LEARNING TO LOVE FORMS

THE AJAX EXPERIENCE 2007

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EASY! DESIGNS, LLC

FORMS ARE
A NECESSARY
EVIL

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name

Email

Message

Go

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name

Email

Message

Go

FORM Element
establishes a form

ACTION is the only required attribute and should always be a URI

METHOD defaults to "get"

NAME is depreciated; use ID instead

```
<form id="contact-form"
      action="/action-page.php"
      method="post">

 <!-- the rest of our form will go here -->

</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name

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Go

FIEDSET **Element**
used to group related fields

LEGEND **Element**
used to provide a caption for
a FIELDSET

```
<form id="contact-form" action="/action-page.php" method="post">
  <fieldset>
   <legend>Send us a message</legend>

   <!-- the rest of our form will go here -->

  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name	
Email	
Message	

Go

Containing FORM Controls

P or **DIV**
sensible choices, but not very accurate (except in certain instances)

OL or **UL**
most forms are lists of questions or form controls, so these are better

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="/action-page.php" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <p><!-- form control --></p>
    <p><!-- form control --></p>
    <p><!-- form control --></p>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="/action-page.php" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><!-- form control --></li>
      <li><!-- form control --></li>
      <li><!-- form control --></li>
    </ol>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name

Email

Message

Go

INPUT Text Control

`type="name"` is a basic text input field

(also `type="password"` for content you want hidden)

NAME vs. ID
`NAME` is for the back end
`ID` is for the front end

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li>Name
        <input type="text" name="name"
          id="contact-name" /></li>
      <li>Email
        <input type="text" name="email"
          id="contact-email" /></li>
      <li><!-- form control --></li>
    </ol>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

TEXTAREA

a multiline text form control

requires ROWS and COLS attributes!!!

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li>Name
          <input type="text" name="name" id="contact-name" /></li>
      <li>Email
          <input type="text" name="email" id="contact-email" /></li>
      <li>Message
      <textarea name="message"
        id="contact-message"
        rows="4" cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name	
Email	
Message	

Go

Working with `LABEL`

this element provides to means of associating its content with a form control:

implicit association

`LABEL` wraps the form control and the text

explicit association

`LABEL`'s `FOR` attribute is an `ID` reference to the form control

```
<form id="contact-form" action="/action-page.php" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>

      <li><label>Name
          <input ... /></label></li>
      ...
    </ol>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

```
<form id="contact-form" action="/action-page.php" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
          <input id="contact-name" ... /></li>
      ...
    </ol>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name

Email

Message

Go

Buttons
trigger events in a form; use either `INPUT` or `BUTTON` element

Common `TYPE`s

`submit` – submits the form; default button type

`reset` – resets all form control values back to their defaults when the page loaded

```
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
    </ol>
    <input type="submit" value="Go" />
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

```
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US


```
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
          <input type="text" id="contact-name"
                 name="name" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-email">Email</label>
          <input type="text" id="contact-email"
                 name="email" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-message">Message</label>
          <textarea id="contact-message"
                    name="message" rows="4"
                    cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```
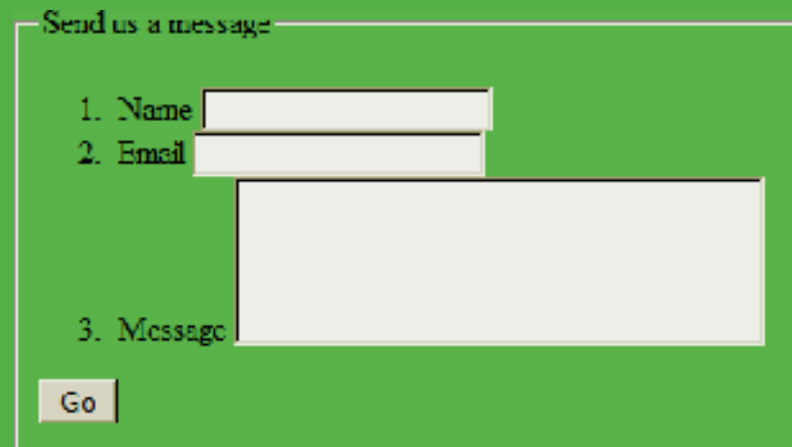
SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

```css
body {
    font: 62.5%
"Lucida Sans Unicode",
"Lucida Grande",
sans-serif;
}
ol, ul, p {
    font-size: 1.2em;
    line-height: 1.5;
}
```



```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
          <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-email">Email</label>
          <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-message">Message</label>
          <textarea id="contact-message" name="message" rows="4"
                    cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message
Name
Email
Message
Go

```css
form, fieldset, legend {
   border: 0;
   padding: 0;
   margin: 0;
}
legend {
   font-size: 2em;
}
form ol, form ul {
   list-style: none;
   margin: 0;
   padding: 0;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-email">Email</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-message">Message</label>
        <textarea id="contact-message" name="message" rows="4"
                  cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

