HTML Video and Audio

About this Course

Text and images have always been the foundation of web content, but more than ever, video and audio are also a part of that content mix. Fortunately, we can now create standards-based video and audio players that don't require the use of plugins. Adding video and audio to a webpage is almost as easy as adding an image or formatting some text.

What you'll learn

* Video element
* Audio element
* Custom media players

Media Basics

In this course, we're going to spend most of our time focusing on the video and audio elements. We'll learn about a few others, but those two allow us to embed video and sound content into webpages.

Overview of Web Media

HTML allows us to create standards-based video and audio players that don't require the use of plugins. Adding video and audio to a webpage is almost as easy as adding an image or formatting some text.

The Video Element

The video element allows us to embed video files into an HTML, very similar to the way images can be added.

HTML Elements

* <video> - The video element allows webpages to play video files inline with other content.

The Source Element

There are two different ways to write the video element. In this video, we'll learn about the format that utilizes an opening and closing tag.

HTML Elements

* <source> - The source element specifies media resources for the <video>, <audio>, and <picture> elements.

The Audio Element

The audio element is very similar to the video element. The only major difference is that there's no visuals.

HTML Elements

* <audio> - The audio element allows webpages to play sound content.

Creating Media

One of the most important factors to keep in mind while creating a webpage is file sizes. The more data you have to load, the more your site visitors will have to wait around. In this video, we'll learn some of the basics of media compression.

Resources

There are many programs that can help format media for the web. Here are two that are mentioned in this video:

* [VLC Media Player](http://www.videolan.org/vlc/index.html)
* [Adobe Media Encoder](http://www.adobe.com/products/mediaencoder.html)

Software versions change frequently and sometimes the interface evolves. However, if the version you download looks different than this video, the general principles should remain the same.

Captioning Video

If you've ever watched a foreign film in a language you don't speak, you've probably seen text down at the bottom of the screen. That text is called captions, or subtitles. It's always a good idea to caption videos, whether it's for people with hearing impairments, people that are in a public space and don't have headphones with them, or for people that just can't quite understand what you're saying. Even if there's no spoken text in a video, it's still nice to point out sound effects and music, or even highlight the absence of sound.

Create a Caption File

It's always a good idea to caption videos, whether it's for people with hearing impairments, people that are in a public space and don't have headphones with them, or for people that just can't quite understand what you're saying. Even if there's no spoken text in a video, it's still nice to point out sound effects and music, or even highlight the absence of sound.

Resources

When creating a WebVTT file, it's a good idea to validate the file. In this video, we use this live WebVTT validator to check our work.

* [Live WebVTT Validator](https://quuz.org/webvtt/)

The Track Element

Caption files won't work without adding a track element. In this video, we'll learn how to use a WebVTT file as a text track.

HTML Elements

* <track> - The track element specifies timed text data for video and audio media.