**What Are HTML Elements?**

An **HTML element** is a fundamental building block of a web page. It consists of a **start tag**, **content**, and an **end tag** (except for self-closing elements). Elements define the **structure**, **content**, and **behavior** of HTML documents.

**🧱 Basic Structure of an HTML Element**

html

CopyEdit

<tagname>Content goes here</tagname>

Example:

html

CopyEdit

<p>This is a paragraph.</p>

Some elements are **self-closing** (void elements), like:

html

CopyEdit

<img src="image.jpg" alt="Image description">

<br>

<hr>

**📚 Common Categories of HTML Elements**

**1. Document Structure**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <html> | Root of the HTML document |
| <head> | Metadata, links, scripts |
| <body> | Visible page content |
| <title> | Title shown in browser tab |

**2. Text Content**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <h1> to <h6> | Headings |
| <p> | Paragraph |
| <a> | Hyperlink |
| <span> | Inline container |
| <strong> / <em> | Bold / Italic emphasis |
| <br> | Line break |

**3. Lists**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <ul> | Unordered list |
| <ol> | Ordered list |
| <li> | List item |
| <dl> | Definition list |
| <dt> / <dd> | Term / Definition |

**4. Forms & Input**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <form> | Container for form controls |
| <input> | Various types of input (text, checkbox, etc.) |
| <textarea> | Multiline input |
| <select> / <option> | Dropdown menu |
| <button> | Clickable button |
| <label> | Label for input fields |

**5. Media**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <img> | Image |
| <audio> | Audio player |
| <video> | Video player |
| <source> | Media source file |

**6. Table Elements**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <table> | Table |
| <tr> | Table row |
| <td> | Table cell (data) |
| <th> | Table header |
| <thead>, <tbody>, <tfoot> | Table sections |

**7. Semantic & Layout**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <header> | Page or section header |
| <nav> | Navigation links |
| <main> | Main content |
| <section> | Thematic grouping |
| <article> | Independent content |
| <aside> | Sidebar or related info |
| <footer> | Page or section footer |
| <div> | Generic block container |

**8. Scripting & Metadata**

| **Tag** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| <script> | JavaScript code |
| <link> | External resource (e.g. CSS) |
| <meta> | Metadata (charset, viewport, etc.) |
| <style> | Internal CSS |

**✅ Summary**

* HTML elements define **structure and content** on web pages.
* They come in different types for **text**, **media**, **forms**, **layout**, and more.
* Understanding them is crucial for web development.