HTML a tag

Example

Create a link to W3Schools.com:

Visit W3Schools.com!

Definition and Usage

The <a> tag defines a hyperlink, which is used to link from one page to another.

The most important attribute of the <a> element is the href attribute, which indicates the link's destination.

By default, links will appear as follows in all browsers:

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

Tips and Notes

Tip: If the <a> tag has no href attribute, it is only a placeholder for a hyperlink.

Tip: A linked page is normally displayed in the current browser window, unless you specify another target.

Tip: Use CSS to style links: CSS Links and CSS Buttons.

Browser Support

Element					
<a>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Attributes

Attribute	Value	Description
download	*filename*	Specifies that the target will be downloaded when a user clicks on the hyperlink
href	*URL*	Specifies the URL of the page the link goes to

hreflang	*language_code*	Specifies the language of the linked document
media	*media_query*	Specifies what media/device the linked document is optimized for
ping	*list_of_URLs*	Specifies a space-separated list of URLs to which, when the link is followed, post requests with the body ping will be sent by the browser (in the background). Typically used for tracking.
referrerpolicy	no-referrer no-referrer-when-downgrade origin origin-when-cross-origin same-origin strict-origin-when-cross-origin unsafe-url	Specifies which referrer information to send with the link
rel	alternate author bookmark external help license next nofollow noreferrer noopener prev search tag	Specifies the relationship between the current document and the linked document
target	_blank _parent _self _top	Specifies where to open the linked document
type	*media_type*	Specifies the media type of the linked document

Global Attributes

The `<a>` tag also supports the Global Attributes in HTML.

Event Attributes

The `<a>` tag also supports the Event Attributes in HTML.

More Examples

Example

How to use an image as a link:

```
<a href="https://www.w3schools.com">
<img border="0" alt="W3Schools" src="logo_w3s.gif" width="100" height="100">
</a>
```

Example

How to open a link in a new browser window:

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

Example

How to link to an email address:

```
<a href="mailto:someone@example.com">Send email</a>
```

Example

How to link to a phone number:

```
<a href="tel:+4733378901">+47 333 78 901</a>
```

Example

How to link to another section on the same page:

```
<a href="#section2">Go to Section 2</a>
```

Example

How to link to a JavaScript:

```
<a href="javascript:alert('Hello World!');">Execute JavaScript</a>
```

Related Pages

HTML tutorial: HTML Links

HTML DOM reference: Anchor Object

CSS Tutorial: Styling Links

Default CSS Settings

Most browsers will display the `<a>` element with the following default values:

```css
a:link, a:visited {
  color: (internal value);
  text-decoration: underline;
  cursor: auto;
}

a:link:active, a:visited:active {
  color: (internal value);
}
```