

# HTML BASICS

## Terms

Absolute URLs

Block-level elements

Character sets

Container elements

Description lists

Entities

HTML boilerplate

Hyperlinks

Inline elements

Ordered lists

Relative URLs

Semantic HTML

Structural elements

Unordered lists

Viewport

Zen coding

## Summary

- The `<head>` section is used to provide information about a webpage.
- The `<p>` element is used to represent a paragraph. A paragraph can be one or many lines of text.
- The `<em>` element is used to define emphasized text. By default, emphasized text is displayed in *italic*.
- The `<strong>` element is used to represent important content. Browsers, by default, render strong content in **bold**.

- The `<i>` and `<b>` elements are considered deprecated because HTML should not be used for styling. That's the role of CSS.
- Headings are represented using `<h1>`, `<h2>`, `<h3>`, `<h4>`, `<h5>`, `<h6>`. Every web page should have one and only one `<h1>` element. Headings should have a natural hierarchy and should not be skipped.
- Entities are used to display special characters such as angle brackets, copyright symbol, etc. The most important entities are: `&nbsp;` (non-breaking space), `&lt;` (less than sign), `&gt;` (greater than sign) and `&copy;` (copyright symbol).
- The `<a>` (anchor) element, with its `href` attribute, is used to create a hyperlink to web pages, locations in the same page, files and email addresses.
- A relative URL specifies the target resource *relative* to the current resource. An absolute URL specifies the location of a resource irrespective of the current resource. It can start with a `/` to indicate the root of the website or a protocol (eg `http://`) to represent a resource on a different website.
- The `<img>` element is used to display an image. It's a common best practice to set the `alt` (alternative text) attribute. This helps visually impaired people understand the page content. Also, if the image cannot be loaded, the alternative text is displayed.
- The `<video>` and `<audio>` elements are used to display video and audio. These elements have boolean attributes such as `controls`, `autoplay` and `loop`.
- The `<ul>` element is used to represent a list where the order of items doesn't matter. The `<ol>` element is used to represent an ordered list of items. The `<dl>` (description list) element is used to implement a glossary or to display metadata.
- The `<table>` element should only be used to represent tabular data. A table can have zero or more `<tr>` (table row) elements. Each `<tr>` element can have zero or more cells. Cells can be data cells (`<td>`) or header cells (`<th>`).

- The `<div>` and `<span>` elements are generic containers used for styling purposes. Divs are block-level elements, spans are inline elements. A block-level element starts on a new line and takes up the entire available horizontal space.
- Semantic elements help us write markup that is more meaningful and descriptive to search engines, screen readers and other software. So, use `<div>` and `<span>` elements when no other semantic element is appropriate.
- The semantic elements in HTML5 are: `<header>`, `<footer>`, `<nav>`, `<main>`, `<aside>`, `<article>`, `<section>`, `<figure>`, `<time>` and `<mark>`.