?

[Reply](#)

4.  [JT](#) says:

[August 3, 2010 at 8:27 pm](#)

when I use this code Before the pic pops up the word Cancel appears then the photo  
its very strange  
Any suggestions?

[Reply](#)

5.  [Martin](#) says:

[August 29, 2010 at 10:00 am](#)

Hi have the same prob as Stephanie. I think I made all the correct changes but the link just goes to a full page of the video clip. Thanks.

[Reply](#)

6.  [Laura](#) says:

[August 31, 2010 at 3:51 pm](#)

I have a question regarding group images. I would like my group to consist of images that are not all visible on the page. Eg: you click on an image of a table and the group that comes up consists of 4 table views that were not visible on the page.

Also is there a way to specify the display order of group images or is it based solely on the order of the code?

Any thoughts would be greatly appreciated!

[Reply](#)



7. *Justin* says:

[September 7, 2010 at 3:57 pm](#)

Anybody figure out how to get rollovers working with a shadow box link. I've been futzing with the code for a couple hours to no avail.

[Reply](#)



8. *BigTimeProductions* says:

[September 11, 2010 at 5:28 pm](#)

It doesn't work. When I click on the image it just downloads the flv instead of playing it. Any ideas?

[Reply](#)



9. *purvs* says:

[October 1, 2010 at 11:24 am](#)

Is there anyway to hide the title?

[Reply](#)



10. *Nic* says:

[October 10, 2010 at 12:07 pm](#)

Hey! Yes there is a way to hide the title: Go to the folder /shadowbox and open shadowbox.css.

Search for “#sb-title-inner” (without the “”) and adjust it to 0px so that it looks like this:  
`#sb-title-inner{height:0px;}`

When done, save and quit the file, and replace the one on your (MobileMe?) Server.

If you don't believe me: I have a titleless shadowbox as login prompt, try it on m1.x05.ch.vu, and click on “asuuge”.

[Reply](#)



11. *Nic* says:

[October 10, 2010 at 12:07 pm](#)

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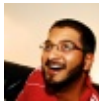
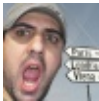

- A tease of my next iWeb Tip [#25](#) Image Slider - coming soon:  
[http://iwebunlimited.com/examples/pikachoose\\_slider.html](http://iwebunlimited.com/examples/pikachoose_slider.html)
- Today's iWeb update also polishes comments and search for blogs and podcasts. It's a whoppin' 177.14MB!
- iWeb updated to 3.0.2 today. Resolves some issues with MobileMe.





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