

HTML Links

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Links are found in nearly all web pages. Links allow users to click their way from page to page.

HTML Links - Hyperlinks

HTML links are hyperlinks.

You can click on a link and jump to another document.

When you move the mouse over a link, the mouse arrow will turn into a little hand.

Note: A link does not have to be text. It can be an image or any other HTML element.

HTML Links - Syntax

Hyperlinks are defined with the HTML `<a>` tag:

```
<a href="url">Link text</a>
```

Example

```
<a href="https://www.w3schools.com/html/">Visit our HTML  
tutorial</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

The **href** attribute specifies the destination address (<https://www.w3schools.com/html/>) of the link.

The **link text** is the visible part (Visit our HTML tutorial).

Clicking on the link text will send you to the specified address.

Note: Without a forward slash at the end of subfolder addresses, you might generate two requests to the server. Many servers will automatically add a forward slash to the end of the address, and then create a new request.

Local Links

The example above used an absolute URL (a full web address).

A local link (link to the same web site) is specified with a relative URL (without <https://www....>).

Example

```
<a href="html_images.asp">HTML Images</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

HTML Link Colors

By default, a link will appear like this (in all browsers):

- An unvisited link is underlined and blue
- A visited link is underlined and purple
- An active link is underlined and red

You can change the default colors, by using CSS:

Example

```
<style>
a:link {
    color: green;
    background-color: transparent;
    text-decoration: none;
}

a:visited {
    color: pink;
    background-color: transparent;
    text-decoration: none;
}

a:hover {
    color: red;
    background-color: transparent;
    text-decoration: underline;
}

a:active {
    color: yellow;
    background-color: transparent;
    text-decoration: underline;
}
</style>
```

Try it Yourself »

Links are often styled as buttons, by using CSS:

This is a link

Example

```
<style>
a:link, a:visited {
  background-color: #f44336;
  color: white;
  padding: 15px 25px;
  text-align: center;
  text-decoration: none;
  display: inline-block;
}

a:hover, a:active {
  background-color: red;
}
</style>
```

Try it Yourself »

To learn more about CSS, go to our [CSS Tutorial](#).

HTML Links - The target Attribute

The **target** attribute specifies where to open the linked document.

The **target** attribute can have one of the following values:

- `_blank` - Opens the linked document in a new window or tab
- `_self` - Opens the linked document in the same window/tab as it was clicked (this is default)
- `_parent` - Opens the linked document in the parent frame
- `_top` - Opens the linked document in the full body of the window
- `framename` - Opens the linked document in a named frame

This example will open the linked document in a new browser window/tab:

Example

```
<a href="https://www.w3schools.com/" target="_blank">Visit  
W3Schools!</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

Tip: If your webpage is locked in a frame, you can use `target="_top"` to break out of the frame:

Example

```
<a href="https://www.w3schools.com/html/" target="_top">HTML5  
tutorial!</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

HTML Links - Image as Link

It is common to use images as links:

Example

```
<a href="default.asp">  
    
</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

Note: `border:0;` is added to prevent IE9 (and earlier) from displaying a border around the image (when the image is a link).

Link Titles

The `title` attribute specifies extra information about an element. The information is most often shown as a tooltip text when the mouse moves over the element.

Example

```
<a href="https://www.w3schools.com/html/" title="Go to W3Schools  
HTML section">Visit our HTML Tutorial</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

HTML Links - Create a Bookmark

HTML bookmarks are used to allow readers to jump to specific parts of a Web page.

Bookmarks can be useful if your webpage is very long.

To make a bookmark, you must first create the bookmark, and then add a link to it.

When the link is clicked, the page will scroll to the location with the bookmark.

Example

First, create a bookmark with the `id` attribute:

```
<h2 id="C4">Chapter 4</h2>
```

Then, add a link to the bookmark ("Jump to Chapter 4"), from within the same page:

```
<a href="#C4">Jump to Chapter 4</a>
```

Or, add a link to the bookmark ("Jump to Chapter 4"), from another page:

Example

```
<a href="html_demo.html#C4">Jump to Chapter 4</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

External Paths

External pages can be referenced with a full URL or with a path relative to the current web page.

This example uses a full URL to link to a web page:

Example

```
<a href="https://www.w3schools.com/html/default.asp">HTML  
tutorial</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

This example links to a page located in the html folder on the current web site:

Example

```
<a href="/html/default.asp">HTML tutorial</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

This example links to a page located in the same folder as the current page:

Example

```
<a href="default.asp">HTML tutorial</a>
```

Try it Yourself »

You can read more about file paths in the chapter [HTML File Paths](#).

Chapter Summary

- Use the `<a>` element to define a link
- Use the `href` attribute to define the link address

- Use the `target` attribute to define where to open the linked document
 - Use the `` element (inside `<a>`) to use an image as a link
 - Use the `id` attribute (`id="value"`) to define bookmarks in a page
 - Use the `href` attribute (`href="#value"`) to link to the bookmark
-

HTML Exercises

Test Yourself With Exercises

Exercise:

Use the correct HTML to make the text below into a link to "default.html".

`>Visit our HTML tutorial.`

[Submit Answer »](#)

[Start the Exercise](#)

HTML Link Tags

Tag	Description
<code><a></code>	Defines a hyperlink

For a complete list of all available HTML tags, visit our [HTML Tag Reference](#).

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