HTML id Attribute

The HTML id attribute is used to specify a unique id for an HTML element.

You cannot have more than one element with the same id in an HTML document.

Note: The id name is case sensitive!

Note: The id name must contain at least one character, cannot start with a number, and must not contain whitespaces (spaces, tabs, etc.).

## Using The id Attribute

The id attribute specifies a unique id for an HTML element. The value of the id attribute must be unique within the HTML document.

The id attribute is used to point to a specific style declaration in a style sheet. It is also used by JavaScript to access and manipulate the element with the specific id.

The syntax for id is: write a hash character (#), followed by an id name. Then, define the CSS properties within curly braces {}.

In the following example we have an <h1> element that points to the id name "myHeader". This <h1> element will be styled according to the #myHeader style definition in the head section:

## Difference Between Class and ID

A class name can be used by multiple HTML elements, while an id name must only be used by one HTML element within the page:

<!DOCTYPE html>

<html>

<head>

<style>

/\* Style the element with the id "myHeader" \*/

#myHeader {

background-color: lightblue;

color: black;

padding: 40px;

text-align: center;

}

/\* Style all elements with the class name "city" \*/

.city {

background-color: tomato;

color: white;

padding: 10px;

}

</style>

</head>

<body>

<h2>Difference Between Class and ID</h2>

<p>A class name can be used by multiple HTML elements, while an id name must only be used by one HTML element within the page:</p>

<!-- An element with a unique id -->

<h1 id="myHeader">My Cities</h1>

<!-- Multiple elements with same class -->

<h2 class="city">London</h2>

<p>London is the capital of England.</p>

<h2 class="city">Paris</h2>

<p>Paris is the capital of France.</p>

<h2 class="city">Tokyo</h2>

<p>Tokyo is the capital of Japan.</p>

</body>

</html>

## Using The id Attribute in JavaScript

The id attribute can also be used by JavaScript to perform some tasks for that specific element.

JavaScript can access an element with a specific id with the getElementById() method:

<!DOCTYPE html>

<html>

<body>

<h2>Using The id Attribute in JavaScript</h2>

<p>JavaScript can access an element with a specified id by using the getElementById() method:</p>

<h1 id="myHeader">Hello World!</h1>

<button onclick="displayResult()">Change text</button>

<script>

function displayResult() {

document.getElementById("myHeader").innerHTML = "Have a nice day!";

}

</script>

</body>

</html>

## Chapter Summary

* The id attribute is used to specify a unique id for an HTML element
* The value of the id attribute must be unique within the HTML document
* The id attribute is used by CSS and JavaScript to style/select a specific element
* The value of the id attribute is case sensitive
* The id attribute is also used to create HTML bookmarks
* JavaScript can access an element with a specific id with the getElementById() method