

Standard Coding Practices

Validate your HTML code:

W3C validator sets the industry standards, so it should be the first place to check whether your HTML code is valid.

<https://validator.w3.org/>

Always declare a doctype

It is an instruction to the web browser about your page's HTML version. Always add the !DOCTYPE tag declaration to your HTML documents, so that the browser knows what type of document to expect.

```
<!-- HTML 5 -->
<!DOCTYPE html>

<!-- HTML 4.01 Strict -->
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01/EN">

<!-- XHTML 1.0 Strict -->
<DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
```

Tags

A) HTML tags should be closed properly.

```
<!-- Good -->
<p>some text.....</p>
<h1> Heading</h1>
<input type= "text" />      <!--self-closing -->

<!-- Not so Good -->
<p>some text.....
<H1>Heading</h1>
<input type= "text" >
```

B) Use appropriate "<meta>" tags

```
<meta charset="utf-8" />
<meta name="keywords" content="HTML, CSS, XML, XHTML, JavaScript">
```

C) Use meaningful title tags to provide name to HTML page.

```
<head>
  <title>My Page Title</title>
</head>
```

Layout

A) Use semantically appropriate elements to layout your page

- Learn about all the available HTML elements and use them correctly for a semantic and meaningful content structure.
- Use `` for emphasis and `` for heavy emphasis, instead of `<i>` or `` (which are deprecated).

```
<body>
  <header>
    ...
  </header>
  <article>
    ...
    <section>
      ...
    </section>
    ...
  </article>
  <footer>
    ...
  </footer>
</body>
```

B) Use Fieldset and Labels in Web Forms

- Use the `<label>` element to label input fields. Divide input fields into logical sets using `<fieldset>`. Name a `<fieldset>` using `<legend>`. All of this will make your forms more understandable for users and improve the quality of your code.

```
<fieldset>
  <legend>Personal Details</legend>
  <label for="name">name</label><input type="text" id="name" name="name" />
  <label for="email">email</label><input type="text" id="email" name="email" />
  <label for="subject">subject</label><input type="text" id="subject" name="subject" />
  <label for="message">message</label>
  <textarea rows="10" cols="20" id="message" name="message" ></textarea>
</fieldset>
```

C) Use the required attribute to request validation.

D) Use the placeholder attribute to provide input hints.

E) Provide Fallbacks for Multimedia.

- Provide text alternatives for any non-text content.

```

```

F) ID's should be unique across the page.

```
<!-- Good -->
<div id="ID1">Some container.</div>
<div id="ID2">Some other container.</div>

<!-- Not so Good -->
<div id="ID1">Some container.</div>
<div id="ID1">Some other container.</div>
```