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7 COMMON HTML MISTAKES

01

SEMANTIC HEADER & FOOTER

Divs have no semantic structure. Instead of using divs to create headers or footer structures, use `<header>` and `<footer>` elements.



```
<div id="header">  
  ...  
</div>  
  
<div id="footer">  
  ...  
</div>
```



```
<header>  
  ...  
</header>  
  
<footer>  
  ...  
</footer>
```

02

NOT USING THE FIGURE ELEMENT

If you need to add a caption to your image, use the `<figure>` element combined with the `<figcaption>` element.



```
  
<p>Image of something interesting</p>
```



```
<figure>  
      
    <figcaption>  
        <p>This is the caption of the image.</p>  
    </figcaption>  
</figure>
```



03

RESPECT INLINE & BLOCK ELEMENTS HIERARCHY

Don't place Block elements within Inline elements.



```
<!-- a is inline element-->
<!-- h2 is block element-->
<a href="#">
  <h2>Some title</h2>
</a>
```



```
<!-- a is inline element-->
<!-- h2 is block element-->
<h2>
  <a href="#">Inline inside Block is fine</a>
</h2>
```



04

DON'T USE **** or *<i>* FOR BOLDING AND ITALICIZING

The **** and *<i>* tags are presentational tags, and have no semantic meaning, instead either change the font-weight/font-style in the CSS or use the **** or ** element.



****This is a bold text****
*<i>*This is an italic text*</i>*



****This is a bold text****
This is an italic text



05

DON'T USE INLINE STYLES

Writing inline styles violates the principle of having the structure (HTML) separate from the presentation (CSS). Instead write the styles in a stylesheet.



```
<h1 style="font-size: 24px">  
  Some cool title  
</h1>
```



```
h1 {  
  font-size: 24px;  
}
```



06

DON'T REMOVE FOCUS OUTLINE

The focus indicator is extremely important for users who are unable to use a mouse, if the default focus indicator clashes with your design, you can use CSS to restyle it.



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



```
button:focus {  
    box-shadow: 0px 0px 0px 4px rgba(239, 155, 137, 0.5);  
}
```



Use box-shadow instead as it is more flexible

07

NOT USING DESCRIPTIVE LINKS

A link's text should be explicit and convey where it is redirecting the user to, both users and search engines can more easily understand your content and how it relates to other pages.



```
<a href="/product/features">  
  Read more  
</a>  
  
<a href="/product/features">  
  Click here  
</a>  
  
<a href="/product/features">  
  Learn more  
</a>
```



```
<p>  
  Check out all of our  
  <a href="/product/features">  
    product features  
  </a>.  
</p>
```