

HTML Quotes: HTML Quotation Elements

Overview

The quotation tags in HTML is used to represent sentence or phrases which is not part of the original text and is usually referred from the external source. The quotation in HTML can be represented by `<blockquote>`, `<q>`, `<abbr>`, `<address>`, `<cite>`, and `<bdo>` tag.

Scope

- This article covers quotation tags in HTML.
- We will go through all the tags that are used to state quotes in HTML along with their syntax and examples.

Introduction

Remember that one section on every page of the science book that used to consist of a random fact? Or do you remember those random texts enclosed within parenthesis (usually said by Shakespeare) that we used to encounter while reading literature? These are generally known as **quotations**.

Quotations are the repetition of a sentence, phrase, or passage from speech or text that someone has said or written. These are usually different from the usual text, thus it is necessary to represent them in a separate manner.

In HTML, quotations are represented by a set of quotation tags. Following is the list of common quotation tags in HTML:

HTML `<blockquote>`

The `blockquote` tag in HTML is used to distinguish quoted text from the rest of the content. The `blockquote` tag in HTML changes the alignment of the text quoted inside to make it more noticeable than the other items. The `blockquote` tag in HTML is generally used to define a section that is quoted from some other source.

Syntax

```
<blockquote cite="addr"> ... </blockquote>
```

- The blockquote tag in HTML has both the opening and closing tags. The text/content is added in between these tags.
- The **cite** attribute in the blockquote tag in HTML can be used to refer to the source of the text or content. **It is an optional attribute.**

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-
scale=1.0">
  <title>HTML | quotation tags</title>
</head>
<body>

  <p>The definition of HTML blockquotes on Wikipedia:</p>
  <blockquote
cite="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blockquote_element">
    In HTML, XHTML and MediaWiki, the blockquote element
defines "a section [within a document] that is quoted from
another source".
  </blockquote>

</body>
</html>
```

Explanation of the Example:

In the above example, the paragraph *"In HTML, XHTML and MediaWiki, th..."* is quoted from [external reference](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blockquote_element), thus is it placed inside the blockquote tag in HTML document. The HTML has added **extra spacing** around the paragraph in order to highlight it.

HTML <q> tag

The quote tag in HTML is used to add inline quotes. The quote tag in HTML encloses the text area inside *quotation marks*. It is also known as a short quotation tag.

Syntax

```
<q> ... </q>
```

- The quote tag in HTML has both opening and closing tags. The text/content is added in between these tags.
- The **cite** attribute in the quote tag in HTML can be used to refer to the source of the text or content. **It is an optional attribute.**

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-
scale=1.0">
  <title>HTML | quotation tags</title>
</head>
<body>

  <p>Following is an example of short quotation:</p>
  <p>HTML is a <q>Markup language</q></p>

</body>
</html>
```

Explanation of the example:

In the above example, the text placed inside the quotation tag in HTML document gets wrapped inside double ticks ("").

HTML <abbr> tag

The abbreviation tag in HTML defines a text as an acronym or abbreviation. The abbreviation tag in HTML has a **title** attribute that stores the full form of the acronym. The full form can be seen by hovering over the acronym.

Syntax

```
<abbr title="abbr"> ... </abbr>
```

- The abbreviation tag in HTML has both opening and closing tags. The text is added in between these tags.
- The **title** attribute in the abbreviation tag in HTML is used to store the full form of the acronym that we are writing.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-
scale=1.0">
  <title>HTML | quotation tags</title>
</head>
<body>

  <p>The <abbr title="Hyper Text Markup Language">HTML</abbr> s
the standard markup language for documents designed to be
displayed in a web browser.</p>
  <p>It can be assisted by technologies such as Cascading
Style Sheets and scripting languages such as JavaScript.</p>

</body>
</html>
```

Explanation of the example:

In the above example, upon hovering on the text placed inside the abbreviation tag in HTML document, we can see the full form of the acronym (which is passed as a value to the *title* attribute in the <abbr> tag).

HTML <address> tag

The address tag in HTML is used to define the address in our HTML document. Upon text enclosed inside the address tag in HTML gets emphasised. **By default, the browsers add a line break before and after the address tag in HTML.** It can be used to write down an email address, URL, physical address, phone number, social media handle, or other contact information.

Syntax

```
<address> ... </address>
```

The address tag in HTML has both opening and closing tags. The text is added in between these tags.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-
scale=1.0">
  <title>HTML | quotation tags</title>
</head>
<body>

  <p> You can reach me out at following address: </p>

  <address>
    Vernon and Petunia Dursley.<br>
    4 Privet Drive<br>
    12 Picket Post Close, Bracknell<br>
    London<br>
    England
  </address>

</body>
</html>
```

Explanation of the example:

In the above example, the text within the address tag in HTML gets emphasised and an extra line is added by the HTML before displaying the address tag.

HTML <cite> tag

The cite tag in HTML is used for the citation of work. It is used to define the title of creative work like an art piece or a book or a song, video etc. The text/content enclosed within the cite tag in HTML gets emphasised by the browser.

Syntax

```
<cite> ... </cite>
```

The address tag in HTML has both opening and closing tags. The text/content is added in between these tags.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-
scale=1.0">
  <title>HTML | quotation tags</title>
</head>
<body>

  
  <p><cite>The Scream</cite> by Edvard Munch. Painted in
1893.</p>

</body>
</html>
```

Explanation of the example: In the above example, the text inside the cite tag in HTML document is referring to the **title** of the image. It is emphasised by the HTML.

HTML <bdo> tag

The bi-directional override tag in HTML is used to over-ride the current text direction. This element can be used to display the elements written from right to left or left to right.

Syntax

```
<bdo dir="rtl"> ... </bdo>
```

- The <bdo> tag in HTML has both opening and closing tags. The text is added in between these tags.
- The **dir** attribute takes the value *rtl* to display the element from right to left (or in simple words, it reverses the default direction of the text).

Note: The **default direction** of the text is from left to right.

Example

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-
scale=1.0">
  <title>HTML | quotation tags</title>
</head>
<body>

  <bdo dir="rtl">The HyperText Markup Language, or HTML is the
standard markup language for documents designed to be displayed
in a web browser.</bdo>

</body>
</html>

```

Explanation of the example: In the above example, the text within the <bdo> tag are displayed in the reverse order since the **dir** attribute is passed the value **rtl**.

Summary

- The quotation in HTML can be represented by <blockquote>, <q>, <abbr>, <address>, <cite>, and <bdo> tag.
- *The following table briefs the functions of quotation tags in HTML.*

Tag	Description
<abbr>	Defines an abbreviation or acronym
<blockquote>	Defines a section that is quoted from another source
<q>	Defines a short inline quotation
<address>	Defines the contact information for the author/owner of a document
<cite>	Defines the title of a work
<bdo>	Defines the text direction