23 Coding Style and Tag Syntax

Coding Style and Tag Syntax

In HTML, there is good coding style, there is bad coding style. Good coding style is illustrated in the first and second examples following; weak coding style is illustrated in the third example following, and bad coding style is illustrated in the fourth example following.

Tags should either mark content like this (Style 1):

<tagname>

Content

</tagname>

Or like this (Style 2):

<tagname>Content</tagname>

Don't do this (Style 3 -- Weak):

<tagname>

Content</tagname>

Or this (Style 4 -- Bad):

<tagname>Content

</tagname>

Style 1: Use for tags marking structure, such as BODY, HEAD, TABLE, FORM, MAP, etc.

Style 2: Use for tags formatting text or pictures, particularly A, P, B, I, etc.

Style 3 -- Weak: This syntax will operate correctly for MOST tags (except P), but it proves hard to debug when code becomes complex and is considered poor form.

Style 4 -- Bad: This syntax follows terrible form, and may cause some tags to malfunction.