HTML Text Formatting Tags

Formating Styles

Style Name	HTML Tage
Bold	,
Italic	<i>,
Underlined	<u>
Strikethrough	<s>,<del>
Superscript	<sup>
Subscript	<sub>
Monospaced	<code>,<pre>
Highlighted	<mark>
Small Text	<small>

Bold Text

Tag	purpose	Example
	Bold text without emphasis (for visual styling only)	This is bold
	Semantically important bold text	Important!

➢ Use <strong> when the bold text has meaning (e.g. alerts).
➢ <b> is just visual. No meaning for screen readers.

Italic / Emphasized Text

Tag	purpose	Example
<i>	Italic text (styling only)	<i>This is italic</i>
	Emphasized content (semantics)	Pay attention!

- ➢ Use <em> for emphasis understood by screen readers.
- ➢ <i> is for stylistic use (e.g. foreign words ,names).

Underlined Text

Tag	purpose	Example
<u>	Underlines text	<u>This is underlined</u>

- ➢ Underlines can confuse users(like links),so use them with caution

Strikethrough / Deleted / Inserted Text

Tag	purpose	Attributes	Example
<s>	Renders text as incorrect	None	<s>Old price</s>
<del>	Marks content as deleted	cite,datetime	<del datetime="2025-07-19">Removed</del>
<ins>	Marks content as added	cite, datetime	<ins datetime="2025-07-20">New!</ins>

- ➢ <del> and <ins> are semantic used in document versioning.

Superscript and Subscript

Tag	purpose	Example
<sub>	Superscript(above text line)	A=a²
<sub>	Subscript (below text line)	H₂o

- ➢ Common in math/science formulas.

Code and Monospaced Text

Tag	purpose	Example
<code>	Inline code snippet	<code>console.log()</code>
<pre>	Preserves formatting	<pre>Line1\n Line2</pre>
<kbd>	Keyboard input	<kbd>Ctrl +c</kbd>
<samp>	Output from a program	<samp>File saved.</samp>

➢ Use <pre> +<code> for code blocks.

Quotations and Citations

Tag	purpose	Attributes	Example
<q>	Short quote	Cite	<q cite="source">quote</q>
<blockquote>	Long block quote	Cite	<blockquote cite="book">Full quote</blockquote>
<cite>	Citation source(title of work)		<cite>Hamlet</cite>

➢ <q> wraps in quotation marks;<blockquote> indents.

Highlighted and Small Text

Tag	purpose	Example
<mark>	Highlighted text	<mark>Important!</mark>
<small>	Small, de-emphasize text	Fine print

➢ Great for alerts, notes, or footnotes.

Summary Table of Formating Text styles

Formatting types	Tag	used for
Bold	<b>,<strong>	style only, Emphasis
Italic	<i>,<em>	style only, Emphasis
Underlined text, Strikethrough	<u>,<s>	style/strike
Deleted, Inserted text	<del>,<ins>	Version tracking
Superscript, subscript	<sup>,<sub>	Maths /Chemistry
Code and Monospaced text	<code>,<kbd>,<samp>,<pre>	Programming
Quotations and Citations	<q>,<blockquote>,<cite>	Quotes
Highlighted, Small text	<mark>,<small>	Highlight/notes