

COMPLETE HTML CHEATSHEET

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The art of coding can take years to fully master with all the tags, syntaxes and other elements of programming languages often intertwined. Even the more experienced developers can fall into the trap of forgetting the correct syntax for particular tasks. As such, it's unrealistic to expect more green web developers to have a flawless grasp of the art.

This is why cheat sheets for HTML, CSS, and PHP are extremely useful, regardless of how long you've been practicing. It serves as a quick guide to find the right commands and syntaxes, allowing you to focus on actual web development.

Below you'll find a visually inclined cheat sheet preceded by quick refreshers to aid you in your coding endeavors. We've also made it to be easily bookmarked, saved or printed for your convenience.

What is **HTML**?

HTML stands for Hypertext Markup Language – a code that's used to create the structure for a web page and its content. This markup language is comprised of a series of elements that used to make content appear or function a certain way and is a major part of the front-end code of every website.

For example, you can enclose or wrap different parts of the content – where the enclosing tags can make a word or image hyperlink to another page. You can also use this to italicize words, and make the fonts bigger or smaller, among others. As noted by W3, some of the other things HTML allows you to do include:

- Publishing online documents with headings, text, tables, lists, photos, etc.
- Retrieving online information at the click of a button via hypertext links.
- Designing forms for conducting transactions with remote services to search for information, make reservations, or order products, among other functions.
- Including spreadsheets, video clips, and other media and applications already in your documents.

So if you were to make the line "My dog is very sweet" stand by itself, you can specify that it is a paragraph by enclosing it in paragraphs tags (more on this later), which would look like:

< p > My dog is very sweet < /p >

What is the difference between **HTML** and **HTML5**?

As the name suggests, HTML5 is the fifth version of the HTML standard. It supports the integration of video and audio into the language, which reduces the need for third-party plugins and elements. Below are the main differences between HTML and HTML5:

HTML:

- Doesn't support audio and video without flash player support.
- Uses cookies to store temporary data.
- Doesn't allow JavaScript to run in the browser.
- Allows for vector graphics by using different technologies like VML, Silver-light, and Flash, among others.
- Doesn't allow drag and drop effects.
- Works with all older browsers.
- Less mobile-friendly.
- Doctype declaration is long and complicated.
- Doesn't have elements like nav and header, as well as attributes like charset, async, and ping.
- Extremely difficult to get true Geolocation of users by using a browser.
- Can't handle inaccurate syntax.

HTML5

- Supports audio and video controls with the use of <audio> and <video> tags.
- Uses SQL databases and application cache to store offline data.
- Allows JavaScript to work in the background with the use of JS Web worker API.
- Vector graphics are a fundamental part of HTML5, much like SVG and canvas.
- Allows drag and drop effects.
- Make it possible to draw shapes.
- Supports all new browsers like Firefox, Mozilla, Chrome, and Safari.
- More mobile-friendly.
- Doctype declaration is simple and easy.
- Has new elements for web structures like nav, header, and footer, among others, and also has attributes of charset, async, and ping.
- Makes character encoding simple and easy.
- Allows for tracking of user Geolocation by using JS Geolocation API.
- Capable of handling inaccurate syntax.

Additionally, there are many elements of **HTML** that have either been modified or removed from **HTML5**. These include:

```
<applet> - Changed to <object>
<acronym> - Changed to <abbr>
<dir> - Changed to <ul>
<frameset> - Removed
<frame> - Removed
<noframes> - Removed
<strike> - No new tag. Uses CSS.
<big> - No new tag. Uses CSS.
<font> - No new tag. Uses CSS.
<center> - No new tag. Uses CSS.
<tt> - No new tag. Uses CSS.
```

Meanwhile, **HTML5** also includes a number of newly added elements. These include:

nav	rt
audio	details
figcaption	wbr
progress	header
command	footer
time	keygen
datalist	embed
video	article
figure	hgroup
meter	bdi
data	mark
section	output
time	source
aside	track
canvas	section
summary	ruby
rp	

