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Metadata

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Overview

The HTML `<meta>` tag defines metadata about an HTML document. Metadata is data (information) about data.

`<meta>` tags always go inside the `<head>` element, and are typically used to specify the Web page's character set, description, keywords, author of the document, and viewport settings.

Metadata is never displayed the page, but is parsed by your browser.**

Tutorial

The `<meta>` tag attributes can allow for several key configuration options for your Web page.

<meta> attributes

For instance, we can define the character set for HTML character encoding:

```
<meta charset="UTF-8">
```

or include keywords for search engines:

```
<meta name="keywords" content="HTML, CSS, JavaScript">
```

or include a description of your Web page:

```
<meta name="description" content="tutorials for HTML">
```

or show the author of that Web page:

```
<meta name="author" content="John Smith">
```

or can run commands, such as one to reload the document every 30 seconds:

```
<meta http-equiv="refresh" content="30">
```

or can scale the page to the size of a user's screen (viewport):

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
```

- `width=device-width` sets the width of the page to follow the screen-width of the device
- `initial-scale=1.0` sets the initial zoom level when the page is first loaded by the browser

Exercises

There are no exercises for this module.

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