Form Fields: Choice Elements

In this lesson, you will learn about elements that come in handy to represent data on a web page which requires choosing an option.

We'll cover the following ⌃

- Checkboxes
- Radio-Buttons
- Dropdown Lists

You often see form elements that allow users to make a choice among multiple possibilities. A `change` event will be kicked off once a user changes their choice.

Checkboxes

You can add checkboxes to your HTML form by using the tag `<input type="checkbox">`.

Here's the code from the example form that offers a user the choice to receive a confirmation email (or not).

Output
HTML

```
1  <html>
2  <head>
3  </head>
4  <body>
5     <input type="checkbox" name
6     <label for="confirmation">S
7  </html>
```

Whenever the box is checked or unchecked by the user, a `change` event is kicked off. The `Event` object associated to this event has a `checked` boolean property that gives the new state of the field (checked or not checked).

The below code handles the `change` event on the checkbox to show a message in the console.

Output

JavaScript

HTML

```
1  <html>
2    <head>
3    </head>
4    <body>
5      <input type="checkbox" name="confirmation" id="confirmation">
6      <label for="confirmation">Send me a confirmation email</label> </body>
7  </html>
```

Console   ⊘ Clear

Radio-Buttons

Radio buttons allow users to make a choice out of multiple possibilities. You create radio buttons with `<input type="radio">` tags, which have the same `name` attribute and different `value` attributes.

Here's the extract from the example form that lets a user select between three radio buttons, each representing a subscription option.

Output

HTML

```
<html>
  <head>
  </head>
  <body>
```

```html
        <input type="radio" name="subscription" id="newsroom" value="newspromo">
        <label for="newsroom">Subscribe me to newsletters and promotions</label>
        <br>

        <input type="radio" name="subscription" id="news" value="news">
        <label for="news">Subscribe me only to the newsletter</label>
        <br>
        <input type="radio" name="subscription" id="no" value="no" checked>
        <label for="no">No subscriptions</label>
        <br>
  </body>
</html>
```

The following JavaScript code adds a message to the console when the radio button selection changes.

Output

JavaScript

HTML

```html
<html>
 <head>
 </head>
 <body>
        <input type="radio" name="subscription" id="newsroom" value="newspromo">
        <label for="newsroom">Subscribe me to newsletters and promotions</label>
        <br>
        <input type="radio" name="subscription" id="news" value="news">
        <label for="news">Subscribe me only to the newsletter</label>
        <br>
        <input type="radio" name="subscription" id="no" value="no" checked>
        <label for="no">No subscriptions</label>
        <br>
  </body>
</html>
```

Console   ⊘ Clear

The `target.value` property of the change event matches the value attribute of the newly selected `<input>` tag.

Dropdown Lists

A dropdown list is created using the `<select>` tag (for the menu overall) in which you can add `<option>` tags for possible choices.

Here's the code extract from above that lets users choose a nationality:

Output
HTML

Nationality: American ▼

💾 ↩

The following code uses the `change` event triggered on the dropdown list to show the new choice made by the user.

Output
JavaScript
HTML

Nationality: American ▼

💾 ↩

Console   ⊘ Clear

Like with radio buttons, the `target.value` property of the `change` event matches the `value` attribute of the `<option>` tag associated with the new choice – not the text shown in the dropdown list!