

Lesson 17

Input element types

As we said in our previous lesson, input element is HTML element that we can use to create various type of elements in our HTML form (input text field, password field, submit button, reset button etc.). Now you maybe asking yourself, how can I create all that different elements with just one `<input>` HTML element?

Well, answer on this question is actually very simple. In start, we have `<input>` element which basic structure looks like this

```
<input type="text" name="Name" value="MasterMinds"/>
```

This input element will create basic text input field. Why text field? Because we set type HTML attribute value to be text.

So, if we want to create password field, we will set password value for type attribute. We will use the same concept if we want to create reset button, submit button, checkbox, radio button etc.

Therefore, **type** HTML attribute, represents what type of HTML element this input element will be.

name HTML attribute represents unique name for input element. As we said in our previous lesson, name attribute is important because when we send data from form to the server, for server side data processing, that data will be sent like key value pair, where key is the name that we set for that HTML element, and value is value that we have entered in that HTML element. (e.g. name=MasterMinds).

value HTML attribute represents initial value for input element. In our case from example above, our text field will have MasterMinds text entered in start.

For type HTML attribute, we can use this values text, password, reset, submit, radio, checkbox, button, file, and image. (these are types before HTML5)

Text type, that we have already shown in example above, will create simple text input field

A screenshot of a web browser showing a single text input field. The field is rectangular with a thin blue border and contains the text "MasterMinds" in a black, sans-serif font.

Why we have MasterMinds text in start? Because we set initial value with value attribute and this value is MasterMinds, simple as that.

Lesson 17

password type will create password input field.

```
<input type="password" name="loginPassword" />
```

Password input field is basically text input field, where you can enter alphanumeric values, but difference is that for password field, from the moment when you start entering values in this field, that values will be masked with bullet point or asterisk. On this way, passwords that are usually important information and should stay secret, will stay secret even when we are entering it.

reset type will create reset button.

```
<input type="reset" value="RESET" />
```

RESET

Reset button is button that will clear all values from HTML form, or it will set it on initial values when we click on it. **value** attribute that we use for reset type, represents label visible inside of button.

submit type will create submit button.

```
<input type="submit" value="SUBMIT" />
```

SUBMIT

Submit button is button that will take all values from HTML form, and send that values to the server for server side data processing. **value** attribute that we use for submit type, represents label visible inside of button.

Lesson 17

radio input type will create radio button.

```
Male: <input type="radio" name="gender" value="male" checked >  
Female: <input type="radio" name="gender" value="female">
```

Male: ☒ Female: ☐

Radio buttons are buttons that usually go in group (two or more), and when you click on one button, that button will be selected, and all other buttons will be deselected. To enable this kind of behavior for our radio buttons, we will need to give the same name value for all radio buttons from the same group (otherwise you will be able to select more than one radio button from the same group).

value attribute represents value that is related with radio button. When we submit our HTML form and data from form will be sent to the server for data processing, only value for selected/checked radio button will be sent.

checked attribute allows us to set which radio button will be initially selected.

button input type will create clickable button.

```
<input type="button" value="BUTTON" onclick="someFunction()" />
```

BUTTON

With button type we will create button that we can click and some JavaScript function that we define for onclick HTML attribute will be executed.

value will set label for button.

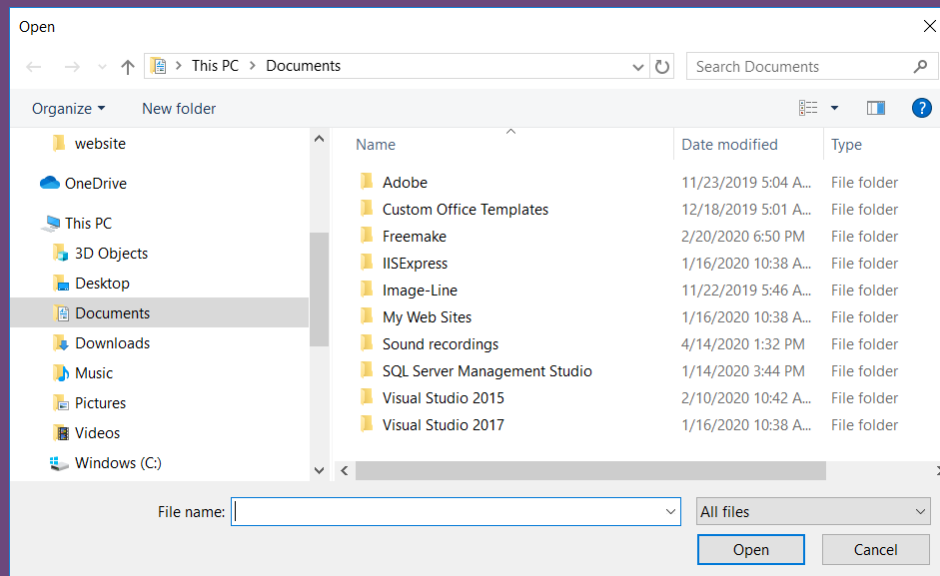
Lesson 17

File input type will create file chooser.

```
<input type="file" accept="acceptableFiles" />
```

Choose File No file chosen

File chooser allows us to choose file from folder structure.



accept HTML attribute allows us to define what type of files will be available for us from folder structure to choose.

image input type will create graphical submit button.

```
<input type="image" src="imageFile" />
```

Lesson 17



Image input type and submit input type are completely the same. So, when we click on image button all values from HTML form will be sent to the server for data processing. Only difference between regular submit button and image button is visual appearance.

`src` HTML attribute points on image file (file location) that will be displayed like image for our graphical button.