LESSON 13

FORMS

CODEALONG

Look at Assignment #1
jQuery plugin how-to

FORMS

Secure payment

Credit/Debit | Paypal

First name

Last name

Card number

Exp MM --

Exp YYYY --

CVV

Billing address

Address 1

Address 2 (optional)

Country: United States

City or town

State: -- State --

Zip code

Save billing info?

Yes | No

WHAT FORMS DO

-Forms capture user input from the web and send it off to the backend of a website to be processed in some way

-Any time you put any content into a webpage, you are using a form

SIMPLEST FORM

```
<form>
  <input type="text">
  <input type="submit">
</form>
```

Forms have a lot of markup and are tedious to build - normalize.css spends most of its energy taming form inputs

<FORM>

```
<form>
  <input type="text">
  <button type="submit">
</form>
```

All forms have the form tag wrapping around them. Always include.

<FIELDSET>

```
<form>
  <fieldset>
    <input type="text">
    <button type="submit">
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

Fieldset wraps around a set of field inputs on the form. Optional but I like it.

<LEGEND>

```
<form>
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Form Title</legend>
    <input type="text">
    <button type="submit">
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

Legend is where you put the title of the form (optional). Rarely used but it has a soft spot in my heart.

<TEXTAREA>

```
<textarea placeholder="Write something
here"></textarea>
```

Creates a really big text area. Don't size it with HTML attributes, use CSS please! Don't be that guy.

<SELECT>

```
<select id="select">
  <option value>Choose</option>
  <optgroup label="Option Group 1">
    <option value>Option 1</option>
    <option value>Option 2</option>
  </optgroup>
</select>
```

Selects are for those lists you click on to select an item.

<LABEL>

```
<form>
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Form Title</legend>
    <label for="field1">New Field</label>
    <input type="text" id="field1">
    <button type="submit">
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

Label is the tag for telling a user what label of a field is. Note the 'for' attribute - what is that doing?

<INPUT>

```
<form>
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Form Title</legend>
    <input type="text" id="field1">
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

Input is the workhorse of the form world - it can do a great many things.

<INPUT>

Huge list of input types (https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element/input)

Focus in on a couple important types:

```
<input type="checkbox" id="field1">
<input type="radio" id="field1">
```

CHECKBOXES

```
<div class="checkbox">
  <input type="checkbox" id="checkbox2">
  <label for="checkbox2">5</label>
</div>
```

You have to put the labels after the checkbox for them to make any sense. I usually group them like this.

RADIO BUTTONS

```
<div class="radio">
  <input type="radio" id="radio1" name="radio-group">
  <label for="radio1"><span>Good</span></label>
</div>
<div class="radio">
  <input type="radio" id="radio2" name="radio-group">
  <label for="radio2"><span>Bad</span></label>
</div>
```

Radio buttons are very similar to checkboxes but function as a group with the 'name' attribute.

STYLING FORMS

NEW SELECTOR

```
input[type=text] {
  margin: 25px 0;
}

input[type="text"] {
  margin: 25px 0;
}
```

If you want to target a particular attribute in HTML, use the brackets. Both syntaxes are the same, no spaces.

SAME AS IT WAS

```
#style-me {
  margin: 25px 0;
}

input[type="text"]#style-me {
  margin: 25px 0;
}
```

Generally, I style forms by targeting IDs, just like JS fun times. Why not classes? Form elements usually need unique IDs for labels to work.

:FOCUS

```
textarea:focus {
   outline: none;
}
```

There may be cases where you want to style what it looks like when a user is active on a field - use the :focus pseudo-selector. Outline property is helpful here.

STYLING NOTE

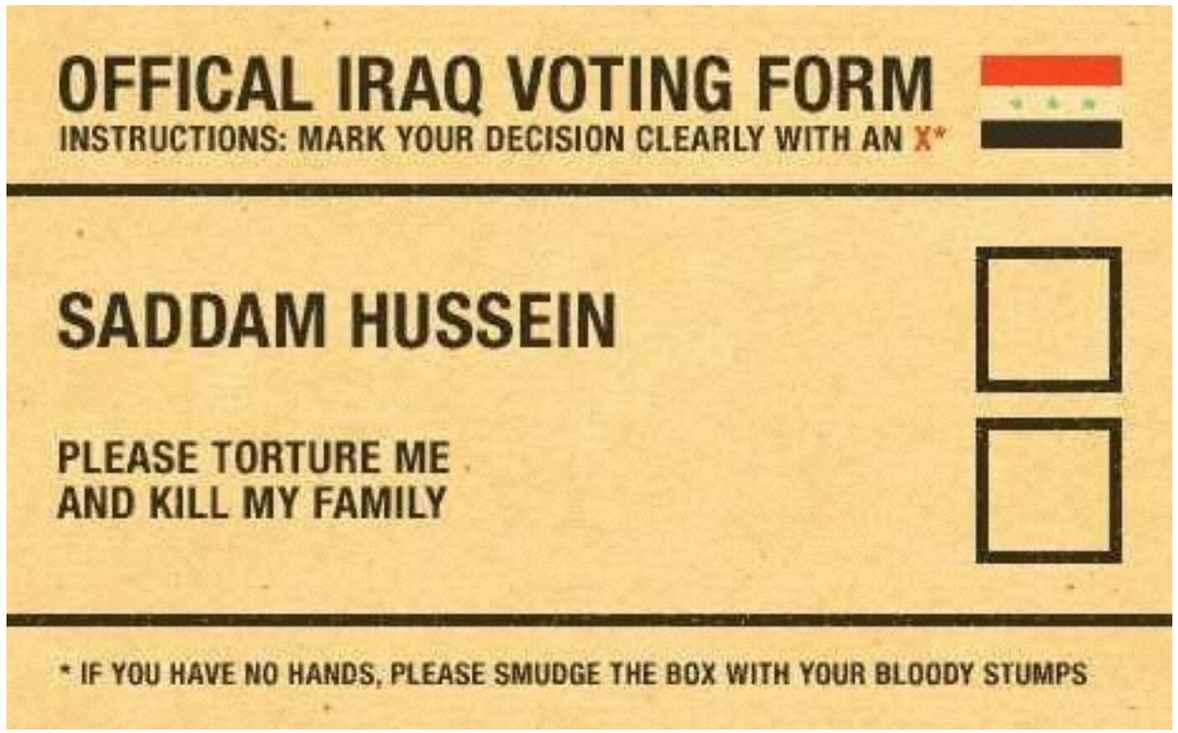
In general - don't style the text boxes, checkboxes and radio buttons themselves. You can do this but the techniques will make you want to jump out of window.

If you want to try this, let's talk offline - it's quite a bit of work and takes a lot of cross browser testing.

CODE ALONG

Assignment #2

FORM SUBMISSIONS



FORM ACTION

```
<form action="send.php">
</form>
```

The action attribute tells the browser where to send the form information to. This is usually a backend programming language - like PHP, Ruby or Python.

FORM DATA SUBMISSION

Because processing the form contents is a backend dev technique, we really don't cover it.

But if you want to get deeper into it, we can talk in office hours.

OPTIONS

Most simple sites do email contact forms. Some options for that:

Cool easy option - emails you!:
https://formspree.io

Sign-up forms that capture the data:
http://mailchimp.com/

NEXT TIME

Responsive Design
Finish HW6 - Monday (optional)
Final Project HTML/CSS Draft - WED