# HEADERS AND TAGS

* An [html](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-html-element) element's [start tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-start-tag) may be omitted if the first thing inside the [html](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-html-element) element is not a [comment](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-comments).
* An [html](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-html-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [html](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-html-element) element is not immediately followed by a [comment](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-comments).
* A [head](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-head-element) element's [start tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-start-tag) may be omitted if the element is empty, or if the first thing inside the [head](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-head-element) element is an element.
* A [head](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-head-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [head](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-head-element) element is not immediately followed by a [space character](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/common-microsyntaxes.html#space-character) or a [comment](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-comments).
* A [body](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-body-element) element's [start tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-start-tag) may be omitted if the element is empty, or if the first thing inside the [body](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-body-element) element is not a [space character](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/common-microsyntaxes.html#space-character) or a [comment](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-comments), except if the first thing inside the [body](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-body-element) element is a [script](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/scripting-1.html#the-script-element) or [style](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/semantics.html#the-style-element) element.
* A [body](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-body-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [body](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-body-element) element is not immediately followed by a [comment](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-comments).
* A [li](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-li-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [li](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-li-element) element is immediately followed by another [li](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-li-element) element or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* A [dt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dt-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [dt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dt-element) element is immediately followed by another [dt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dt-element) element or a [dd](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dd-element) element.
* A [dd](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dd-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [dd](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dd-element) element is immediately followed by another [dd](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dd-element) element or a [dt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dt-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* A [p](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-p-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [p](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-p-element) element is immediately followed by an [address](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-address-element), [article](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-article-element), [aside](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-aside-element), [blockquote](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-blockquote-element), [dir](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/obsolete.html#dir), [div](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-div-element), [dl](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-dl-element), [fieldset](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/forms.html#the-fieldset-element), [footer](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-footer-element), [form](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/forms.html#the-form-element), [h1](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-h1-h2-h3-h4-h5-and-h6-elements), [h2](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-h1-h2-h3-h4-h5-and-h6-elements), [h3](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-h1-h2-h3-h4-h5-and-h6-elements), [h4](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-h1-h2-h3-h4-h5-and-h6-elements), [h5](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-h1-h2-h3-h4-h5-and-h6-elements), [h6](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-h1-h2-h3-h4-h5-and-h6-elements), [header](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-header-element), [hgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-hgroup-element), [hr](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-hr-element), [menu](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/interactive-elements.html#the-menu-element), [nav](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-nav-element), [ol](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-ol-element), [p](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-p-element), [pre](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-pre-element), [section](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/sections.html#the-section-element), [table](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-table-element), or [ul](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/grouping-content.html#the-ul-element), element, or if there is no more content in the parent element and the parent element is not an [a](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-a-element) element.
* An [rt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rt-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [rt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rt-element) element is immediately followed by an [rt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rt-element) or [rp](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rp-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* An [rp](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rp-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [rp](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rp-element) element is immediately followed by an [rt](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rt-element) or [rp](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/text-level-semantics.html#the-rp-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* An [optgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/the-button-element.html#the-optgroup-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [optgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/the-button-element.html#the-optgroup-element) element is immediately followed by another [optgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/the-button-element.html#the-optgroup-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* An [option](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/the-button-element.html#the-option-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [option](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/the-button-element.html#the-option-element) element is immediately followed by another [option](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/the-button-element.html#the-option-element) element, or if it is immediately followed by an [optgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/the-button-element.html#the-optgroup-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* A [colgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-colgroup-element) element's [start tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-start-tag) may be omitted if the first thing inside the [colgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-colgroup-element) element is a [col](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-col-element) element, and if the element is not immediately preceded by another [colgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-colgroup-element) element whose [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) has been omitted. (It can't be omitted if the element is empty.)
* A [colgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-colgroup-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [colgroup](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-colgroup-element) element is not immediately followed by a [space character](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/common-microsyntaxes.html#space-character) or a [comment](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-comments).
* A [thead](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-thead-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [thead](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-thead-element) element is immediately followed by a [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element) or [tfoot](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tfoot-element) element.
* A [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element) element's [start tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-start-tag) may be omitted if the first thing inside the [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element) element is a [tr](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tr-element) element, and if the element is not immediately preceded by a [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element), [thead](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-thead-element), or [tfoot](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tfoot-element) element whose [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) has been omitted. (It can't be omitted if the element is empty.)
* A [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element) element is immediately followed by a [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element) or [tfoot](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tfoot-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* A [tfoot](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tfoot-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [tfoot](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tfoot-element) element is immediately followed by a [tbody](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tbody-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* A [tr](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tr-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [tr](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tr-element) element is immediately followed by another [tr](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-tr-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* A [td](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-td-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [td](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-td-element) element is immediately followed by a [td](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-td-element) or [th](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-th-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* A [th](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-th-element) element's [end tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-end-tag) may be omitted if the [th](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-th-element) element is immediately followed by a [td](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-td-element) or [th](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/tabular-data.html#the-th-element) element, or if there is no more content in the parent element.
* **However**, a [start tag](https://www.w3.org/TR/2011/WD-html5-20110525/syntax.html#syntax-start-tag) must never be omitted if it has any attributes.