Basic HTML Structure

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title>website title</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    website content...
  </body>
</html>
```

Common Tags for Blogs

<h[?]> - Heading (**h1** for largest to **h6** for smallest)
<p> - Text paragraph
 - bold
<i> - italic
 - hyperlink
<div> - Page divider
 - Show an image
 - Unordered list

 - Line break
 - change text color

Text Formatting

<h[?]> . . . </h[?]> - Heading ([?]=1 for largest to 6 for smallest e.g. **h1**)
 . . . - Bold text
<i> . . . </i> - Italic text
<u> . . . </u> - Underline text
<strike> . . . </strike> - Strikeout
^{. . .} - Superscript – smaller text placed below normal text
_{. . .} - Subscript – smaller text placed below normal text
<small> . . . </small> - Small – fine print size text
<tt> . . . </tt> - Typewriter text
<pre> . . . </pre> - Pre-formatted text
<blockquote> . . . </blockquote> - Text block quote
 . . . - Strong – shown as bold in most browsers
 . . . - Emphasis – shown as italics in most browsers
 . . . - Font tag obsolete (Use CSS) *

Section Divisions

<div> . . . </div> - Page content division or section
 . . . - Section or text within other content
<p> . . . </p> - Text paragraph

 - Line break
<hr> - Basic horizontal line

<hr> Tag Attributes
size="?" – Line thickness in pixels
width="?" - Line width in pixels
width="??%" – Line width as percentage
color="#???????" – Line color *
align="?" – Horizontal alignment (left, center, right) *
noshade – No 3D cutout
<nobr> . . . </nobr> - Line break

Images

 - Basic image
 Tag Attributes
src="url" – Image URL or filename (required)
alt="text" – Alternate text (required)
align="?" – Image alignment with surrounding text *
width="??" – Image width (in pixels or %) *
height="??" – Image height (in pixels or %) *
border="??" – Border thickness (in pixels) *
vspace="??" – Space above and below image (in pixels) *
hspace="??" – Space on either side of image (in pixels) *

Linking Tags

 link text - Basic link

<a> Tag Attributes
href="url" – URL of page to link to
name="?" – Name of link (name of anchor, or name of bookmark)
target="?" – Link of target location: _self, _blank, _top, _parent
href="url#bookmark" – Link to a bookmark (defined with name attribute)
href="mailto:email" – Link which initiates an email (dependent on user's email client)

Lists

 . . . – Ordered list
 . . . – Unordered list
 . . . – List item (within ordered or unordered)
<ol type="?"> – Ordered list type: A, a, I, i, 1
<ol start="??"> – Ordered list starting value
<ul type="?"> – Unordered list bullet type: disc, circle, square
<li value="??"> – List item value (changes current and subsequent items)
<li type="??"> – List item type (changes only current item)
<dl> . . . </dl> – Definition list
<dt> . . . </dt> – Term or phrase being defined
<dd> . . . </dd> – Detailed definition of term

Tables

<table> . . . </table> – Define a table

<table> Tag attributes

- border="?" – Thickness of outside border
- bordercolor="#???????" – Border color
- cellspacing="?" – Space between cells (pixels)
- cellpadding="?" – Space between cell wall and content
- bgcolor="#???????" – Background color *
- width="?" – Table width (pixels or %) *
- height="?" – Table height (pixels or %) *
- <tr> . . . </tr> – Table row within table
- <th> . . . </th> – Header cell within table row
- <td> . . . </td> – Table header within table row

<td> Tag Attributes

- colspan="?" – Number of columns the cell spans across (cell merge)
- width="?" – Cell width (pixels or %) *
- bgcolor="#???????" – Background color *
- nowrap – Force no line breaks in a particular cell

Frames

<frameset> ... </frameset> – Define the set of frames

<frameset> Tag Attributes

rows="??,??,..." – Define row sizes and number of rows (size in pixels or %)
cols="??,??,..." – Define column sizes and number of columns (size in pixels or %)
noresize="noresize" – User cannot resize any frames in frameset
<frame> ... </frame>

<frame> Tag Attributes

src="url" – Location of HTML file for a frame
name="***" – Unique name of frame window
marginwidth="?" – Horizontal margin spacing inside frame (pixels)
marginheight="?" – Vertical margin spacing inside frame (pixels)
noresize="noresize" – Declare all frameset sizes as fixed
scrolling="***" – Can the user scroll inside the frame: yes, no, auto
frameborder="?" – Frame border: 1=yes, 2=no
bordercolor="#???????" – Border color *

<noframes> ... </noframes> – Unframed content (for browsers not supporting frames)

Forms

<form> ... </form> – Form input group declaration

<form> Tag Attributes

action="url" – URL of Form Script
method="***" – Method of Form: get, post
enctype="***" – For file upload: enctype="multipart/form-data"
<input> ... </input> – input field within form

<input> Tag Attributes

type="***" – Input field type: text, password, checkbox, submit, etc.
name="***" – Form field name (for form processing script)
value="***" – Value of input field
size="***" – Field size
maxlength="?" – Maximum length of input data field
checked – Mark selected field in radio button group of checkbox
<select> ... </select> – Select options from the drop down list

<select> Tag Attributes

name="***" – Drop down combo box name (for form processing script)
size="?" – Number of selectable options
multiple – Allow multiple selections
<option> ... </option>

<option> Tag Attributes

value="***" – Option value
selected – Set option as default selection
<textarea> ... </textarea> – Large area for text input

<textarea> – Text Tag Attributes

name="***" – Text area name (for form input processing)
rows="?" – Number of rows of text shown
cols="?" – Number of columns (characters per rows)
wrap="***" – Word wrapping: off, hard, soft

Special Characters

< – < – Less-than symbol
> – > – Greater-than symbol
& – & – Ampersand
" – " – Quotation mark
© – © – Copyright symbol
™ – ™ – Trademark symbol
&nbs; – A space (nonbreaking space)
&#??; – ISO 8859-1 character – replace ?? with the iso code

Miscellaneous Tags

<!-- . . . --> – Comment within HTML source code
<!DOCTYPE html . . . > – Document type definition
<meta> . . . </meta> – META information tag

<meta> Tag Attributes
name="****" – Meta name: description, keywords, author
http-equiv="****" – HTTP equivalent info: title, etc.
content="****" – Link content relationship tag
<link>

<link> Tag Attributes
rel="****" – Type of forward relationship
http="url" – URL of object or file being linked
type="****" – Type of object or file, eg: text/css
title="****" – Link title (optional)

Body Background and Colors

<body> Tag Attributes
background="url" – Background image *
bgcolor="#???????" – Background color *
text="#???????" – Document text color
link="#???????" – Link color *
vlink="#???????" – Visited link color *
alink="#???????" – Active link color *
bgproperties="fixed" – Background properties – "Fixed" = non-scrolling watermark *
leftmargin="?" – Side margin size in pixels (Internet Explorer) *
topmargin="?" – Top margin size in pixels (Internet Explorer) *

**Tags marked with (*) should still work even if they've been superseded by CSS, which is the recommended way to change the font, color, spacing, border, and alignment of HTML elements.