**Chapter 06: Tables**

1. There are several types of information that need to be displayed in a grid or table.
2. For example: sports results, stock reports, train timetables.
3. When representing information in a table, you need to think in terms of a grid made up of rows and columns (a bit like a spreadsheet).
4. In this chapter you will learn how to:
   1. Use the four key elements for creating tables
   2. Represent complex data using tables
   3. Add captions to tables
5. A table represents information in a grid format. Examples of tables include financial reports, TV schedules, and sports results.
6. Grids allow us to understand complex data by referencing information on two axes.
7. Each block in the grid is referred to as a table cell. In HTML a table is written out row by row.
8. The <table> element is used to create a table. The contents of the table are written out row by row.
9. You indicate the start of each row using the opening <tr> tag. (The tr stands for table row.)
10. It is followed by one or more <td> elements (one for each cell in that row).
11. At the end of the row you use a closing </tr> tag.
12. Each cell of a table is represented using a element. (The td stands for table data.)
13. At the end of each cell you use a closing tag.
14. Some browsers automatically draw lines around the table and/or the individual cells.
15. The <th> element is used just like the element but its purpose is to represent the heading for either a column or a row. (The th stands for table heading.)
16. Even if a cell has no content, you should still use a <td> or <th> element to represent the presence of an empty cell otherwise the table will not render correctly.
17. Using elements for headings helps people who use screen readers, improves the ability for search engines to index your pages, and also enables you to control the appearance of tables better when you start to use CSS.
18. You can use the scope attribute on the <th> element to indicate whether it is a heading for a column or a row.
19. It can take the values: row to indicate a heading for a row or col to indicate a heading for a column.
20. Browsers usually display the content of a element in bold and in the middle of the cell.
21. Sometimes you may need the entries in a table to stretch across more than one column.
22. The colspan attribute can be used on a <th> or <td> element and indicates how many columns that cell should run across.
23. You may also need entries in a table to stretch down across more than one row.
24. The rowspan attribute can be used on a <th> or <td> element to indicate how many rows a cell should span down the table.
25. The <thead> headings of the table should sit inside the element.
26. The <tbody> body should sit inside the element.
27. The <tfoot>footer belongs inside the element.
28. There are some outdated attributes which you should not use on new websites.
29. You may, however, come across some of them when looking at older code, so I will mention them here.
30. All of these attributes have been replaced by the use of CSS.
31. The width attribute was used on the opening <table> tag to indicate how wide that table should be and on some opening <th> and <td> tags to specify the width of individual cells.
32. The value of this attribute is the width of the table or cell in pixels.
33. The columns in a table need to form a straight line, so you often only see the width attribute on the first row (and all subsequent rows would use that setting).
34. The opening <table> tag could also use the cellpaddingattribute to add space inside each cell of the table, and the cellspacing attribute to create space between each cell of the table.
35. The values for these attributes were given in pixels.
36. The border attribute was used on both the <table> and <td>elements to indicate the width of the border in pixels.
37. The bgcolor attribute was used to indicate background colors of either the entire table or individual table cells.
38. When building a new website you should use CSS to control the appearance of the table rather than these attributes.
39. They are only covered here because you may come across them if you look at the code of older websites.
40. For long tables you can split the table into a <thead>, <tbody>,<tfoot> and