

Tables

Tables are defined with the `<table>` tag. A table is divided into rows (with the `<tr>` tag), and each row is divided into data cells (with the `<td>` tag). The letters td stands for “**table data**,” which is the content of a data cell. A data cell can contain text, images, lists, paragraphs, forms, horizontal rules, tables, etc. There is also the or table header to define a header with in the table. **HTML5** added two new tags to help better group content within the table. The `<thead>` or table header and `<tbody>` or table body are optional tags that can be used to help define areas of the table.

```
<table>
  <thead>
    <tr>
      <th>row 1, cell 1</th>
      <th>row 1, cell 2</th>
    </tr>
  </thead>
  <tbody>
    <tr>
      <td>row 2, cell 1</td>
      <td>row 2, cell 2</td>
    </tr>
  </tbody>
</table>
```

row 1, cell 1	row 1, cell 2
row 2, cell 1	row 2, cell 2

Table Tag

`<table></table>` Starting and stopping points of the table. After the `<table>` all content that is to be displayed on the screen must be placed between `<td>` and `</td>`. Once a `</table>` is indicated all html goes on as normal.

Table Row

`<tr></tr>` **table row** Starting and stopping points for a table row. All table data cells must be placed between the `<tr>` and `</tr>`. Because a table might have more than one row you can have more than one `<tr>` set.

Table Data

`<td></td>` **table data** Defines a cell with a table and must be between `<tr>` and `</tr>`. Because all content must be located in the `<td>` set you can have more than on `<td>` set per row.

Table Header

`<th></th>` **table header** Just like the `<td>` but defines a **header**. The table header is always *bold and center* although this can be over written with CSS.

Table Head

`<thead>` **table head** Defines an *optional* area with in the table as the header of that table. `<thead>` is descendant of the `<table>`.

Table Body

`<tbody>` - **table body** Defines an *optional* area with in the table as the body of that table. `<thead>` is descendant of the `<table>`.

Examples

Normal table with header

```
<table>
  <thead>
    <tr>
      <th>Heading</th>
      <th>Another Heading</th>
    </tr>
  </thead>
  <tbody>
    <tr>
      <td>row 1, cell 1</td>
      <td>row 1, cell 2</td>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td>row 2, cell 1</td>
      <td>row 2, cell 2</td>
    </tr>
  </tbody>
</table>
```

Heading	Another Heading
row 1, cell 1	row 1, cell 2
row 2, cell 1	row 2, cell 2

Row Span and Col Span

The `colspan` attribute is a way to make on `<td>` take up the space of two or more columns. This is very useful when you have a title or other content that need to span over two or more columns.

Table with colspan

```
<table border="1">
  <tr>
    <td colspan="2">row 1, cell 1</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>row 2, cell 1</td>
    <td>row 2, cell 2</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

row 1, cell 1	
row 2, cell 1	row 2, cell 2

The `rowspan` attribute is like the `colspan` but the cell will span from one row to the next.

Table with rowspan

```
<table border="1">
  <tr>
    <td rowspan="2">row 1, cell 1</td>
    <td>row 1, cell 2</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>row 2, cell 2</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

row 1, cell 1	row 1, cell 2
	row 2, cell 2

Note: that you would never put a colspan or rowspan on the last td in the row or column.

Nested Tables

A nested is one table that is coded with in another table. All HTML elements in a table must be coded with in the tag. Almost all HTML elements can be code in a table including an other table.

When nesting a table with in an other table be aware that you will now have a `<table></table>` for each table. So if you have two tables (one inside the other) you will need to have two sets of table tags.

Adding a comment

One way to help organized and limit the number of errors is to add a HTML comment. A comment is a snippet of code that is ignored by the browser. It used to leave a note in the code.

```
<!-- comment here --> (replace comment here with your note)
```

Anything between the two tags will not seen on the screen.

Adding comments before and after a nested table helps keep the two table straight and can limit the number of errors.

Setting up a nested table

```
<table>
  <tr>
    <td>
      This cell contains a nested table.
      <!-- start nested table -->
      <table>
        <tr>
          <td>Nested table</td>
          <td>Nested table</td>
        </tr>
        <tr>
          <td>Nested table</td>
          <td>Nested table</td>
        </tr>
      </table>
      <!-- end nested table -->
    </td>
    <td>No Nested table here.</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

This cell contains a nested table.	No Nested table here.
Nested table	
Nested table	