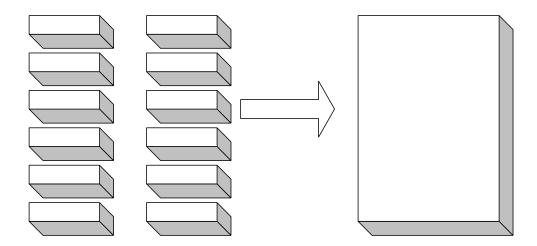
Let Users Print or Save the Entire Document at Once, to Avoid Reading Any More On-screen



BACKGROUND

Our host has filled many notebooks with the sayings of our fathers as they came down to us. This is the way of his people; they put great store upon writing; always there is a paper.

-Four Guns

Archive the printer-friendly version

If you have a lot of little chunks making up a long document, offer people a separate page containing the whole document, formatted just for printing. That way, users can save and print without having to jump through dozens of links to see individual portions of the document.

Most users will save long documents to disk or print them rather than read extensive material online. (Lynch and Horton, 1997)

If the document is long, and built as a linear sequence, its natural medium is paper. You are just delivering that document to the user's printer.

Long, linear-text documents really belong back on paper. Your web site is just an archive for them. (Kilian, 1999)

See: IBM (1999), Kilian (1999), Levine (1997), Lynch & Horton (1997).

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