

03 -- HTML forms and various input elements

1

- HTML forms are used to *collect user input*.
- The **<form>** element defines an HTML form.
- An HTML form contains *form elements* which can be grouped into the following tags :
 - <input>
 - type=text|password|radio|checkbox|file|submit|reset|button|image|hidden
 - <select> and <option>
 - <textarea>
 - <button>

common input fields : type attribute values (1)

- Example
 - See the code on next slide

Applicants Update Form

Personal Details

Name:

Password:

Gender: ☒ Male ☐ Female

Highest Education:

Fluent in Languages:


☒ Cantonese ☐ English ☐ Putonghua

Your working experience:

In less 150 words...

Submit a recent photo:

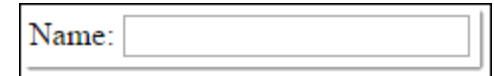
No file chosen

 (save the data)

common input fields : type attribute values (2)

- Examples

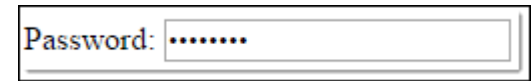
Name: `<input type="text" name="username" />`



- text** : define a single-line text field that a user can enter text into

Password: `<input type="password" name="password" />`

- password** : define a password field (characters are *masked*)



Gender:

`<input type="radio" name="gender" value="M" checked="checked" /> Male`



`<input type="radio" name="gender" value="F" /> Female`

- radio** : define radio buttons which let a user select only one of the choices
- cannot "*check*" one radio button from a group of radio buttons with the *same name*

common input fields : type attribute values (3)

- Examples

`<input type="checkbox" name="L1" value="Cantonese" checked="checked" />` Cantonese

`<input type="checkbox" name="L2" value="English" />` English

- checkbox** : define checkboxes which let a user select one or more options
- Also, you can set an "array-like" name (`name="lang[]"`) for all checkboxes

Submit a recent photo: `<input type="file" name="photo" />`

- file** : define a file-select field or a "Browse..." button for file upload
- Also need to set `method="post"` `enctype="multipart/form-data"` in the `<form>` element

`<input type="hidden" name="city" value="Hong Kong" />`

- hidden** : define a hidden field (not visible to a user) and the value can be changed by JavaScript code if necessary

common input fields : type attribute values (4)

- Examples

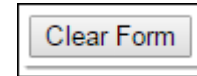
```
<input type="submit" value="Send Form" />
```



```
<button type="submit">Send Form</button>
```

- submit** : define a submit button to send out the form data

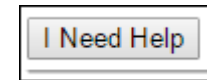
```
<input type="reset" value="Clear Form" />
```



```
<button type="reset">Clear Form</button>
```

- reset** : define a reset button which can reset all form values to default values

```
<input type="button" value="I Need Help"
```



```
onclick="alert('Call hotline 22338899 for help');"/>
```

```
<button type="button" onclick="alert('Call hotline 22338899  
for help');">I Need Help</button>
```

- button** : define a clickable button to trigger the execution of JavaScript code

```
<input type="image" name="save" src="images/icon.gif" />
```



- image** : define an image as the submit button. Useful for *server-side* image map

<form> tag attributes

- Examples

```
<input type="submit" value="Send Form" />
```

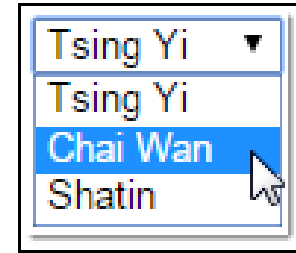
```
<form method="post" enctype="multipart/form-data"
action="read_data.php" name="register_form">
```

| Attribute | Description |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| action | Specifies an address (url) where to submit the form. |
| enctype | Specifies the encoding of the submitted data (default: is url-encoded). Possible values are : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> application/x-www-form-urlencoded (<i>default value</i> if the attribute is not specified) multipart/form-data : for <input type="file"> elements |
| method | Specifies the HTTP method used when submitting the form. Possible values are : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> get : form data are appended to the action attribute URI with a '?' as separator, and the resulting URI is sent to the server. (<i>default value</i> if the attribute is not specified) post : form data are included in the body of the form and sent to the server. |
| name | Specifies a name used to identify the form (for retrieving form elements by JavaScript). |

<select> element (Dropdown List)

- Example (single selection only)

```
<select name="campus">  
  <option value="TY">Tsing Yi</option>  
  <option value="CW">Chai Wan</option>  
  <option value="ST">Shatin</option>  
</select>
```



- Example (multiple selections)

```
<select name="speak" size="2" multiple="multiple">  
  <option value="ENG">English</option>  
  <option value="CTN">Cantonese</option>  
  <option value="PTH">Putunghua</option>  
</select>
```



