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# Text formatting

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## Overview

HTML has several text definition and formatting elements - generally, this focuses on stylistic choices, such as *italic* and **bold**.

## Tutorial

Formatting HTML text elements were designed to display special types of text:

- `<b>` - Bold text
- `<strong>` - Important text
- `<i>` - Italic text
- `<em>` - Emphasized text
- `<mark>` - Marked text
- `<small>` - Smaller text
- `<del>` - Deleted text
- `<ins>` - Inserted text
- `<sub>` - Subscript text
- `<sup>` - Superscript text

### Bold and strong

The `<b>` element lets us define text to be bold, without any extra importance.

```
<b>This text is bold</b>
```

- `<strong>` - element lets us define text to be bold, with extra importance.

```
<strong>This text is bold and important!</strong>
```

Generally, browsers will format `<strong>` as `<b>` - the two are more or less functionally interchangeable. However it is good practice to use `<strong>` over `<b>` as 'strong' semantically makes more sense than the letter 'b'.

### Italic and emphasis

The `<i>` element defines a part of text in "an alternate voice or mood". The content inside is typically displayed in *italics*. The `<i>` tag is often used to indicate a technical term, a phrase from another language, a thought, etc.

```
<i>This text is italic</i>
```

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The `<em>` element defines emphasized text. The content inside is typically displayed in italic. A screen reader will pronounce the words in `<em>` with an emphasis, using verbal stress.

```
<em>This text is  in italics and emphasised!</em>
```

Generally, browsers will format `<em>` as `<i>` - the two are more or less functionally interchangeable.

### <small>

The `<small>` element will define smaller text, within the same font used for standard text within the Web page.

```
<small>This is small text.</small>
```

### <mark>

The `<mark>` element defines text that should be marked or highlighted, which usually manifests as yellow highlighting:

```
<p>This is <mark>marked</mark>text</p>
```

### <s> and <del>

The `<s>` element will render the text in ~~strikethrough~~ format:

```
<s>This is text that has been redacted</s>
```

The `<del>` element defines text that has been deleted from a document.

```
<p>My favourite color is <del>blue</del> red.</p>
```

Generally, browsers will format `<del>` as `<s>` - the two are more or less functionally interchangeable.

### Underline and <ins>

The `<u>` element defines underlined text:

```
<u>This is a one-line whip!</u>
```

The `<ins>` element defines text that has been inserted into a document.

```
<p>My favourite color is <del>blue</del> <ins>red</ins>.</p>
```

Generally, browsers will format `<ins>` as `<u>` - the two are more or less functionally interchangeable.

### Subscript and superscript

The `<sub>` - element defines <sub>subscript</sub> text. Subscript text appears half a character below the normal line, and is sometimes rendered in a smaller font:

```
<p>This is <sub>subscripted</sub> text.</p>
```

The `<sup>` element defines <sup>superscript</sup> text. Superscript text appears half a character above the normal line, and is sometimes rendered in a smaller font:

```
<p>This is <sup>superscripted</sup> text.</p>
```

This is just some of the text formatting properties that we have, below is a more full list of the different properties:

Tag	Description
<code>&lt;acronym&gt;</code>	Use <code>&lt;abbr&gt;</code> instead. Defines an acronym

Tag	Description
<abbr>	Defines an abbreviation or an acronym
<address>	Defines contact information for the author/owner of a document/article
<b>	Defines bold text
<bdi>	Isolates a part of text that might be formatted in a different direction from other text outside it
<bdo>	Overrides the current text direction
<blockquote>	Defines a section that is quoted from another source
<cite>	Defines the title of a work
<code>	Defines a piece of computer code
<del>	Defines text that has been deleted from a document
<dfn>	Specifies a term that is going to be defined within the content
<em>	Defines emphasized text
<i>	Defines a part of text in an alternate voice or mood
<ins>	Defines a text that has been inserted into a document
<kbd>	Defines keyboard input
<mark>	Defines marked/highlighted text
<meter>	Defines a scalar measurement within a known range (a gauge)
<pre>	Defines preformatted text
<progress>	Represents the progress of a task
<q>	Defines a short quotation
<rp>	Defines what to show in browsers that do not support ruby annotations
<rt>	Defines an explanation/pronunciation of characters (for East Asian typography)
<ruby>	Defines a ruby annotation (for East Asian typography)
<s>	Defines text that is no longer correct
<samp>	Defines sample output from a computer program
<small>	Defines smaller text
<strike>	Not supported in HTML5. Use <del> or <s> instead. Defines strikethrough text

Tag	Description
<code>&lt;strong&gt;</code>	Defines important text
<code>&lt;sub&gt;</code>	Defines subscripted text
<code>&lt;sup&gt;</code>	Defines superscripted text
<code>&lt;template&gt;</code>	Defines a container for content that should be hidden when the
<code>&lt;time&gt;</code>	Defines a specific time (or datetime)
<code>&lt;u&gt;</code>	Defines some text that is unarticulated and styled differently from normal text
<code>&lt;var&gt;</code>	Defines a variable
<code>&lt;wbr&gt;</code>	Defines a possible line-break

## Exercises

1. Use textual formatting for the following:

- **This is bold text**
- *This is italic text*
- ~~Scratch this~~

► Solution