## Multiline Text Areas

The `textarea` element creates a multiline, scrollable text entry box that allows users to input extended text entries.

### textarea

```
<textarea>...</textarea>
```
    *Core* (id, class, style, title), *Internationalization,*
    *Events, plus* onselect, onchange
    *Focus* (accesskey, tabindex, onfocus, onblur)
    cols="*number*" *(Required)*
    disabled="disabled"
    name="*text*" *(Required)*
    readonly="readonly"
    rows="*number*" *(Required)*

A textarea form control and its markup are presented here (Figure 15-11).

```
<p>What did you dream last night?</p>
<textarea name="dream" rows="4" cols="45">Tell us your dream in 100 words or
less</textarea>
```
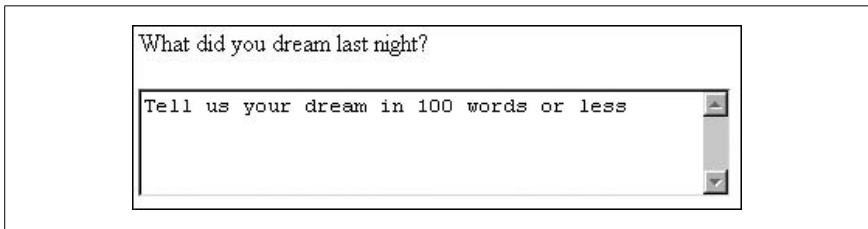


*Figure 15-11. The textarea form field*

Specify the number of lines of text the area should display using the rows attribute. The cols attribute specifies the width (measured in characters). These attributes are required. Scrollbars are provided if the user types more text than fits in the allotted space.

The text that appears within the textarea element is the initial content of the text entry window when the form is displayed. When the form is transmitted, the browser sends the text along with the name specified by the required name attribute.

## Creating Menus with the select Element

The select element creates a menu of options that is more compact than groupings of checkboxes or radio buttons. A menu displays as either a pull-down menu or as a scrolling list of choices, depending on how the size is specified. The select element works as a container for any number of option elements. It may also contain one or more optgroups, which are used to define a logical group of option elements.