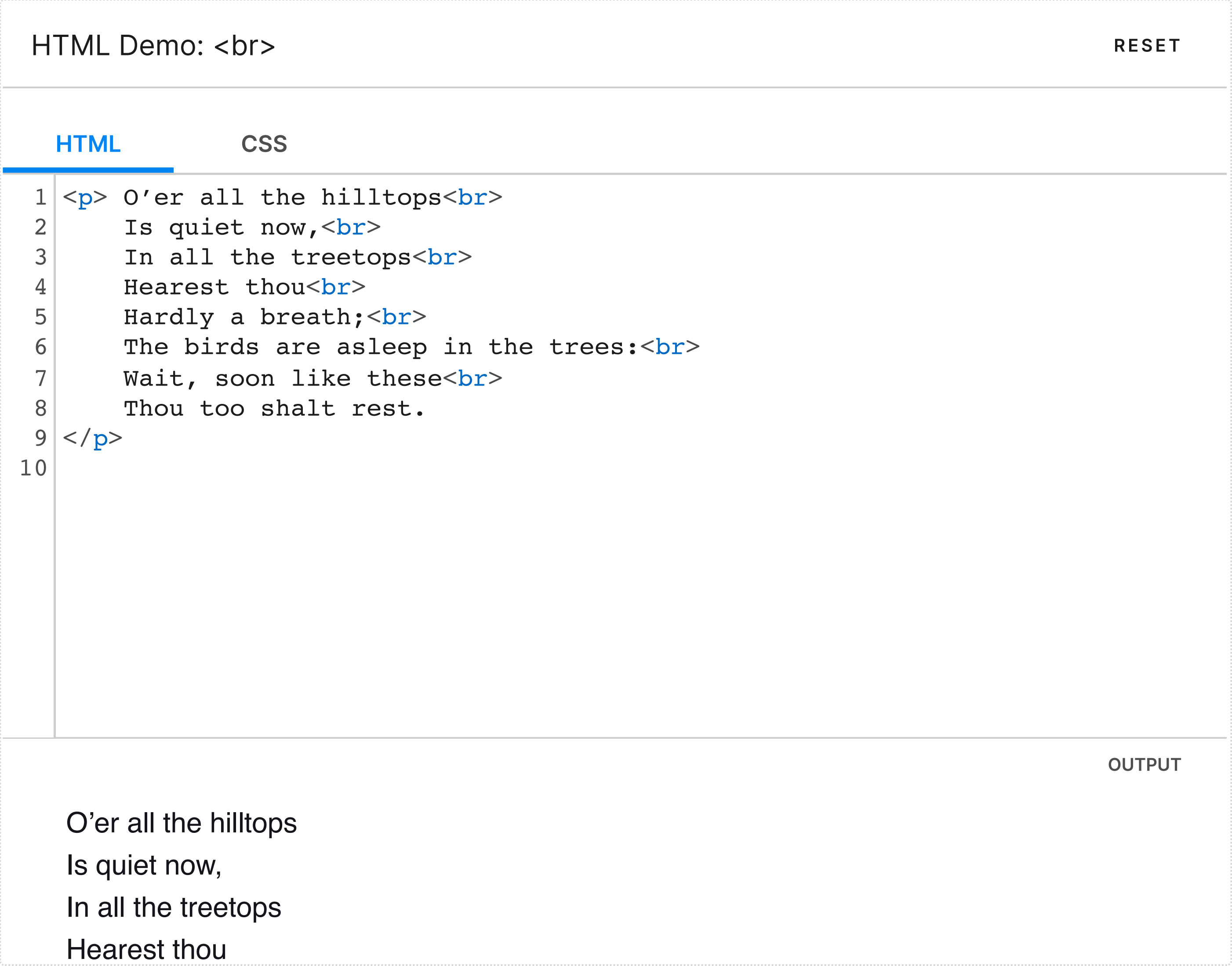
<br>: The Line Break element

The `<br>` HTML element produces a line break in text (carriage-return). It is useful for writing a poem or an address, where the division of lines is significant.

Try it



```html
<p> O’er all the hilltops<br>
    Is quiet now,<br>
    In all the treetops<br>
    Hearest thou<br>
    Hardly a breath;<br>
    The birds are asleep in the trees:<br>
    Wait, soon like these<br>
    Thou too shalt rest.
</p>

```

O’er all the hilltops
Is quiet now,
In all the treetops
Hearest thou

As you can see from the above example, a `<br>` element is included at each point where we want the text to break. The text after the `<br>` begins again at the start of the next line of the text block.

> **Note:** Do not use `<br>` to create margins between paragraphs; wrap them in `<p>` elements and use the CSS `margin` property to control their size.

Attributes

This element's attributes include the global attributes.

Deprecated attributes

`clear` Deprecated

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Indicates where to begin the next line after the break.

Styling with CSS

The `<br>` element has a single, well-defined purpose — to create a line break in a block of text. As such, it has no dimensions or visual output of its own, and there is very little you can do to style it.

You can set a `margin` on `<br>` elements themselves to increase the spacing between the lines of text in the block, but this is a bad practice — you should use the `line-height` property that was designed for that purpose.

Examples

Simple br

In the following example we use `<br>` elements to create line breaks between the different lines of a postal address:

```
Mozilla<br />
331 E. Evelyn Avenue<br />
Mountain View, CA<br />
94041<br />
USA<br />
```

The result looks like so:

Mozilla
331 E. Evelyn Avenue
Mountain View, CA
94041
USA

Accessibility concerns

Creating separate paragraphs of text using `<br>` is not only bad practice, it is problematic for people who navigate with the aid of screen reading technology. Screen readers may announce the presence of the element, but not any content contained within `<br>` s. This can be a confusing and frustrating experience for the person using the screen reader.

Use `<p>` elements, and use CSS properties like `margin` to control their spacing.

Technical summary

Content categories	Flow content, phrasing content.
Permitted content	None; it is a void element.
Tag omission	Must have a start tag, and must not have an end tag. In XHTML documents, write this element as `<br />`.
Permitted parents	Any element that accepts phrasing content.
Implicit ARIA role	No corresponding role
Permitted ARIA roles	`none`, `presentation`
DOM interface	`HTMLBRElement`

Specifications

Specification
HTML Standard # the-br-element

Browser compatibility

	Desktop						Mobile			
	Chrome	Edge	Firefox	Internet Explorer	Opera	Safari	WebView Android	Chrome Android	Firefox for Android	Opera Android
`br`	1	12	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4	Yes
`clear`	1	12	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4	Yes

See also

- `<address>` element
- `<p>` element
- `<wbr>` element