- **Ctrl+Click** to select multiple options
- **multiple="multiple"** : Specifies that multiple options can be selected
- **size** : Defines the number of visible options in a dropdown list

<select> element (Dropdown List) – con't

- Example (group related options)

```
<select>
```

```
  <optgroup label="Fruit">
```

```
    <option>Apple</option>
```

```
    <option>Orange</option>
```

```
  </optgroup>
```

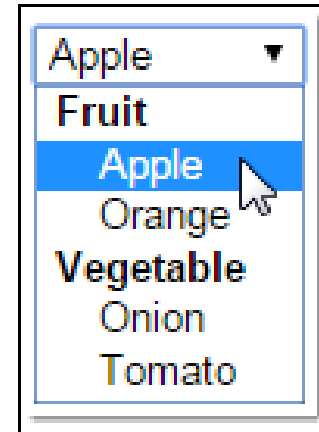
```
  <optgroup label="Vegetable">
```

```
    <option>Onion</option>
```

```
    <option>Tomato</option>
```

```
  </optgroup>
```

```
</select>
```



- **optgroup** : this tag is used to group related options
- If you have a long list of options, a user can easily handle groups of related options

<fieldset> & <legend> element - Group Form Data

- Example

<fieldset>

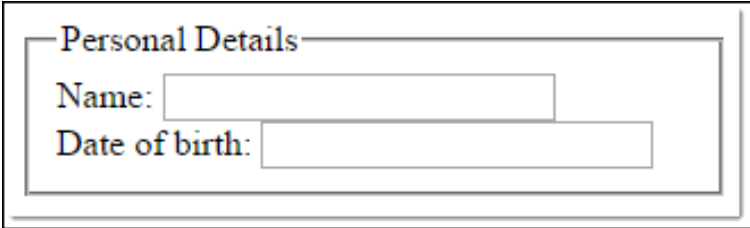
 <legend>Personal Details</legend>

 Name: <input type="text" />

 Date of birth: <input type="text" />

</fieldset>

- **fieldset** : draws a box around the related elements
- **legend** : defines a caption for the <fieldset> element



Personal Details _____

Name:

Date of birth:

<label> attribute

- Example

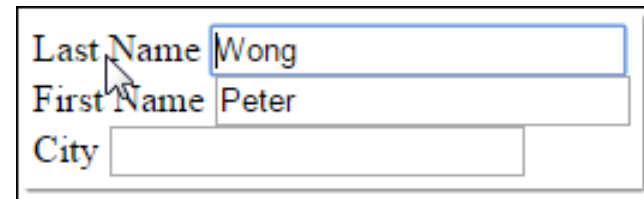
```
<label for="lname">Last Name</label>
```

```
<input type="text" name="lastname" id="lname" value="Wong"  
><br />
```

First Name

```
<input type="text" name="fname" id="fname" value="Peter"  
><br />
```

```
<label>City <input type="text" name="city" /></label>
```



- **for** : specifies which form element a label is bound to
- The <label> element can also wrap the <input> element without the **for** attribute
- The <label> element defines a label for an <input> element and improves *web accessibility*
- Users can *click on the label* to select the associated <input> element
- Some screen reader can read the text of the <label> element to help the visually impaired users (further reading : <http://webaim.org/intro/>)

Set default value

- Example

Gender:

```
<input type="radio" name="gender" value="M"  
checked="checked" />Male
```

```
<input type="radio" name="gender" value="F" />Female
```

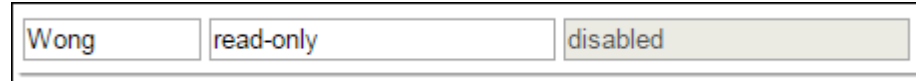
```
<select name="education">  
  <option>Degree</option>  
  <option selected="selected">Higher Diploma</option>  
  <option>Form 6</option>  
</select>
```

```
<textarea rows="4" cols="40">In less 150 words...</textarea>
```

```
<input name="username" type="text" value="Chan Tai Man" />
```

Common attributes for <input> field

- Example

The image shows three text input fields side-by-side. The first field contains the text 'Wong'. The second field contains the text 'read-only'. The third field contains the text 'disabled'. The second and third fields are visually disabled, appearing with a lighter background and a different border style compared to the first field.

```
<input name="lastname" type="text" size="8" maxlength="15" value="Wong" />
```

```
<input name="firstname" type="text" readonly="readonly" value="read-only" />
```

```
<input name="department" type="text" disabled="disabled" value="disabled" />
```

