

HTML Basics

Four Essential HTML <tag>s

- **<html>**
This tag tells your browser that this is the start of an HTML document. And, it must be paired with **</html>**. Or, we sometimes say, “close the tag with the slash(“/”).”
- **<head>**
The text between the **<head>** and **</head>** tag is header information. Header information is not displayed in the browser window.
- **<title>**
The text between the **<title>** and **</title>** tags is the title of your document. The title is displayed in your browser’s caption.
- **<body>**
The text between the **<body>** tags is the text that will be displayed in your browser.

Simple Website Development Tool

On a PC (Windows), use Notepad.

On a Mac (OSX), use TextWrangler.

Then, type the following text:

```
<html>
<head>
<title> Title of the Page </title>
</head>
<body>
This is my page. Welcome.
</body>
</html>
```

Save the file as “**index.html**”

Then, open the file using your web browser.

File Extension: HTM or HTML?

- When you save an HTML file, you can use either the .htm or the .html extension. We have used .htm in our examples. It might be a bad habit inherited from the past when some of the commonly used software only allowed three letter extensions.
- With newer software, it will be safe to use .html

Why do We Use Lowercase Tags?

- HTML tags are not case sensitive: **** means the same as ****. When you surf the Web, you will notice that most tutorials use uppercase HTML tags in their examples. We always use lowercase tags. Why?
- If you want to prepare yourself for the next generations of HTML, you should start using lowercase tags. The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) recommends lowercase tags in their HTML 4 recommendation, and XHTML (the next generation HTML) requires that you use lowercase tags.

Tag Attributes

- Tags can have attributes. Attributes can provide additional information about the HTML elements on your page.
- Attributes always come in name/value like this: **name="value"** – for example: **<div id="header">** or **<ul class="nav">**
- Some tags have attributes; some don't. Some have attributes by default—for example: **** or ****
- Attributes are always added to the start tag of an HTML element.

HTML Tags

HTML Basic Document

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Document name goes here</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    Visible text goes here
  </body>
</html>
```

Heading Elements

```
<h1>Largest Heading</h1>
<h2> ... </h2>
<h3> ... </h3>
<h4> ... </h4>
<h5> ... </h5>
<h6>Smallest Heading</h6>
```

Text Elements

```
<p>This is a paragraph</p>
<cite>John Adams</cite>
<code>This renders as computer code.</code>
<abbr>Abbreviation</abbr>
```

Empty elements

```
<br /> (line break)
<hr /> (horizontal rule)
```

Images

```
  

```

Links

```
<a href="http://www.example.com/">Link text</a>  
<a href="http://www.example.com/">  </a>  
<a href="mailto:webmaster@example.com">Send e-mail</a>
```

A named anchor link

```
<a id="tips">Useful Tips Section</a>  
<a href="#tips">Jump to the Useful Tips Section</a>
```

Unordered list (bullets)

```
<ul>  
  <li>First item</li>  
  <li>Second item</li>  
  <li>Third item</li>  
</ul>
```

Ordered list (numbered)

```
<ol>  
  <li>First item</li>  
  <li>Second item</li>  
  <li>Third item</li>  
</ol>
```

Tables

```
<table>  
  <thead>  
    <th>table header text</th>  
    <th>table header text</th>  
  </thead>  
  <tr>  
    <td>table data text</td>  
    <td>table data text</td>  
  </tr>  
  <tr>  
    <td>table data text</td>  
    <td>table data text</td>  
  </tr>  
  <tfoot>  
    <th>table header text</th>  
    <th>table header text</th>  
  </tfoot>  
</table>
```

Quotes

`<blockquote>`

Text quoted from some source that is of some length. The default format will indent the whole block of text.

`</blockquote>`

`<q>`This is an inline quote for a special term or word.`</q>`

Generic elements

`<div>`

some content here (of any type)

`</div>`

``

some content (inline content like text)

``

*Divs are block level elements; spans are inline level elements.

Comments

`<!-- This is a comment in HTML -->`

*Comments do not render in the web browser. Use to leave notes in your HTML.