```css
form li {
   margin: 0 0 .75em;
}
label {
   display: block;
}
input, textarea {
   width: 250px;
}
```

Send us a message

Name

Email

Message

Go

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-email">Email</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-message">Message</label>
        <textarea id="contact-message" name="message" rows="4"
                  cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US


```css
form li {
  clear: both;
  margin: 0 0 .75em;
  padding: 0;
}
label {
  display: block;
  float: left;
  line-height: 1.6;
  margin-right: 10px;
  text-align: right;
  width: 120px;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-email">Email</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-message">Message</label>
        <textarea id="contact-message" name="message" rows="4"
                  cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name

Email

Message

Go

```css
legend {
    font-size: 2em;
    line-height: 1.8;
    padding-bottom: .5em;
}
button {
    margin-left: 130px;
    cursor: pointer;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-email">Email</label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-message">Message</label>
        <textarea id="contact-message" name="message" rows="4"
                  cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US


```css
label:after {
    content: ':';
}
input, textarea {
    background: #ddd;
    width: 250px;
}
input:focus,
textarea:focus {
    background: #fff;
}
/* Some styles to get
   the baselines to
   match & to unify the
   type used */
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      <li><label for="contact-name">Name</label>
          <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-email">Email</label>
          <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" /></li>
      <li><label for="contact-message">Message</label>
          <textarea id="contact-message" name="message" rows="4"
                    cols="30"></textarea></li>
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```
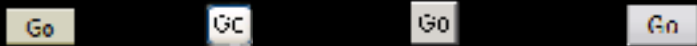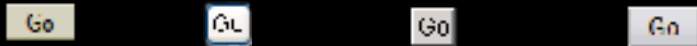
SIDEBAR:
BUTTONS

WINDOWS XP					OS X				
Go	GL	Go	Go	**INPUT**	Go	Go	Go	Go	Go
Go	Gc	Go	Go	**BUTTON**	Go	Go	Go	Go	Go
Mozilla	IE 6/7 (XP)	IE 6/7 (classic)	Opera		Safari	Camino	Firefox	IE 5	Opera

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

```css
body {
  font: 62.5% "Lucida Sans
    Unicode", "Lucida Grande",
    sans-serif;
}
ol, ul, p {
  font-size: 1.2em;
  line-height: 1.5;
}
form, fieldset, legend {
  border: 0;
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
}
legend {
  font-size: 2em;
  line-height: 1.8;
  padding-bottom: .5em;
}
form ol, form ul {
  list-style: none;
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
}
form li {
  clear: both;
  margin: 0 0 .75em;
  padding: 0;
}
label {
  display: block;
  float: left;
  line-height: 1.6;
  margin-right: 10px;
  text-align: right;
  width: 120px;
}

label:after {
  content: ':';
}
input, textarea {
  background: #ddd;
  font: 1em Arial, Helvetica,
    sans-serif;
  padding: 1px 3px;
  width: 250px;
}
textarea {
  line-height: 1.3em;
  padding: 0 3px;
}
input:focus, textarea:focus {
  background: #fff;
}
button {
  background: #ffd100;
  border: 2px outset #333;
  color: #333;
  cursor: pointer;
  font-size: .9em;
  font-weight: bold;
  letter-spacing: .3em;
  margin-left: 130px;
  padding: .2em .5em;
  text-transform: uppercase;
}
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

SELECTion Lists

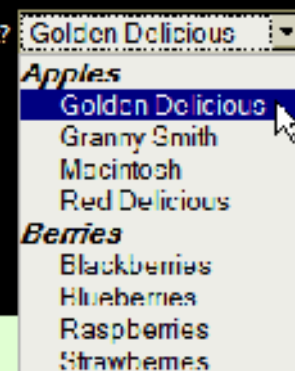allows selection of one or more OPTIONs

On OPTION elements, the VALUE attribute is optional (contents are submitted by default)

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
      <li><label
          for="contact-subject">Subject</label>
        <select id="contact-subject"
                name="subject">
        <option value="Error">I noticed a
          website error</option>
        <option value="Question">I have a
          question</option>
        <option>Other</option>
      </select></li>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIDEBAR:
OPTGROUPS


```
<select id="favorite-fruit" name="favorite-fruit">
  <optgroup label="Apples">
    <option value="Golden Delicious Apples">Golden Delicious</option>
    <option value="Granny Smith Apples">Granny Smith</option>
    <option value="Macintosh Apples">Macintosh</option>
    <option value="Red Delicious Apples">Red Delicious</option>
  </optgroup>
  <optgroup label="Berries">
    <option>Blackberries</option>
    <option>Blueberries</option>
    <option>Raspberries</option>
    <option>Strawberries</option>
  </optgroup>
</select>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name:

Email:

Subject: | I noticed a website error ▼ |

Message:

[GO]

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
      <li><label for="contact-subject">Subject</label>
          <select id="contact-subject" name="subject">
            <option value="Error">I noticed a website error</option>
            <option value="Question">I have a question</option>
            <option>Other</option>
          </select></li>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name: [   ]

