# Forms

## User-input data

Parameters can be specified after a '?' symbol in a URL.

E.g.: www.youtube.com/results?search_query=adele

They are separated by '&' symbols:

    ...?parameter1=value1&parameter2=value2&...

We can use forms to modify user-input data.

## Example: currency converter

You enter values in boxes and select things from drop-down menus, and then the URL of the result page reflects those values using parameters.

Alternatively, you can type the parameter values into the URL yourself. It makes no difference whether a user types the values in the URL or in the form on the page.

## Search IMDB

```
<form action="http://www.imdb.com/find">
    Your query: <br>
    <input type="text" name="q">
    <input type="submit" value="Search IMDB">
</form>
```

This code makes a form where you input a query, click a button, and you are taken to the IMDB search results for that query.

## <form> tag parameters

Another parameter you can use with the <form> tag is *method*. You can use this to specify whether a GET request or a POST request. GET is used by default if nothing is specified. POST will cause the parameters to travel by a separate channel. POST is used when there is a site effect from the query (e.g. adding items to a basket on a website—if you repeat the query multiple copies will be added, this is the site effect).

POST and GET do not encrypt the stuff that travels, so they would not be used for passwords. The only way (at least for us at the moment) to make passwords safe on forms is to use your own encryption.

## <input>

Used for inputs. The name parameter specifies the user-input parameter requested on the action website, with the value entered in this input by the user.
The type parameter specifies the type of the input that the browser shows to you. This can be things like buttons, sliders, etc. HTML 5 adds an "email" type, which only accept email addresses, among other new types.

One other important type is "submit". This causes the form to execute. It takes the property "value" which is the text displayed on the button. It does not take a property "name".

Forms can have multiple input elements.

## Google

Google does not allow remote queries anymore.