- **name** : specifies the name of an input field. Javascript or server-side script uses this name to reference the input field.
- **value** : specifies the initial value for an input field
- **readonly** : specifies that the input field is read only
- **disabled** : specifies the the input field un-usable and un-clickable
- **size** : specifies the size (in number of characters) for the input field
- **maxlength** : specifies the maximum allowed length for the input field

HTML5 : New Input Types

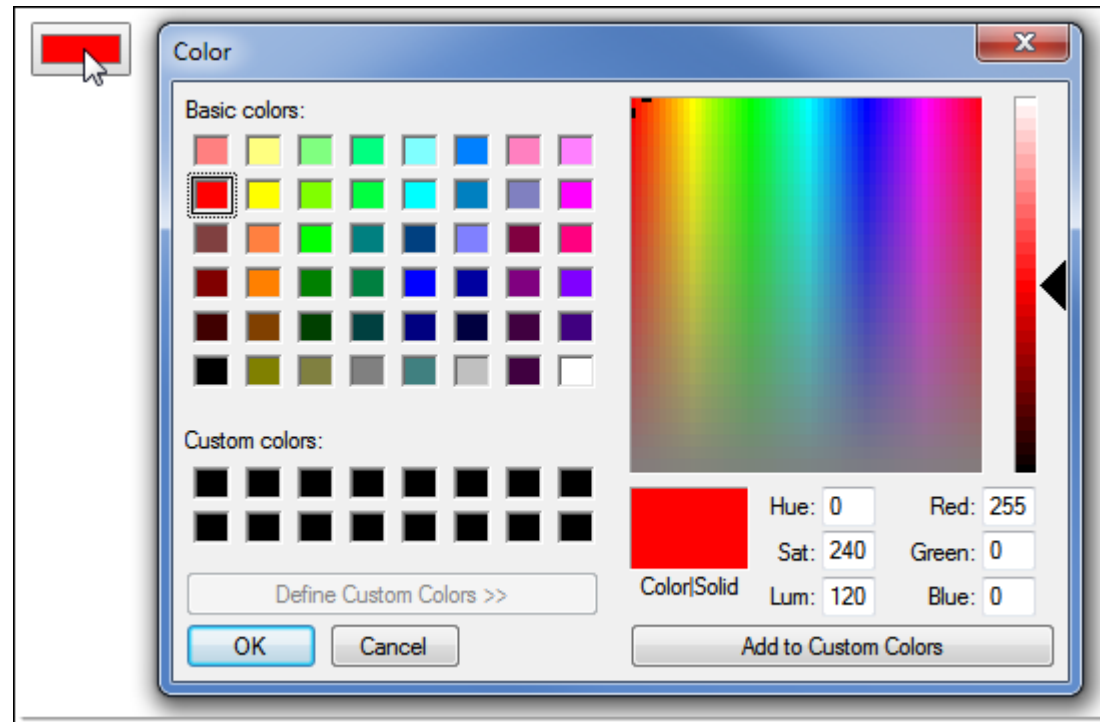
- color
- date
- time
- datetime
- datetime-local
- month
- week
- number
- range
- tel
- email
- url
- search

input type for color data

- Example

```
<input type="color" name="color" />
```

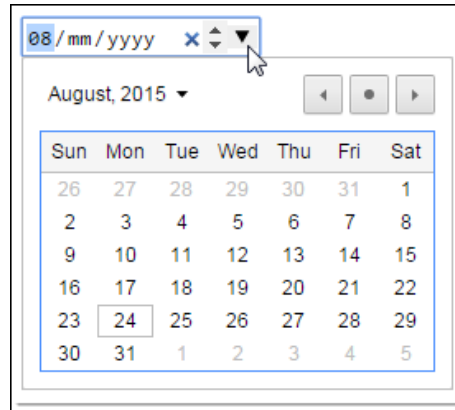
- The input value must be a hexadecimal (hex) value: 3 double digit numbers, starting with a # sign (like #FF8040)
- Depending on browser support, a color picker can show up in the input field



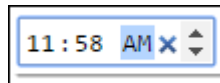
input types for date and time data

- Example

`<input type="date" />`

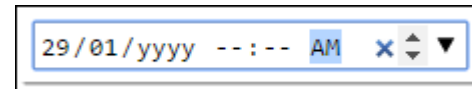


`<input type="time" />`

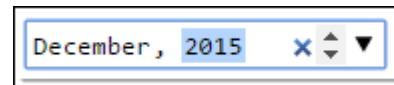


`<input type="datetime" />`

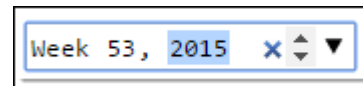
`<input type="datetime-local" />`



`<input type="month" />`



`<input type="week" />`



- Depending on browser support, a date/time picker can show up in the input field

input types for numeric value

- Example

`<input type="number" />`

A screenshot of a web browser showing a numeric input field. The field is a rectangular box with a light blue border and a small downward arrow on the right side. Inside the box, the number '3' is displayed.