Email: [   ]

Subject: [I noticed a website error ▾]

Message: [   ]
[   ]
[   ]

[GO]

```css
select {
  background: #ddd;
  width: 260px;
  /* width is *usually*
     the input width +
     input padding +
     4px */
}
input:focus,
textarea:focus,
select:focus {
  background: #fff;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
      <li><label for="contact-subject">Subject</label>
        <select id="contact-subject" name="subject">
          <option value="Error">I noticed a website error</option>
          <option value="Question">I have a question</option>
          <option>Other</option>
        </select></li>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```
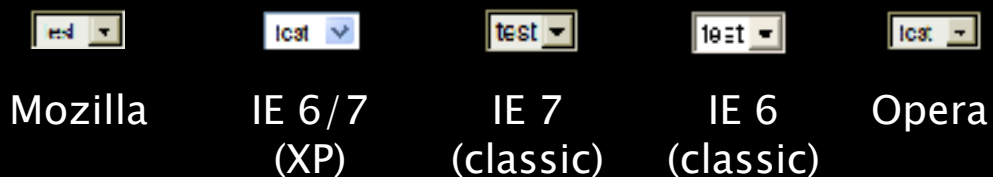
SIDEBAR:
SELECTS

WINDOWS XP

Mozilla　　IE 6/7　　IE 7　　IE 6　　Opera
　　　　　(XP)　　(classic)　(classic)

OS X

Safari　　Camino　　Firefox　　IE 5　　Opera

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Subject: | I noticed a website error ▼ |

Message:

I would prefer to be contacted by

◉ email   ◉ phone

GO

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Subject: I noticed a website error

Message:

I would prefer to be contacted by
○ email   ○ phone

`GO`

Nested `FIELDSET`s

a great way to organize radio or checkbox groups

The `LEGEND` is the question or statement

Lists organize the possible responses (`OL` or `UL`)

implicit `LABEL`s provide an easy way to style in IE6

```
...
<li>
 <fieldset class="radio">
  <legend>I would prefer to be
  contacted by</legend>
  <ul>
   <li><label><input type="radio"
    name="method" value="email" />
    email</label></li>
   <li><label><input type="radio"
    name="method" value="phone" />
    phone</label></li>
  </ul>
 </fieldset>
</li>
...
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US


```
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
    ...
    <li>
      <fieldset class="radio">
        <legend>I would prefer to be contacted by</legend>
        <ul>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="email" />
              email</label></li>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="phone" />
              phone</label></li>
        </ul>
      </fieldset>
    </li>
    ...
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US


```css
.radio legend {
  font-size: 1em;
  line-height: 1.5;
  padding: 0 0 0 6px;
  margin: 0;
}
.radio label {
  display: inline;
  width: auto;
  margin: 0;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
    ...
    <li>
      <fieldset class="radio">
        <legend>I would prefer to be contacted by</legend>
        <ul>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="email" />
              email</label></li>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="phone" />
              phone</label></li>
        </ul>
      </fieldset>
    </li>
    ...
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name:

Email

Phone:

Subject: I noticed a website error ▼

Message:

I would prefer to be contacted by

○ email

○ phone

GO

```css
.radio {
  margin-left: 125px;
}
.radio ul {
  font-size: 1em;
  margin: .3em 0 0;
}
.radio label:after {
  content: '';
}
label input {
  background:
    transparent;
  width: auto;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
    ...
    <li>
      <fieldset class="radio">
        <legend>I would prefer to be contacted by</legend>
        <ul>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="email" />
              email</label></li>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="phone" />
              phone</label></li>
        </ul>
      </fieldset>
    </li>
    ...
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US


```css
.radio li {
    float: left;
    margin: 0;
    width: 48%;
    clear: none;
}
label input {
    width: auto;
    position: relative;
    top: 2px;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
    ...
    <li>
      <fieldset class="radio">
        <legend>I would prefer to be contacted by</legend>
        <ul>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="email" />
              email</label></li>
          <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="phone" />
              phone</label></li>
        </ul>
      </fieldset>
    </li>
    ...
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name:

Email:

Phone

Subject: I noticed a website error

Message:

~~This is an exceedingly long reason to demonstrate the odd behv~~

email   phone

GO

```css
.radio legend {
  font-size: 1em;
  line-height: 1.5;
  padding: 0 0 0 6px;
  margin: 0;
  max-width: 270px;
  width: 270px;
}
```

```html
...
  <fieldset class="radio">
    <legend>This is an exceedingly long
<code>LEGEND</code> to demonstrate the odd
behavior of <code>LEGEND</code>s</legend>
    <ul>
      <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="email" />
        email</label></li>
      <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="phone" />
        phone</label></li>
    </ul>
  </fieldset>
...
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Subject: [I noticed a website error   ▼]

Message:

This is an exceedingly long reason to demonstrate the odd behavior of LEGENDS

○ email   ○ phone

[GO]

