

Uses of Meta tag

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The `<meta>` element is typically used to specify the character set, page description, keywords, author of the document, and viewport settings.

The metadata will not be displayed on the page, but are used by browsers (how to display content or reload page), by search engines (keywords), and other web services.

Examples

Define the character set used:

```
<meta charset="UTF-8">
```

Define keywords for search engines:

```
<meta name="keywords" content="HTML, CSS, JavaScript">
```

Define a description of your web page:

```
<meta name="description" content="Free Web tutorials">
```

Define the author of a page:

```
<meta name="author" content="John Doe">
```

Refresh document every 30 seconds:

```
<meta http-equiv="refresh" content="30">
```

Setting the viewport to make your website look good on all devices:

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
```

Example of `<meta>` tags:

Example

```
<meta charset="UTF-8">
```

```
<meta name="description" content="Free Web tutorials">
```

```
<meta name="keywords" content="HTML, CSS, JavaScript">
```

```
<meta name="author" content="John Doe">
```

Setting The Viewport

The viewport is the user's visible area of a web page. It varies with the device - it will be smaller on a mobile phone than on a computer screen.

You should include the following `<meta>` element in all your web pages:

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
```

This gives the browser instructions on how to control the page's dimensions and scaling.

The `width=device-width` part sets the width of the page to follow the screen-width of the device (which will vary depending on the device).

The `initial-scale=1.0` part sets the initial zoom level when the page is first loaded by the browser.

Here is an example of a web page *without* the viewport meta tag, and the same web page *with* the viewport meta tag: