

Comprehensive Guide to HTML: Best Practices and Examples

Diana Akolzina

December 14, 2023

1 Practices

1.1 Valid Markup for <head>

The <head> element in an HTML document contains metadata, links to stylesheets, and other resources. It should not contain visual elements. For example:

```
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <title>Page Title</title>
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="styles.css">
</head>
```

1.2 Markup for Blog Comments

Comments in a blog should be marked up semantically using <article> tags within an <aside> or <section>, each comment being a self-contained unit. Example:

```
<aside>
  <h3>Comments</h3>
  <article><p>First comment.</p></article>
  <article><p>Second comment.</p></article>
</aside>
```

1.3 Making Elements Editable

To make content editable, add the `contenteditable` attribute. This is useful for creating interactive web applications. Example:

```
<div contenteditable="true">Edit this text</div>
```

1.4 Invisible Form Inputs

Use `<input type="hidden">` to include data that users should not see or modify. It's often used for IDs or tokens. Example:

```
<input type="hidden" name="session_token" value="abc123">
```

1.5 Adding Titles to Tables

A `<caption>` element provides a title or summary for the table, which is useful for accessibility and context. Example:

```
<table>
  <caption>Monthly Sales Data</caption>
  <!-- Table rows and cells -->
</table>
```

1.6 Responsive Image Selection

Responsive design uses the `srcset` attribute to specify different images for various screen sizes, and the `sizes` attribute to define the space the image will occupy. Example:

```
`

`<dl>` is used for definition lists, with `<dt>` for the term and `<dd>` for the definition. Example:

```
<dl>
 <dt>HTML</dt>
 <dd>Hypertext Markup Language</dd>
</dl>
```

## 1.8 Using `<ul>` and `<ol>` Correctly

Unordered (`<ul>`) and ordered (`<ol>`) lists should contain `<li>` elements for each item. Example:

```

 Item 1
 Item 2

```

## 1.9 CSS for Dark Mode

Media queries can adapt the CSS to match the user's preference, such as dark mode. Example:

```
@media (prefers-color-scheme: dark) {
 body { background-color: black; color: white; }
}
```

## 1.10 Marking Up Table Row Headers

Use `<th scope="row">` to mark headers for rows in tables for better accessibility and structure. Example:

```
<table>
 <tr>
 <th scope="row">Item</th>
 <td>Price</td>
 </tr>
</table>
```

## 1.11 Purpose and Usage

The `<main>` element is used to represent the primary content of a document. It should be unique and not include repeated content like headers or navigation. Example:

```
<main>
 <article>
 <!-- Main content here -->
 </article>
</main>
```

## 1.12 Identifying Non-Functional Forms

Forms or fields can be disabled using the `disabled` attribute, making them non-interactive. Example:

```
<input type="text" name="name" disabled>
```

## 1.13 Understanding <a> Tags

Anchor tags (`<a>`) create hyperlinks to other web pages, files, locations within the same page, email addresses, or any URL. Example:

```
Visit Example.com
```