

HTML5 Guide

Sectional Elements

These semantic structural elements are for organizing and segmenting a document.

Element	Code	Note
Header	<code><header></header></code>	Creates the header section of its parent and contains introductory content. When its parent is the <code><body></code> it will contain that content that will be at the top of every page.
Nav	<code><nav></nav></code>	Used to define a site's navigational system. Usually, it will contain a list but can contain other content. Unnecessary for reference links such as within an article.
Article	<code><article></article></code>	An article should be able to stand by itself and it should be possible to distribute it independently from the rest of the site. Potential uses for the <code><article></code> element are to define: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forum post• Blog post• News story• Comment• Essay• Thesis• Short story
Section	<code><section></section></code>	A section is a thematic grouping of content. It is often used within sectional elements, such as the <code><article></code> , to divide it into sections. Will usually open with a heading.
Footer	<code><footer></footer></code>	Indicates the footer area of its parent. When it is the last child of the <code><body></code> it contains the content that will appear at the bottom of every page. When it is the last child of the <code><article></code> will often contain information about the author, copyright data, and reference links
Aside	<code><aside></aside></code>	Creates a section to contain content that is tangentially related to the web page's primary content. Asides are frequently presented as sidebars or call-out boxes.