

HTML Part 1

02:57

Anchor Element

The **anchor tag** `<a>` is how you add hyperlinks into the HTML page. The `<a>` tag is similar to the image tag in one main way: you need to add an attribute to the tag to tell it where you want the link to go. It does not, however, use the `src` attribute to accomplish this. It uses the `href` attribute, which will specify the URL of the page you wish to link to. The last part of the anchor tag is the text between the opening and closing tags. This text is what the user sees when the HTML is rendered. Keep in mind, this tag DOES need a closing anchor tag ``. Consider the following code:

```
<html>
  <body>
    <a href="http://www.google.com">Google Something!</a>
  </body>
</html>
```

With the above HTML code, the person viewing the page would see `Google Something!` ; the actual URL is hidden. If the person were to click the link (the text "Google Something"), it would open `www.google.com` in the current page, replacing the page you were currently viewing.

If you want the web page to open in a new, separate tab or window, you can add the `target` attribute to the `<a>` tag and set its value to `"_blank"` . The code below is what you need if you want the user to go to another website, but not leave the page they are in:

```
<html>
  <body>
    <a href="http://www.google.com" target="_blank">Google Something!</a>
  </body>
</html>
```

The above code with the `target` attribute has been embedded below. If you click the link, it should open the Google website in a new tab or window (depending on your browser and its settings). Try it!

[Google Something! \(http://www.google.com\)](http://www.google.com).

Additional Info!

The `<a>` tag is called an `anchor` tag because, originally, it was not meant to jump *between* pages; it was meant to jump to a different location on the same web page — an anchored location.

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