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# Attributes

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## Overview

HTML *attributes* are used to provide additional information about HTML elements.

## Tutorial

- All HTML elements can have attributes.
- Attributes provide additional information about elements.
- Attributes are always specified in the start tag.
- Attributes usually come in name/value pairs - `name="value"`.

Generally, it is best practice (according to the W3C) to use *lowercase* for attribute names and values, and to "quote" values in HTML. For stricter document types, like XHTML, these practices become mandatory.

### <html> tag attributes

We should always include the `lang` attribute inside the `<html>` tag, to declare the language of the Web page. This assists search engines and browsers.

The following example specifies English as the language:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <body>
    ...
  </body>
</html>
```

However we can also add country codes to the `lang` attribute. So, the first two characters define the language of the HTML page, and the last two characters define the country.

The following example specifies the British dialect for English:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en-GB">
  <body>
    ...
  </body>
</html>
```

### <a> attributes

The `<a href>` tag is used to define a hyperlink , the `href` attribute is used to specify the URL of the page the link goes to:

```
<a href="https://www.qa.com">Go to QA homepage.</a>
```

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## <img> attributes

The `<img>` tag is used to display an image in an HTML page. The `src` attribute specifies the path to the image to be displayed on the page

```

```

The mandatory `alt` attribute for the `<img>` tag specifies an alternate text for an image, if the image for some reason cannot be displayed. This can be due to slow connection, or an error in the `src` attribute, or if the user uses a screen reader.

```

```

## <p> attributes

The `style` attribute is used to add inline CSS styles to an element, such as color, font, size, and more. However it is better practice to link an external CSS document.

```
<p style="color:red;">This is a red paragraph.</p>
```

The `title` attribute defines some extra information about an element. The value of the title attribute will be displayed as a tooltip when you mouse over the element:

```
<p title="I'm a tooltip">This is a paragraph.</p>
```

## Exercises

1. Add a "tooltip" to the paragraph below with the text "this is an attribute".

```
<p>QA is the leading training provider.</p>
```

► Solution

2. Make the element below into a link that goes to "<https://www.qa.com/>"

```
<a>QA Website</a>
```

► Solution

1. Alternate text is useful when the image cannot be displayed, like when the page is read by a screen reader.

```

```

► Solution