

CITS3403 Project 1

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HTML

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is the go to markup language for creating documents to be displayed in the web browser. Like other markup languages, it is a YAFIYGI (You Asked For It, You Got It) tool, in contrast to a WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) tool like Microsoft's Word. The benefit of a YAFIYGI tool is the almost limitless control and possibilities that can be achieved. If you want to do something, chances are that it can be done in HTML. WYSIWYG tools often use a user interface. Although it can help remove the learning curve by an intuitive and simple ui, it also greatly lowers the ceiling on what can be achieved. This limits the potential of WYSIWYG tools, and is one of big reasons why a YAFIYGI tool like HTML is still so prevalent in the development of webpages today.

Sir Tim Berners-Lee created HTML as an internet hypertext based system in late 1990. HTML is a product of SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language) which is a very complex, technical specification describing markup language. SGML was used to publish and exchange scientific and technical documents. HTML was created as an easier alternative to SGML. It would allow those who were not proficient in SGML to publish and exchange documents. One of the big features of HTML was the ability to hyperlink documents. This feature gave HTML its name, Hypertext Markup Language. HTML was officially published many years later in 1995 as HTML 2.0.

HTML consists of tags denoted by the less-than and greater-than signs and has evolved greatly over the last few decades. Each tag consists of a start tag `<TAG>` and an end tag `</TAG>`. There are approximately 110 tags in the current HTML standard, HTML5. However, when HTML was first released, there were only 18 tags. Many of the current tags used today were not implemented in the original HTML. Here is a list of the original tags in HTML 1

- `<A>`
- `<ADDRESS>`
- Base Address
- `<DD>`
- `<DIR>`
- `<DL>`
- `<DT>`
- `<H1>`, ... `<H6>`
- `<HP1>`, ... `<HP2>`
- `<ISINDEX>`
- ``
- `<LISTING>`
- `<MENU>`
- `<NEXTID>`
- `<P>`
- `<PLAINTEXT>`
- `<TITLE>`
- ``