```
.radio legend span {
  display: block;
  width: 270px;
}
```

```
...
  <fieldset class="radio">
    <legend><span>This is an exceedingly long
      <code>LEGEND</code> to demonstrate the odd behavior of
      <code>LEGEND</code>s</span></legend>
    <ul>
      <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="email" />
          email</label></li>
      <li><label><input type="radio" name="method" value="phone" />
          phone</label></li>
    </ul>
  </fieldset>
...
```

                                       EASY! DESIGNS, LLC

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Subject: I noticed a website error

Message:

I would prefer to be contacted by

◉ email   ◉ phone

☐ Please add me to your mailing list

GO

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Confirmations
a little CLASSification goes a long way

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
      <li class="confirm">
        <input type="hidden" name="mailing-list"
               value="0" />
        <label><input type="checkbox"
               name="mailing-list" value="1" />
               Please add me to your mailing
               list</label></li>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

Send us a message

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Subject: I noticed a website error

Message:

I would prefer to be contacted by

● email   ● phone

☐ Please add me to your mailing list

GO

```
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
      <li class="confirm">
        <input type="hidden" name="mailing-list" value="0" />
        <label><input type="checkbox" name="mailing-list" value="1" />
               Please add me to your mailing list</label></li>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US


```css
.confirm label {
  display: block;
  float: none;
  margin-left: 125px;
  text-align: left;
  width: 270px;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
      <li class="confirm">
        <input type="hidden" name="mailing-list" value="0" />
        <label><input type="checkbox" name="mailing-list" value="1" />
               Please add me to your mailing list</label></li>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
CONTACT US

```css
.confirm {
  margin-bottom: 1.4em;
}
.radio label:after,
.confirm label:after {
  content: '';
}
```

Send us a message

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Subject: I noticed a website error ▼

Message:

I would prefer to be contacted by

◉ email　　◉ phone

☐ Please add me to your mailing list

GO

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="#" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <ol>
      ...
      <li class="confirm">
        <input type="hidden" name="mailing-list" value="0" />
        <label><input type="checkbox" name="mailing-list" value="1" />
            Please add me to your mailing list</label></li>
      ...
    </ol>
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

MORE
FORMS OF
FORMS

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX

Search this site for [   ] **GO**

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX

Search this site for [   ] **GO**

POST vs. GET
Search forms are traditionally GET requests to allow the action page (i.e. the results) to be bookmarkable.

```
<form id="search-form"
      action="/action-page.php"
      method="get">

  <!-- the rest of our form will go here -->

</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX
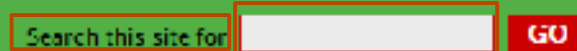
Search this site for [_____] **GO**

You need something
Sometimes a `FIELDSET` is unnecessary, but in XHTML, you need something to wrap the contents of a form

```
<form id="search-form" action="/action-page.php" method="get">
  <p>
  <!-- the rest of our form will go here -->
  <p>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX

Easy-peasy

```html
<form id="search-form" action="/action-page.php" method="get">
  <p>
    <label for="search-query">Search this
    site for</label>
    <input type="text" id="search-query"
    name="query" />
  <p>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX

Search this site for [   ] **GO**

It's a BUTTON
big shock, I know

```html
<form id="search-form" action="/action-page.php" method="get">
  <p>
    <label for="search-query">Search this site for</label>
    <input type="text" id="search-query" name="query" />
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  <p>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX

Search this site for [   ] [Go]

```css
body {
  background: #54af44;
  font: 62.5% "Lucida
  Sans Unicode", "Lucida
  Grande", sans-serif;
}
ol, ul, p {
  font-size: 1.2em;
  line-height: 1.5;
}
```

```html
<form id="search-form" action="/action-page.php" method="get">
  <p>
    <label for="search-query">Search this site for</label>
    <input type="text" id="search-query" name="query" />
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  <p>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX

```css
label {
    line-height: 2em;
}
input {
    border: 1px solid #c00;
    background: #ebebeb;
    margin: 0 .5em;
    padding: 2px 4px;
}
input:focus {
    background: #fff;
}
```

Search this site for [   ] [Go]

```html
<form id="search-form" action="/action-page.php" method="get">
  <p>
    <label for="search-query">Search this site for</label>
    <input type="text" id="search-query" name="query" />
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  <p>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
SEARCH BOX

Search this site for [   ] **GO**

```css
button {
  background: #c00;
  border: 0;
  color: #fff;
  cursor: pointer;
  font-size: .9em;
  font-weight: bold;
  letter-spacing: .1em;
  padding: 2px 8px;
  text-transform:
    uppercase;
}
```
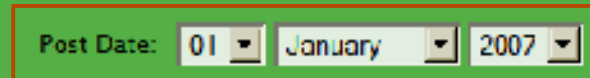
```html
<form id="search-form" action="/action-page.php" method="get">
  <p>
    <label for="search-query">Search this site for</label>
    <input type="text" id="search-query" name="query" />
    <button type="submit">Go</button>
  <p>
</form>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date: 01 ▼ | January ▼ | 2007 ▼

