<a> (links) — quick cheat-sheet

Nice — links are super useful. Below are the common attributes you listed with short explanations and examples.

href

- The URL or resource the link points to. Can be absolute (https://…) or relative (/page.html) or special schemes like mailto: or tel:.

- If href is missing, the <a> acts like a placeholder (not recommended).

target

- Controls where the linked document opens:

    o _self (default) — same tab/window.

    o _blank — new tab/window.

    o _parent, _top — for framed contexts.

- **Security note:** when using _blank include rel="noopener noreferrer" to avoid the opened page accessing your window.opener (prevents certain attacks and performance issues).

rel

- Relationship between current page and linked page. Common values:

    o noopener — prevents access to window.opener (use with _blank).

    o noreferrer — also omits the Referer header and prevents window.opener.

    o nofollow — tells search engines not to follow the link (SEO hint).

- You can combine: rel="noopener noreferrer nofollow".

download

- Suggests the browser download the linked resource instead of navigating to it. Optionally you can set a filename: download="myfile.pdf".

- Works for same-origin and many cross-origin files (browser-dependent).

mailto (special href)

- Opens the user's email client with prefilled fields. Encode spaces and special chars. Example: href="mailto:friend@example.com?subject=Hello%20Bro&body=How%20are%20you%3F"