- You can set restrictions on the numbers

`<input type="range" min="0" max="10" />`

A screenshot of a web browser showing a range input field. The field is a horizontal slider control with a light gray track and a small vertical bar in the center. The track is labeled with '0' and '10' at the ends.

- For input fields that should contain a value within a range
- Depending on browser support, the input field can be displayed as a slider control

- Online demos :

- <http://www.html5tutorial.info/html5-number.php>
- <http://www.html5tutorial.info/html5-range.php>

input types for data with format

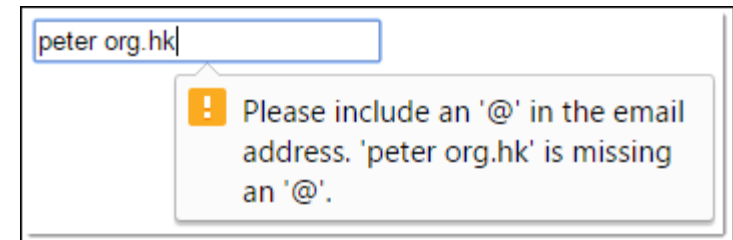
- Example

`<input type="tel" />`

- For input fields that should contain a telephone number
- Due to inherent variances in phone number formats, browsers treat it as a regular, single-line text input field. Can use `pattern` attribute to perform data validation.
- Its purpose is to optimize the keyboard on mobile devices

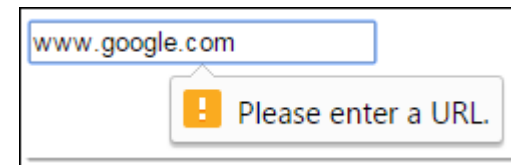
`<input type="email" />`

- For input fields that should contain an e-mail address



`<input type="url" />`

- For input fields that should contain a URL address

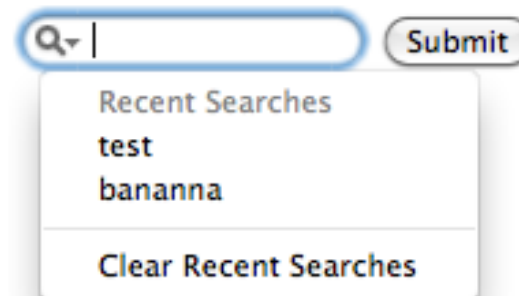
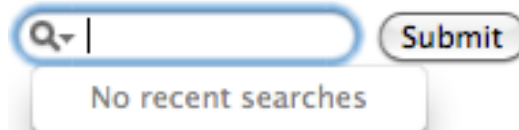


input type for searching data

- Example

```
<input type="search" results="2" />
```

- For search fields (a search field behaves like a regular text field)
- Click on the "cross" to clear the input string (*Chrome*)
- **results** : specify how many recent searches will appear in this dropdown (*Safari*)



<datalist> element : shows predefined options

- Example

```
<input list="campus" />
```

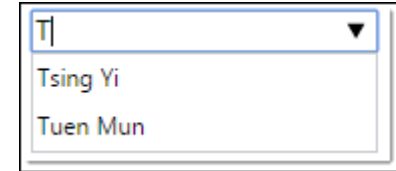
```
<datalist id="campus">
```

```
  <option value="Tsing Yi" />
```

```
  <option value="Chain Wan" />
```

```
  <option value="Tuen Mun" />
```

```
</datalist>
```



- **datalist** : specifies a list of pre-defined options and provide an autocomplete feature for an <input> element
- **list** : this attribute binds to the <datalist> element

<output> element : represents the result of a calculation

- Example

```
<form
```

```
  oninput="total.value=parseInt(a.value)+parseInt(b.value) ">
```

```
    0<input type="range" id="a" />100
```

```
    +<input type="number" id="b" value="50" />
```

```
    =<output name="total" for="a b" />
```

```
</form>
```

- **output** : represents the result of a calculation
- **for** : A space-separated list containing the IDs of the elements whose values went into the calculation.
- **oninput** : execute a JavaScript when a user changes the input value

0 100 + =151

0 100 + =51

Online Learning Resources

- <https://www.w3schools.com/html/>
- <https://www.tutorialspoint.com/html/>
- <http://htmldog.com/guides/html/beginner/>
- Online Editor:
 - <http://cssdeck.com/labs>