EASY! DESIGNS, LLC

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT
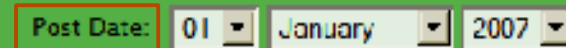
Post Date: 01 ▾ January ▾ 2007 ▾

Getting organized

```html
<fieldset class="date">

  <!-- the rest will go here -->

</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date: 01 ▾ January ▾ 2007 ▾

Not really a LABEL

```
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>

  <!-- the rest will go here -->

</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date: 01 ▾ January ▾ 2007 ▾

Not just a SELECT
we need some LABELing

```
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
   <li>
    <label for="date-day">Date</label>
    <select id="date-day" name="day">
     <option>01</option>

     ...
     <option>31</option>
    </select>
   </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date: 01 ▾ | January ▾ | 2007 ▾

And so on

```
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
    <li>
      <label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li>
      <label for="date-month">Month</label>
      <select id="date-month" name="month">
        <option value="01">January</option>
        ...
        <option value="12">December</option>
      </select>
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date: 01 ▾ January ▾ 2007 ▾

And so forth

```
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
    <li>
      <label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li>
      <label for="date-month">Month</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li>
      <label for="date-year">Year</label>
      <select id="date-year" name="year">
        <option>2007</option>
        <option>2008</option>
      </select>
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT


```css
body {
  background: #54af44;
    font: 62.5% "Lucida
    Sans Unicode", "Lucida
    Grande", sans-serif;
}
ol, ul, p, legend {
  font-size: 1.2em;
  line-height: 1.5;
}
legend {
  color: #000;
}
```

```html
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
    <li><label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-month">Month</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-year">Year</label>
      ...
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date

Date 01 ▾
Month January ▾
Year 2007 ▾

```css
.date {
  border: 0;
  padding: 0;
}
.date ol {
  list-style: none;
  margin: 0 0 0 130px;
  padding: 0;
}
```

```html
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
    <li><label for="date-day">Date</label>
    ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-month">Month</label>
    ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-year">Year</label>
    ...
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date

Date 01 ▾ Month January ▾ Year 2007 ▾

```
.date li {
  float: left;
}
```

```html
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
    <li><label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-month">Month</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-year">Year</label>
      ...
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

```css
.date select {
  background: #e2efe0;
  margin: 0 .25em 0 0;
}
.date select:focus {
  background: #fff;
}
```

Post Date

Date 01 ▼ Month January ▼ Year 2007 ▼

```html
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
    <li><label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-month">Month</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-year">Year</label>
      ...
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date

01 ▼ January ▼ 2007 ▼

```css
.date label {
  position: absolute;
  left: -999em;
}
```

```html
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend>Post Date</legend>
  <ol>
    <li><label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-month">Month</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-year">Year</label>
      ...
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date 01 ▾ January ▾ 2007 ▾

```css
.date {
  border: 0;
  padding: 0;
  position: relative;
}
.date legend span {
  display: block;
  line-height: 1.6;
  text-align: right;
  width: 120px;
  position: absolute;
  top: 0;
  left: 0;
}
```

```html
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend><span>Post Date</span></legend>
  <ol>
    <li><label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-month">Month</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-year">Year</label>
      ...
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

SIMPLE FORM:
DATE SELECT

Post Date: 01 ▾ January ▾ 2007 ▾

```css
.date legend
span:after {
  content: ":";
}
```

```html
<fieldset class="date">
  <legend><span>Post Date</span></legend>
  <ol>
    <li><label for="date-day">Date</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-month">Month</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li><label for="date-year">Year</label>
      ...
    </li>
  </ol>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

Confine results to   ⊙ within the last year

⊙ the month of [January   ▾]

⊙ a monthly range

from the start of [January 2006   ▾]

until the end of [January 2006   ▾]

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

Organization and coordination
as with other elements, form components can have multiple `CLASS`ifications

```html
<fieldset class="radio related">
 <legend>
  <span>Confine results to</span>
 </legend>
 <ul>
  <li>
   <!-- year -->
  </li>
  <li>
   <!-- month -->
  </li>
  <li>
   <!-- range -->
  </li>
 </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

Basic implicit LABEL

nothing shocking here

```
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    <li>
      <label>
        <input type="radio" name="confines"
          value="year" /> within the last year
      </label>
    </li>
    ...
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

LABELs can contain more than one form control

in our case, we have a radio `INPUT` as well as a `SELECT`ion box

```html
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    <li>
      <label><input type="radio" name="confines" value="year" />
             within the last year</label>
    </li>
    <li>

      <label>
        <input type="radio" name="confines"
         value="month" />
        the month of
        <select name="month">
          <option value="01">January</option>

          ...
          <option value="12">December</option>
        </select>
      </label>
    </li>
    ...
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

How do I code that?!?
think about it... what are the
relationships of the fields?

