

HTML IFrames

Learning Goals

- Describe how `iframe` elements work
- Use common `iframe` attributes

Introduction

Some sites let us use *their* creations in *our* HTML documents. We're sure you've noticed how many pages have Google maps built into them. The HTML tag that lets us put someone else's web page *inside* our page is the `iframe` (inline frame) tag. We'll explore it in this lesson.

Describe How `iframe` Elements Work

We can display HTML from other pages by using an `iframe` tag. The `iframe` creates a window inside the page where this "shared" information appears.

An `iframe`'s `src` attribute points to the location of the shared material. Examples are a custom search bar or YouTube video.

Here's an example:

```
<iframe  
  src="https://www.google.com/maps/embed?pb=!1m18!1m12!1m3!1d335994.89219194185!2d2.0673752159642937!3d48.85897132679&  
  width="600"  
  height="450"  
  frameborder="0"  
  style="border:0"  
  allowfullscreen  
></iframe>
```

Here's what this `iframe` renders:

Some Important IFrame Attributes

`src`

The `iframe` element has one required attribute: `src`. The `src` attribute takes a URL (`http://example.com/....`) and displays the page requested.

`width` and `height`

`width` and `height` allow us to control the size of the `iframe` that we'd like to display. Depending on the website that you are using in your `iframe`, it might have a size built in, but to be safe you always want to specify a size. It's worth noting that if you know CSS, you can control height and width there as well.

frameborder and style

In earlier HTML versions, `iframe`s were put inside of borders by default. Many people found that ugly. The `frameborder` allowed us to turn the border off.

The `frameborder` attribute is considered *deprecated*, meaning "likely to be removed from the standard." In modern browsers, we can control borders using CSS, as with our example, `style="border:0"`. You might not be familiar with CSS yet. For the time being, feel free to simply add this attribute.

Google and sites like YouTube still provide a `frameborder` attribute in their embedded map examples. We see this appear often in `iframe` links as providers try to support *as many browsers as possible*. It's important to understand what it means, but you probably won't need to write it much. If you do, you'll want to set both `frameborder="0"` AND `style="border:0"`.

allowfullscreen

Like the `required` attribute for HTML form elements, `allowfullscreen` is built into HTML5. The `allowfullscreen` attribute uses a JavaScript method called `requestFullScreen()` to send the `iframe` to full screen. If `allowfullscreen` isn't included, the element can't be placed into full screen mode. It's important to be able to understand this attribute and realize that you can't get around any restrictions unless the *provider* wants you to. For more details visit [MDN ↗\(https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element/iframe\)](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element/iframe).

Conclusion

IFrames are powerful tools that allow us to show content from one website within a different site. You can put any website you'd like in an `iframe`, but certain sites make more sense than others. Search or mapping sites in `iframe`s are the most frequently used. However, we've seen many inventive uses of `iframe`s!

Resources

- [MDN - HTML - Iframe](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element/iframe) ↗(<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element/iframe>)
- [Google Maps iframe documentation](https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/embed/guide) ↗(<https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/embed/guide>)