**(H1) Date picker**

The date picker component allows users to input a date or date range from the past, present, or future. The date picker is most commonly used in forms. A user can either enter the date themselves, or they can use the calendar view to look up their date.

**{Component in HTML/CSS and PrimeNG}**

**{Code blocks for use}**

**(H2) When to use**

Use calendar view to:

* Give a range of dates
* Provide a visual guide for picking a date for the near future or from the recent past
* Let users pick day of the week, week of the month, and date
* Offer the ability to see dates in relation to each other

**(H2) When not to use**

* It is not necessary to use the calendar view when asking users to pick a date familiar to them (example: birthdays).

**(Drawer title) Accessibility for date picker (H2)**  
This date picker component layout is more accessible than traditional date pickers. It allows for easier keyboard and screen reader navigation and comprehension. It consists of a text field for month, with an input field for date and input field for year. Users can select one field at a time, which reduces cognitive load and risk of error.

**Use accurate and clear attributes (H3)**

If the date picker is the only task on a page:

* Use a heading level for the content that appears before the date picker fields (example: “What is your birthday”)
* The heading level most likely will be an [<H1>] or [<H2>].
* Include the heading and content within the [<legend>] element.

Be sure that each field has an accurate [<label for=”short description of data collected”>] element as well as its corresponding [<input id=”short description of data collected”>].

Avoid automatically moving tab focus from one field to the next. It creates confusion and makes field input difficult for keyboard users.

If possible, use [<input type=”text” inputmode=”numeric” pattern=”[0-9]\*”>] instead of [<input type=”number”>. Research by Gov.UK found using numbers versus text creates significant usability and accessibility issues, especially for date pickers.

They found that [type=”number”]:

* Could not be dictated or selected when using Dragon Naturally Speaking
* Appears as unlabeled on some screen readers
* Appears as a spin button when using NVDA’s object navigation
* Is reported as an unlabeled edit field on nvda+tab

[Why the Gov.UK Design System Team changed the input type for numbers](https://technology.blog.gov.uk/2020/02/24/why-the-gov-uk-design-system-team-changed-the-input-type-for-numbers/)

**(Drawer title) Best practices for date picker**

* Clearly label each field to increase clarity and prevent user error.
* Use the select element only for month and not day and year.
* Avoid using placeholder text. Instead, include a hint example above the select element and input fields, below the [<legend>] element.
* The hint example should match the format of your date picker.
* Use back-end validation to check for correct date input.
* Patterns that use this component (listed links)
  + Pattern 1
  + Pattern 2
  + Etc