



TRAINING DRAGON WEB DESIGN

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FORMS

- what is a form
- form tag
- fieldsets
- input tags
- radio buttons
- checkboxes
- drop down menus
- textareas
- buttons
- submitting forms

WHAT IS A FORM

- interface to collect data
- allows users to provide data
- data is then sent to the server
- forms are everywhere, you use them to login, register, buy products and much more
- forms contain elements paired with labels and grouped by fieldsets

FORM TAG

- contains form elements
- has a **name**
- **action** specifies the script that will handle data
- **method** sets how data will be sent (get / post)

```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">  
  ...  
</form>
```

- **DEMO:** an empty form is not visible

FIELDSETS

- are used to group form elements
- appear outlined in light grey
- can be described by **legend** tags

```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">  
  <fieldset>  
    <legend>fieldset description</legend>  
  </fieldset>  
  
  <fieldset>  
    <legend>fieldset description</legend>  
  </fieldset>  
</form>
```

- **DEMO:** a form with fieldsets and legends

legend

something inside a fieldset

legend

something inside a fieldset

INPUT TAGS

- paired and described by **labels**
- inline elements
- do not need closing tags
- identified by a **name**
- collect a **value**
- can be described by a **placeholder** (html5)
- defined by a **type**: text, password, number, date, radio etc..

```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>fieldset description</legend>
    <div>
      <label>role of the input field</label>
      <input type="text" name="field" placeholder="format" value=""/>
    </div>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- **DEMO:** text and password fields

fieldset description
label

format

RADIO BUTTONS

- **input** tags with **radio** type
- can be turned on or off
- belong to a group
- selecting one will turn other radio buttons of the same group off
- have a **name**, a **value**
- connected radio buttons need the same **name**
- we need text outside checkboxes to describe them
- can be **disabled** or checked

```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>radio buttons</legend>
    <div>
      <label>select A or C</label><br>
      <input type="radio" checked name="letter" value="A"/> A <br>
      <input type="radio" disabled name="letter" value="B"/> B <br>
      <input type="radio" name="letter" value="C"/> C
    </div>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- **DEMO:** two radio buttons to select only one letter

radio buttons

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

CHECKBOXES

- **input** tags with **checkbox** type
- can be turned on or off
- belong to a group
- users can select more than one options
- have a **name**, a **value**
- connected checkboxes need the same **name**
- we need text outside radio buttons to describe them
- can be **disabled** or checked

```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>checkboxes</legend>
    <div>
      <label>select one or more letters out of a list</label><br>
      <input type="checkbox" checked name="letter" value="A"/> A <br>
      <input type="checkbox" disabled name="letter" value="B"/> B <br>
      <input type="checkbox" name="letter" value="C"/> C <br>
    </div>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- **DEMO:**selecting one or more letters

checkboxes

select one or more letters out of a list

☒ A

☐ B

☐ C

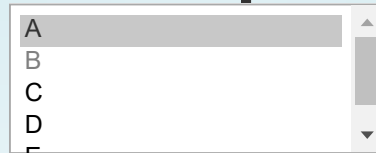
DROP DOWN MENUS

- collapsible lists of options
- **option** tags within **select**
- can be **disabled** or **selected**
- select tags have **names**, options have **values**
- can use **multiple** attribute to allow multiple selection

```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>drop down menus</legend>
    <div>
      <label>select letters from a drop down menu</label><br>
      <select name="letters" multiple>
        <option selected value="A">A</option>
        <option disabled value="B">B</option>
        <option value="C">C</option>
        <option value="D">D</option>
        <option value="E">E</option>
      </select>
    </div>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- **DEMO:**drop down menu with or without **multiple** attribute

drop down menus
select multiple letters from a drop down menu with
multiple



A multiple-select dropdown menu. The menu is open, showing a list of letters: A, B, C, D, E, and F. The letter 'A' is highlighted in a grey bar, indicating it is selected. The menu has a scroll bar on the right side.

drop down menus
select one letters from a drop down menu



A single-select dropdown menu. The menu is closed, showing the letter 'A' and a downward-pointing arrow on the right side.

TEXTAREAS

- element to collect longer texts
- have a **name** but no **value**
- can have a **placeholder**
- values are collected in between **textarea** tags
- used to collect messages, email texts, comments etc..

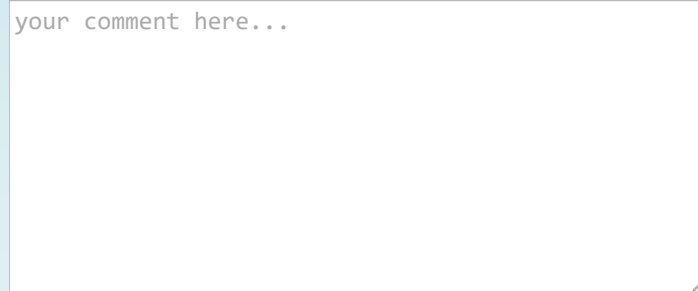
```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>textarea</legend>
    <div>
      <label>write here your comment</label><br>
      <textarea name="comment"
        placeholder="your comment here..."></textarea>
    </div>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- **DEMO:** textarea

textarea

write here your comment

your comment here...

A large, empty text area for writing a comment. It is a white rectangle with a thin black border. The text "your comment here..." is written in a small, light gray font at the top left corner. There is a small, faint icon in the bottom right corner of the text area.

BUTTONS

- clickable inline level elements to trigger a response or submit forms
- can be **input** tags with **button** type
- can be **button** tags with **submit**, **reset**, **button** type
- can be **disabled**


```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>buttons</legend>
    <div>
      <button type="reset">clears form</button><br>
      <button type="submit">submits form</button><br>
      <button type="button">general button</button><br>
      <input type="button" value="general button" disabled/>
    </div>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- **DEMO:** buttons

buttons

clears form

submits form

general button

disabled button

FORM METHODS AND SUBMITTING FORMS

- most common form methods are **get** and **post**
- data is collected as **key-value** pairs
- get generates a **query string** after page url, post does not
- query strings will have **?name=value&name2=value2** structure
- query strings will expose form data in url bar, do not use **get** for sensitive information
- form data is sent to the value of **action** attribute

```
<form name="myForm" action="path/to/server-side/script.php" method="get">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>submitting forms</legend>
    <div>
      <input type="text" name="key" value="what you typed in this field"/>
      <button type="submit">submits form</button><br>
    </div>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- **DEMO:** submitting form with **get** and **post**

submitting a form with GET method

what you typed in this field

submitting a form with POST method

what you typed in this field