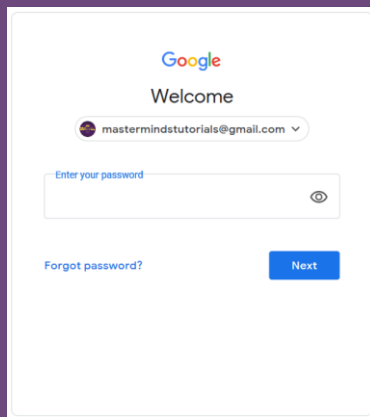


# Lesson 15

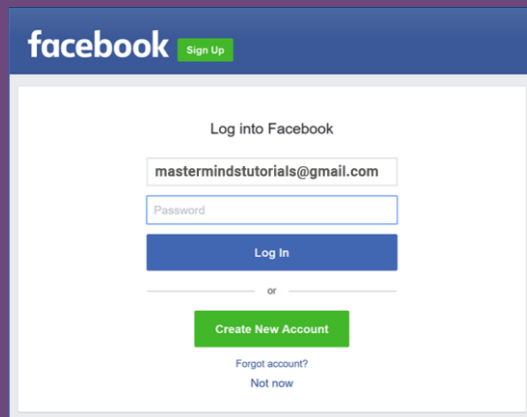
## Forms

If we need to take any data from our website users, we can use HTML forms for that purpose. HTML form is HTML element that allows us to get data from website users and send that data on the server for server side data processing.

For example, when we are logging in our Email account, or Facebook account, we are entering data in HTML form.



The image shows the Google login interface. At the top is the Google logo. Below it is the word "Welcome". There is a dropdown menu showing the email address "mastermindstutorials@gmail.com". Below that is a text input field labeled "Enter your password" with a password visibility icon. At the bottom left is a link "Forgot password?" and at the bottom right is a blue "Next" button.



The image shows the Facebook login interface. At the top is the Facebook logo and a "Sign Up" button. Below that is the text "Log into Facebook". There is a text input field containing the email address "mastermindstutorials@gmail.com". Below that is a text input field labeled "Password". Below the password field is a blue "Log In" button. Below the "Log In" button is a link "or" and a green "Create New Account" button. At the bottom are links "Forgot account?" and "Not now".

So these are HTML forms, and once when we have entered our data (username and password) we will submit data from that form (when we press login button) and that data will be sent to the server for server side data processing. In this case, when we are try to log in in some account, data processing means that our server side script will check if our data (username and password) are valid.

If data are valid (our server side script confirmed that there is account in database with that username and password), server will send us response and we will be able to login. If data are invalid (server side script can not find user with that username and password) we will get response that username or password are incorrect.

Server side script can be written in PHP, Java, C# etc.

Login page is just one of examples that we can use HTML forms. Anything like sending of questions in some websites (send us a question in contact form), posting of comments (Facebook or anything like that), use HTML forms.

# Lesson 15

Here is simple example of HTML form that contains Username and Password input fields and submit button.

```
<form action="DataProcessing.php" method="get" target="_self">  
    <input type="text" name="username" />  
    <input type="password" name="password" />  
    <input type="submit" value="SUBMIT" />  
</form>
```

HTML form always starts with <form> opening and ends up with </form> closing tags. Inside of <form> opening tag we have three important HTML attributes action, method and target.

action HTML attribute represents script name that will do data processing on server side. In our case name of script is DataProcessing.php. (of course, this is some fictional script in our case, you will create real script for your form but process of creating PHP scripts is unfortunately out of the scope for this course).

method HTML attribute represents HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) method that we will use to send our data from form to server for server side data processing. Two the most common methods are get and post. For now you can use any that you want.

target HTML attribute defines where we want do display result that we get from the server for server side data processing. Two the most common values are \_self and \_blank. \_self means that we want to display that data in the same tab where is the form, and \_blank means that we want to display that data in the new tab.

Between start <form> and end </form> tag we will place form elements (various input fields, checkboxes, radio buttons, buttons etc.) where website users will be entering their data. We will talk about HTML form elements in the next lesson so see you there! 😊