About “Help Book”

- the key document is:

http://developer.apple.com/documentation/Carbon/Conceptual/ProvidingUserAssitAppleHelp/user_help_intro/chapter_1_section_1.html
“Help Book” Features

• searchable

• integrated Web repository of search result pages

• interactive ways of linking to app
“Help Book” structure

- HTML / XHTML (+ CSS, JavaScript, whatever)
- can `<embed>` QuickTime resources
- absolute http:// URLs can be shown in user’s browser or in help window
  - for the latter, target `_helpViewer`
Required extras

- AppleTitle <meta> tag in main page
  - content = title in help window menu
- AppleIcon <meta> tag in main page
  - 16x16 png for help window menu
  - content = relative url starting at and including help book folder
- index! use Help Indexer app on folder
Optional extras

• link to search results page using “help:” protocol

• link to page by anchor name

• autogenerated list of links via anchor

• link to run AppleScript (will demo this)

Indexer Hints

• **KEYWORDS** `<meta>` tag: search terms to supplement or replace page contents

• **ROBOTS** `<meta>` tag: indexing policy, e.g. don’t index, use **KEYWORDS** only

• `<title>` tag: search result for this page

• **description** `<meta>` tag: tooltip over search result for this page (NB!)
Linkages From App

- **AHGoToPage** function lets developer open specific help page
- developer may provide list of interface elements (windows, Help contextual menus) and ask for corresponding appropriate page
- **AHSearch** function lets developer open specific search result page
Add Folder to Project (1)

- developer probably will do this, but you still may want to know how to test
- index!
- in info.plist, set:
  - `CFBundleHelpBookFolder = folder name`
  - `CFBundleHelpBookName = AppleTitle value`
Add Folder to Project (2)

- ctrl-click Resources > Add > Existing Files, choose Help Book folder

- in dialog, check Copy, specify second option (Folder References)

- Build and Run the app! choose Help menu; should work!