***The ‘Required’ attribute***

A simple change to your form you can make it make a text input field as required. This way the user can only continue if they have entered data into the correct field. Having this in your HTML5-aware will inform the web browser that the field is mandatory. An example of a required attribute is when using a checkbox validation using JavaScript. Say your website there is a ‘Accept the terms and conditions’ where the user has to click a box to agree. You don’t want the form submitted without the box being checked.

Your Name: <input type=”text” name”name” required>

This will display a warning message if not clicked on prompting the user to agree to the terms while also preventing the user moving forward with their application.



As you can see before you even type anything you there is a red warning sign in the box to indicate this field must have information in. As soon as a character has been inputted it will change to a green tick to indicate that this field/ input is now valid.

***New text input types***

There are multiple types of input type. For example, email, URL, number, TEL, date and many more.By changing the input type to email while also using the required attribute, the web browser can be used to validate an email address.

Email Address: <input type=”email” name=”email” required placeholder=”Enter a valid email address”>

The above example uses another HTML5 attribute. The placeholder which displays a prompt or instructions inside the field. The above code displays an input box as follows:



Web browsers are different but in Safari, Chrome and Firefox you need to enter at least ‘[\*@-.-](mailto:*@-.-)‘ for it to be valid. This will prevent the user entering completely wrong values, such as a phone number or random strings with multiple ‘@’s or spaces.