



# Lesson 4

## Paragraph and text formatting

In HTML there are many ways how we can handle text. Depends on what we want to present with our text there are many HTML elements that we can use but for creating simple text paragraphs we strongly recommend to use HTML paragraph.

```
<p> This is some simple text paragraph example </p>
```

The first question that beginners ask is why should I use paragraph for creating text paragraphs in my web page when that text will be displayed in page even without paragraph tags? Answer on this question is yes, your text will be displayed in web page without paragraph tags, you only need to place text in between `<body></body>` element. But paragraph without paragraph tags in HTML page can not be controlled. For example, if we want to change color of that text, that text doesn't have start HTML tag so we can not add style for that text. If that text is in between `<p></p>` tags we can do that easily.

```
<p style="color: red"> This is some simple paragraph in red </p>
```

Paragraph also has some default characteristics:

- Paragraph always starts in new line and every content that goes after it will also start in new line.
- Paragraph doesn't recognize additional spaces between words
- Paragraph doesn't recognize new lines that we manually define

This means that your paragraph will always start in new line, then if you add more than one blank space between words in your paragraph, paragraph will ignore that extra blank spaces, it will display only one blank space, and if you start new line in your paragraph your paragraph will also ignore this, it will continue your text in the same line.

For creating new lines in paragraph, or other text elements, we can use line break tag `<br>` or `<br />` . (before HTML5 forward slash was mandatory but from HTML5 it is optional).

```
<p> New line for paragraph <br> will start here. </p>
```



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If we want to create block of text that will follow all additional spaces, new lines, or simply said original text order like we define it in our code, we can use preformatted text or `<pre></pre>` element.

```
<pre> This text will follow      all additional spaces,  
between words, and also all  
new lines that we define in  
our text </pre>
```

Every text that we define between `<pre></pre>` tags will follow original text order from our code, and that is how it will be displayed in web page, which is opposite behavior of `<p></p>` element that will ignore all additional spaces and new lines.

In order to have better control on text formatting, in HTML we have number of other HTML elements:

```
<b>Bold</b> // creates bold text  
<i>Italic</i> // creates italic text  
<u>Underlined</u> // creates underlined text  
<del>Strikethrough</del> // creates strikethrough text  
<tt>Monospaced</tt> // creates monospaced text  
<sup>Slightly upper</sup> // creates slightly upper text  
<sub>Slightly below</sub> // creates slightly below text  
<big>Slightly bigger</big> // creates slightly bigger text  
<small>Slightly smaller</small> // creates slightly smaller text  
<mark>Marked</mark> // creates marked or highlighted text
```