

HTML Guide: Images

Element	Code	Note
Image	<code></code>	In conjunction with the Source attribute Empty element does not have a closing tag
Source attribute	<code></code>	Specifies the URL of an image Usually a relative path to an image
Width attribute	<code></code>	<p>“n” = a number in pixels. Unlike CSS do not include the “px” for pixels just the number value.</p> <p>Although optional it is a good practice to always specify an image’s width.</p> <p>If height and width are set, the space required for the image is reserved when the page is loaded. However, without these attributes, the browser does not know the size of the image, and cannot reserve the appropriate space to it. The effect will be that the page layout will change during loading (while the image(s) download).</p> <p>Scaling down a large image to a smaller size image via the height and width attributes forces a heavier than needed download upon the end user. To avoid this, rescale the image with an image-editing program before adding it to a page.</p>
Height attribute	<code></code>	<p>“n” = a number in pixels. Unlike CSS do not include the “px” for pixels just the number value.</p> <p>Although optional it is a good practice to always specify an image’s width and height.</p>
Alternate Text attribute	<code></code>	Descriptive phrase or sentence Important for search engine optimization Now required in HTML 5

Code Example

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Setting Image Dimensions Via CSS

Current Practice is to use the CSS width and height properties to set image dimensions.

- If there are multiple images on a page that share the exact same width and height, then setting their dimensions via embedded CSS is the most efficient practice.
- If several pages contain images that share the same dimensions, then setting these images' width and height via a secondary external style sheet is the most efficient practice.
- If one or more images are being used site wide, then setting their width and height via the universal style sheet is the most efficient practice.
- If the dimensions of an image are unique to it, then setting its width and height via inline CSS is usually the best practice.

Code Example: Inline CSS

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