

# HTML BASICS: A Beginner's Guide

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## 1. What is HTML?

HTML stands for HyperText Markup Language. It is the standard markup language used to create webpages. HTML describes the structure of a webpage using elements (tags). When you write HTML, you tell the browser what content is on the page and how it should be structured.

## 2. The Basic Structure of an HTML Document

Every HTML document starts with a basic template:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <title>My First HTML Page</title>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Hello, world!</h1>
  <p>This is my first webpage.</p>
```

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</body>

</html>

Key parts:

- <!DOCTYPE html>: Declares the document type.
- <html>: The root element.
- <head>: Metadata.
- <title>: Page title.
- <body>: Visible content.

## 3. Common HTML Tags

Some essential tags:

- Headings: <h1> to <h6>
- Paragraph: <p>
- Line Break: <br>
- Bold & Italic: <strong>, <em>
- Horizontal Rule: <hr>

## 4. Working with Links and Images

Links: <a href="https://www.example.com">Visit Example</a>

Open in new tab: add target="\_blank".

Images: 

## 5. Lists in HTML

Unordered List: <ul><li>Item</li></ul>

Ordered List: <ol><li>Item</li></ol>

Description List: <dl><dt>Term</dt><dd>Definition</dd></dl>

## 6. Tables in HTML

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Example:

```
<table border="1">
<thead><tr><th>Name</th><th>Age</th></tr></thead>
<tbody><tr><td>Alice</td><td>25</td></tr></tbody>
</table>
```

Tags: <table>, <thead>, <tbody>, <tr>, <th>, <td>

## 7. Forms in HTML

```
<form action="/submit" method="POST">
<label for="name">Name:</label>
<input type="text" id="name" name="name">
<input type="submit" value="Submit"></form>
```

Common inputs: text, email, password, checkbox, radio, submit.

## 8. Semantic HTML

Uses meaningful tags: <header>, <nav>, <main>, <section>, <article>, <aside>, <footer>.

## 9. Best Practices

Use proper nesting.

Use semantic elements.

Indent your code.

Include alt text for images.

Validate your HTML with the W3C Validator.

## 10. Helpful Resources

MDN Web Docs: <https://developer.mozilla.org/>

W3Schools: <https://www.w3schools.com/html/>

FreeCodeCamp: <https://www.freecodecamp.org/learn/>