

Day 4

“Web Development + Security”

Image:

What is Image in HTML?

In HTML, an image is added to a web page using the tag.

- The tag is an empty element (it doesn't have a closing tag).
- It requires at least the src attribute, which tells the browser the path (URL) of the image, and the alt attribute, which provides alternative text (important for accessibility and SEO).
- Other attributes like width, height, title, and loading help control the display, size, and behavior of the image.

Attribute	Use Case	Example
src	Specifies the path/URL of the image	
alt	Alternative text if image doesn't load (also for screen readers & SEO)	
width	Sets the width of the image (in px or %)	
height	Sets the height of the image	
title	Tooltip text when hovering on the image	
loading	Controls image loading (lazy, eager, auto)	
style	Apply inline CSS styles	
class	Assign CSS class for styling	
id	Unique identifier for the image	
usemap	Links image to an image map for clickable areas	

Example: image is shown



Example: image don't exists, and hence alt text is printed



Example: image don't exists and alt is also not given



Example: auto adjustment of width / height, if only height is given width automatically get adjusted and same for height.



Security Practices for

1. Use HTTPS for images

If you load images over http://, attackers can intercept or tamper with them. Always use https:// to keep the connection secure.

Example: both good and bad practice is shown below

```
index.html > html > body
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>

23  <!--Bad practice-->
24  
25
26  <!--Good practice-->
27  
28 </body>
29 </html>
```

2. Host images yourself

Loading images from untrusted third-party sites can leak user info (like IP, referrer). Hosting them yourself is safer.

Example:

```
index.html > html
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>

29  <!--Bad Practice-->
30  
31
32  <!--Good practice-->
33  
34 </body>
35 </html>
```

3. Validate & sanitize uploads

If users can upload images, attackers may upload fake images (like .php or massive files). Always check file type, size, and content.

Example:

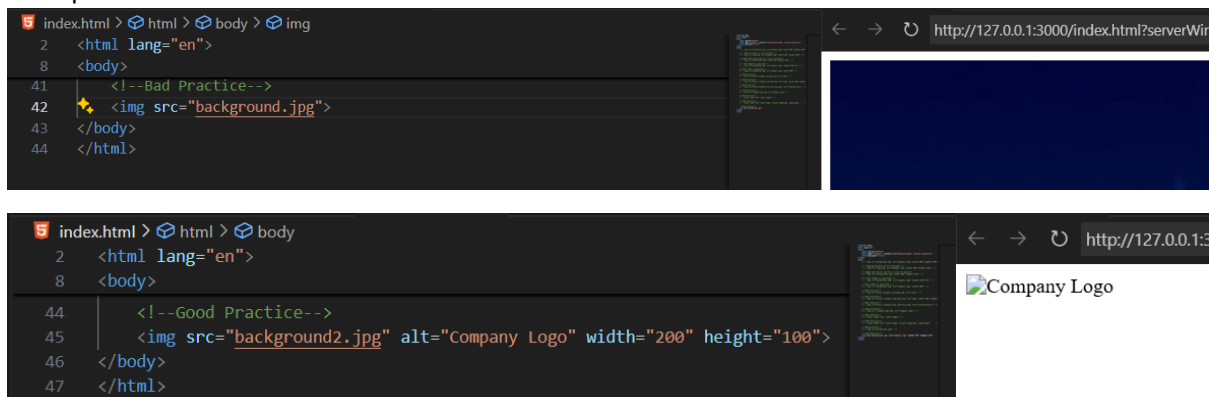


```
index.html > html > body > input
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>
35  <!--Bad Practice-->
36  <input type="file" name="image">
37
38  <!--Good Practice-->
39  <input type="file" name="image" accept="image/png, image/jpeg">
40 </body>
41 </html>
```

4. Use alt text

Not directly security, but alt helps screen readers and also prevents “broken image” confusion if the file is missing.

Example:



```
index.html > html > body > img
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>
41 <!--Bad Practice-->
42 
43 </body>
44 </html>

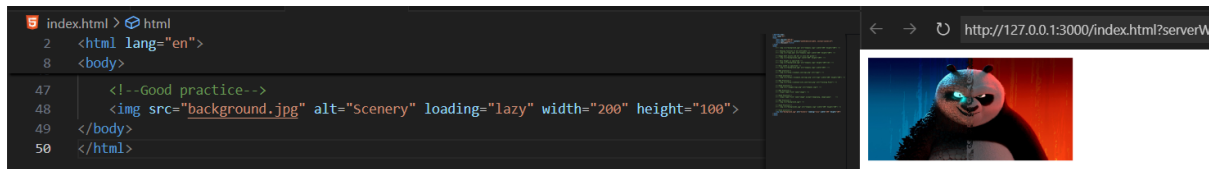
index.html > html > body
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>
44 <!--Good Practice-->
45 
46 </body>
47 </html>
```

The first screenshot shows a browser window with a broken image placeholder. The second screenshot shows the same browser window with the text "Company Logo" displayed, indicating that the alt text was used when the image file was not found.

5. Use loading="lazy"

Lazy loading ensures images load only when visible, improving performance and reducing unnecessary requests.

Example:



```
index.html > html
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>
47 <!--Good practice-->
48 
49 </body>
50 </html>
```

The screenshot shows a browser window displaying a panda character, which is the content of the image loaded lazily.

6. Set size limits (width, height)

Without fixed dimensions, large or malicious images can break layouts or slow down pages.

Example:

```
index.html > html
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>
50  <!--Bad Practice-->
51  
52
53  <!--Good Practice-->
54  
55 </body>
56 </html>
```

7. Use a CDN or separate domain for user uploads

If users upload images, serve them through a CDN or a separate domain so that even if malicious content slips through, it won't affect your main site.

Example:

```
index.html > html
2  <html lang="en">
8  <body>
56  <!--Bad Practice-->
57  
58
59  <!--Good Practice-->
60  
61 </body>
62 </html>
```

--The End--