```html
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    ...
    <li>
      <dl>
        <dt>
          <!-- radio will go here -->
        </dt>
        <dd>
          <!-- related fields here -->
        </dd>
      </dl>
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

We know the first bit

```
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    ...
    <li>
      <dl>
        <dt>
          <label>
            <input type="radio" name="confines"
              value="range" />
            a monthly range
          </label>
        </dt>
        <dd>
          <!-- related fields here -->
        </dd>
      </dl>
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

We need to organize this now

```
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    ...
    <li>
      <dl>
        <dt>
          <label><input type="radio" name="confines"...
        </dt>
        <dd>
          <ol>
            <li>
              <!-- start -->
            </li>
            <li>
              <!-- end -->
            </li>
          </ol>
        </dd>
      </dl>
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

Simple explicit
LABEL

```
...
<dd>
  <ol>
    <li>
      <label for="range-start">
       from the start of</label>
      <select id="range-start"
       name="range-start">
       <option value="2006-01">January
        2006</option>

       ...
       <option value="2006-12">December
        2006</option>
      </select>
    </li>
    <li>
     <!-- end -->
    </li>
    ...
  </ol>
</dd>
...
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

And again

```
...
<dd>
  <ol>
    <li>
      <label for="range-start">from the start of</label>
      ...
    </li>
    <li>
      <label for="range-end">
       until the end of</label>
      <select id="range-end"
       name="range-end">
        <option value="2006-01">January
         2006</option>
         ...
        <option value="2006-12">December
         2006</option>
      </select>
    </li>
  </ol>
</dd>
...
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

It's a lot of code...

```html
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    <li>
      <label>
        <input type="radio" name="confines" value="year" />
        within the last year</label>
    </li>
    <li>
      <label>
        <input type="radio" name="confines" value="month" />
        the month of
        <select name="month">
          <option value="01">January</option>
          ...
        </select>
      </label>
    </li>
    <li>
      <dl>
        <dt>
          <label>
            <input type="radio" name="confines" value="range" />
            a monthly range
          </label>
        </dt>
        <dd>
          <ol>
            <li>
              <label for="range-start">from the start of</label>
              <select id="range-start" name="range-start">
                <option value="2006-01">January 2006</option>
                ...
              </select>
            </li>
            <li>
              <label for="range-end">until the end of</label>
              <select id="range-end" name="range-end">
                <option value="2006-01">January 2006</option>
                ...
              </select>
            </li>
          </ol>
        </dd>
      </dl>
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

...but the benefits are worth it

Confine results to
List of three items
  bullet
    Radio button (not checked) within the last year
bullet
    Radio button (not checked) the month of
      Combo box January
bullet
    Definition list of one item
      Radio button (not checked) a monthly range
equals
      List of two items
        one: from the start of
          Combo box January 2006
        two: until the end of
          Combo box January 2006
      List end
    List end
List end

transcribed by Fangs

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

```
/* We'll save some space
   and inherit styles
   from .radio */

form ol, form ul,
form dl {
  list-style: none;
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
}
li ul, li ol {
  font-size: 1em;
}
```

Confine results to

○ within the last
year

○ the month of
January ▼

□ a monthly range
from   until
the   the end
start of of

Janua January 2006 ▼

```
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    <li>
      <!-- year -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- month -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- range -->
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS


```css
.related li {
  clear: both;
  float: none;
  margin: 0 0 .5em;
  width: auto;
}

/* For IE to recover from
   a strange margin */
.related li {
  zoom: 1;
}
```

```html
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    <li>
      <!-- year -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- month -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- range -->
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

```css
.related select {
  margin-left: .25em;
}
.related dd {
  margin: .5em 0 0;
  padding: 0 0 0 3em;
}
.related dd label {
  float: left;
  line-height: 1.9;
  width: 100px;
}
```

Confine results to
○ within the last year
○ the month of   January ▼
○ a monthly range
      from the start of   January 2006 ▼
      until the end of   January 2006 ▼

```html
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    <li>
      <!-- year -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- month -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- range -->
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

COMPLEX FORM:
RELATED FIELDS

```css
.related legend span {
  display: block;
  line-height: 1.8;
  text-align: right;
  width: 120px;
  position: absolute;
  top: 0;
  left: -130px;
}
```

Confine results to
- within the last year
- the month of January
- a monthly range
  - from the start of January 2006
  - until the end of January 2006

```html
<fieldset class="radio related">
  <legend><span>Confine results to</span></legend>
  <ul>
    <li>
      <!-- year -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- month -->
    </li>
    <li>
      <!-- range -->
    </li>
  </ul>
</fieldset>
```

MAKING
THE MOST OF
MESSAGES

MESSAGING:
REQUIRED

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*:

Email required

Phone:

Subject: I noticed a website error ▼

Message:

MESSAGING:
REQUIRED

What is the * anyway?

Well, it stands for something else and in HTML, the closest to that we have to convey that is the `ABBR` element.

