

## WDD 130

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## W05 Learning Activity: HTML Tables

### Overview

HTML table elements are used to create visual representations of tabular data, allowing users to quickly compare and analyze different values.

"The **table** HTML element represents tabular data — that is, information presented in a two-dimensional table comprised of rows and columns of cells containing data." – MDN

### Prepare

- Reference: [The Table Element](#) – MDN

### Activity Instructions

1. In your browser, navigate to the "Try-It" section on the MDN page: [The Table Element](#).
2. **Ponder** the HTML and CSS used to create the example table.
3. You will be modifying the existing table shown below.

Person	Most interest in	Age
Chris	HTML tables	22
Dennis	Web accessibility	45
Sarah	JavaScript frameworks	29
Karen	Web performance	36
Average age		33

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Screenshot of original HTML Table

to look like this with a new "Department" column.

Department	Person	Most interest in	Age
Accounting	Chris	HTML tables	22
	Dennis	Web accessibility	45
	Sarah	JavaScript frameworks	29
	Karen	Web performance	36
Average age			33

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Screenshot of modified HTML Table

- In the HTML panel, add another column to the left of the existing table header (`<thead>`) section using a `<th>` and a column scope `scope="col"`.
- Insert the heading of "Department" into that new heading cell.

► Check Your Understanding

- Add another table heading cell (`<th>`) to the existing first row (`<tr>`) of the table's body (`<tbody>`)
- Insert the text of "Accounting" into the new cell.
- Modify the new cell to span all four rows in the table body using `rowspan`.

► Check Your Understanding

Why do we want to use `rowspan` on that first cell?

What is the role of the `scope` attribute in the table heading cells?

Providing a `scope` to a header cell in a table, indicates whether it applies to a row or column. Using the scope attribute appropriately improves the **accessibility** and **usability** of tables for all users, especially those relying on assistive technologies like screen readers.

- Now notice that the `<tfoot>` content is not lined up correctly.

Accounting			
	Sarah	JavaScript frameworks	29
	Karen	Web performance	36
Average age		33	

Figure3: Screenshot of tfoot content issue

How can you fix this layout issue?

► Check Your Understanding

10. Change the style of the table to use a black background in the table header row with white text.

► Check Your Understanding

11. Change the style of the table caption to be italic.

► Check Your Understanding

A complete example of the modification is provided in this CodePen \* [Table Modification Exercise](#)

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## Week 05

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