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <p>Required fields are marked
       <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
<ol>
  <li>
    <label for="contact-name">
      Name<abbr title="required">*</abbr>
    </label>
    <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" />
  </li>
  ...
```

MESSAGING:
REQUIRED

If you want to go all-out, you can
but that seems like overkill

```
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <p>Required fields are marked
      <em><abbr title="required">*</abbr></em>.
    </p>
    <ol>
      <li class="required">
        <label for="contact-name">
          Name<em><abbr title="required">*
          </abbr></em>
        </label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" />
      </li>
      ...
```

MESSAGING:
REQUIRED

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: [   ]

Email: [   ]

Phone: [   ]

Subject: [I noticed a website error ▼]

Message: [   ]

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <p>Required fields are marked
      <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
    <ol>
      <li>
        <label for="contact-name">
          Name<abbr title="required">*</abbr>
        </label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" />
      </li>
      ...
```

MESSAGING:
REQUIRED

```css
abbr {
  cursor: help;
  font-style: normal;
  border: 0;
}
```

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: [   ]

Email: [   ]

Phone: [   ]

Subject: [I noticed a website error   ▾]

Message: [   ]

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <p>Required fields are marked
      <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
    <ol>
      <li>
        <label for="contact-name">
          Name<abbr title="required">*</abbr>
        </label>
        <input type="text" id="contact-name" name="name" />
      </li>
      ...
```

MESSAGING:
FORMATTING

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: Aaron Gustafson

Email*: aaron@easy-designs.net

Phone: 203   format: 123-456-7890

Subject*: I noticed a website error ▼

Message*:

MESSAGING:
FORMATTING

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*:	Aaron Gustafson
Email*	aaron@easy-designs.net
Phone:	203 format: 123-456-7890
Subject*:	I noticed a website error ▾
Message*:	

How should we emphasize important formatting info?

```
...
<li>
  <label for="contact-email">
    Email<abbr title="required">*</abbr>
  </label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" />
</li>
<li>
  <label for="contact-phone">
    Phone<em
      class="msg"> format: 123-456-7890</em>
  </label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-phone" name="phone" />
</li>
<li>
  <label for="contact-subject">
    Subject<abbr title="required">*</abbr>
  </label>
  <select id="contact-subject" name="subject">
    <option value="Error">I noticed a website error</option>
    ...
```

MESSAGING:
FORMATTING

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: [   ]

Email*: [   ]

Phone *format:*
123-456-7890: [   ]

Subject*: [I noticed a website error ▾]

Message*: [   ]

```
...
<li>
  <label for="contact-phone">Phone<em
     class="msg"> format: 123-456-7890</em></label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-phone" name="phone" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING:
FORMATTING

```css
label em.msg {
   font-size: .8em;
   font-style: normal;
   line-height: 2.5;
}
```

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*:

Email*:

Phone format:

123-456-7890:

Subject*: I noticed a website error

Message*:

```html
...
<li>
   <label for="contact-phone">Phone<em
      class="msg"> format: 123-456-7890</em></label>
   <input type="text" id="contact-phone" name="phone" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING: FORMATTING

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*:	
Email*:	
Phone:	format: 123-456-7890
Subject*:	I noticed a website error
Message*:	

```css
label{
  ...
  position: relative;
}
label em.msg {
  color: #aaa;
  font-size: .8em;
  font-style: normal;
  line-height: 2.5;
  position: absolute;
  right: -266px;
  top: 0;
}
```

```html
...
<li>
  <label for="contact-phone">Phone<em
    class="msg"> format: 123-456-7890</em></label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-phone" name="phone" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING:
FORMATTING

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*:	Aaron Gustafson
Email*:	aaron@easy-designs.net
Phone:	203 format: 123-456-7890
Subject*:	I noticed a website error ▾
Message*:	

```
...
<li>
  <label for="contact-phone">Phone<em
    class="msg"> format: 123-456-7890</em></label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-phone" name="phone" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

We encountered **1 error** while trying to process this form:
- You forgot to include your email address

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: Aaron Gustafson

Email*:   < You forgot to fill in your email

Phone: format: 123-456-7890

Subject*: I noticed a website error

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

marked *

Aaron Gustafson

< You forgot to fill in your email

format: 123 456 7890

I noticed a website error

Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call
yourself a standardista

How should we
strongly emphasize
even more important
error advisories?

How should we
highlight the field?

```
...
<li class="error">
  <label for="contact-email">
    Email<abbr title="required">*</abbr>
    <strong class="err"> You forgot to fill
    in your email</strong>
  </label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" />
</li>
...
```

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90/102

EASY! DESIGNS, LLC

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: Aaron Gustafson

Email* **You forgot to fill in your email**:

Phone: format: 123-456-7890

Subject*: I noticed a website error

Message*: Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call yourself a standardista.

```
...
<li class="error">
  <label for="contact-email">
    Email<abbr title="required">*</abbr><strong class="err"> You forgot
    to fill in your email</strong>
  </label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: Aaron Gustafson

Email*

You forgot to fill in your email

Phone: format: 123-456-7890

Subject*: I noticed a website error

Message*: Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call yourself a standardista.

```css
strong.err {
  color: #ffdfdf;
  display: block;
  padding-left: 5px;
  text-align: left;
}
```

```html
...
<li class="error">
  <label for="contact-email">
    Email<abbr title="required">*</abbr><strong class="err"> You forgot
    to fill in your email</strong>
  </label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

essage

marked *.

Aaron Gustafson

< You forgot to fill in your email

format: 123-456-7890

I noticed a website error

Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call
yourself a standardista.

```css
strong.err {
  color: #ffdfdf;
  display: block;
  line-height: 1.8;
  padding-left: 5px;
  text-align: left;
  white-space: nowrap;
  position: absolute;
  top: 0;
  left: 390px;
}
strong.err:before {
  content: "<"
}
```

```html
...
<li class="error">
  <label for="contact-email">
    Email<abbr title="required">*</abbr><strong class="err"> You forgot
    to fill in your email</strong>
  </label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

```css
.error input {
  border: 2px solid #b00;
  background: #ffdfdf;
}
.error input:focus {
  background: #fff;
}
```

essage

marked *

Aaron Gustafson

< You forgot to fill in your email

format: 123 456 7890

I noticed a website error

Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call
yourself a standardista.

```html
...
<li class="error">
  <label for="contact-email">
    Email<abbr title="required">*</abbr><strong class="err"> You forgot
    to fill in your email</strong>
  </label>
  <input type="text" id="contact-email" name="email" />
</li>
...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

We encountered **1 error** while trying to process this form:

- You forgot to include your email address

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: Aaron Gustafson

How do we notify users of errors?

It is best to be upfront about errors encountered and to say, in plain language, what the user needs to do to fix it

and linking to the field with errors doesn't hurt

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <div id="errors">
      <p>We encountered <strong>1 error</strong>
      while trying to process this form:</p>
      <ol>
        <li>You forgot to include <a
          href="#contact-email">your email
          address</a></li>
      </ol>
    </div>
    <p>Required fields are marked <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
    ...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

We encountered **1 error** while trying to process this form:

You forgot to include your email address

Required fields are marked *.

Name*:	Aaron Gustafson
Email*:	[ ] ← You
Phone:	format: 123-456-7890
Subject*:	I noticed a website error ▾
Message*:	Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call yourself a standardista.

```
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <div id="errors">
      <p>We encountered <strong>1 error</strong> while trying to process
        this form:</p>
      <ol>
        <li>You forgot to include <a href="#contact-email">your email
          address</a></li>
      </ol>
    </div>
    <p>Required fields are marked <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
    ...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

We encountered **1 error** while trying to process this form:

You forgot to include your email address

Required fields are marked *.

Name*:	Aaron Gustafson
Email*:		< You
Phone:	format: 123-456-7890
Subject*:	I noticed a website error
Message*:	Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call

```css
#errors {
  background: #ffdfdf;
  border: 2px solid #b00;
  color: #333;
  margin: .5em 0 1em;
  padding: 10px;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <div id="errors">
      <p>We encountered <strong>1 error</strong> while trying to process
        this form:</p>
      <ol>
        <li>You forgot to include <a href="#contact-email">your email
          address</a></li>
      </ol>
    </div>
    <p>Required fields are marked <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
    ...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

We encountered **1 error** while trying to process this form:
- You forgot to include your email address

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: [Aaron Gustafson]

Email*: [ ]　< You

Phone: [format: 123-456-7890]

Subject*: [I noticed a website error ▼]

Message*: [Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call yourself a standardista.]

```css
#errors p {
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
}
#errors ol {
  list-style: disc;
  margin: 0 0 0 20px;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <div id="errors">
      <p>We encountered <strong>1 error</strong> while trying to process
        this form:</p>
      <ol>
        <li>You forgot to include <a href="#contact-email">your email
          address</a></li>
      </ol>
    </div>
    <p>Required fields are marked <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
    ...
```

MESSAGING:
ERRORS

Send us a message

> We encountered **1 error** while trying to process this form:
> • You forgot to include <u>your email address</u>

Required fields are marked *.

Name*: `Aaron Gustafson`

Email*: `[                    ]` **< You**

Phone: `format: 123-456-7890`

Subject*: `I noticed a website error ▼`

Message*: `Your homepage doesn't validate! And you call yourself a standardista.`

```css
#errors a {
   color: #b00;
}
```

```html
<form id="contact-form" action="test.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Send us a message</legend>
    <div id="errors">
      <p>We encountered <strong>1 error</strong> while trying to process
        this form:</p>
      <ol>
        <li>You forgot to include <a href="#contact-email">your email
          address</a></li>
      </ol>
    </div>
    <p>Required fields are marked <abbr title="required">*</abbr>.</p>
    ...
```

PARTING
ADVICE

- treat forms like any other piece of (X)HTML

- be aware of browser inconsistencies & make accommodations (when possible)

- break a complex form into bite-size chunks

- look for ways to provide richer meaning/a better experience

- apply your CSS layout knowledge for the rest of the page to a form

- don't over-complicate form design

- learn to love forms

LEARNING
TO LOVE
FORMS

THE AJAX EXPERIENCE 2007