FORMS AND INPUTS

FORM BASICS

FORMS

How we get data from users

FORMS

1. The user fills out the form and presses the submit button

2. The **name** of each form field is sent to the server along with the **value** the user entered or selected
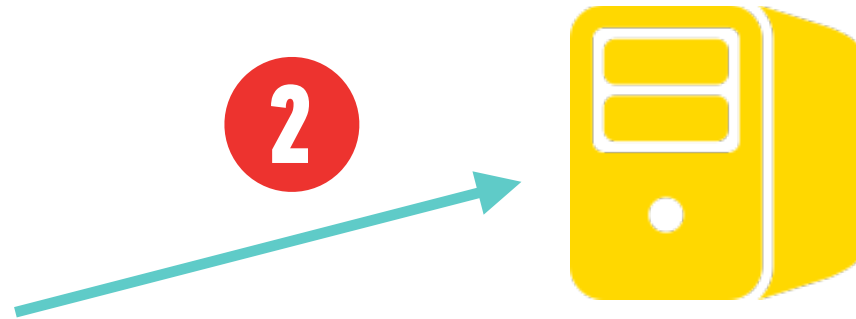
3. The server processes the data using a language such as PHP, C# or Java. It may also store the information in a database
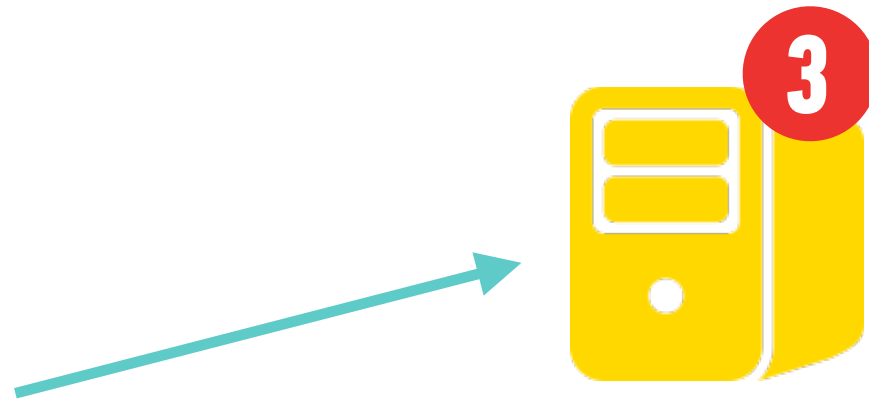
FORMS

4. The server creates a new page to send back to the browser based on the information received.
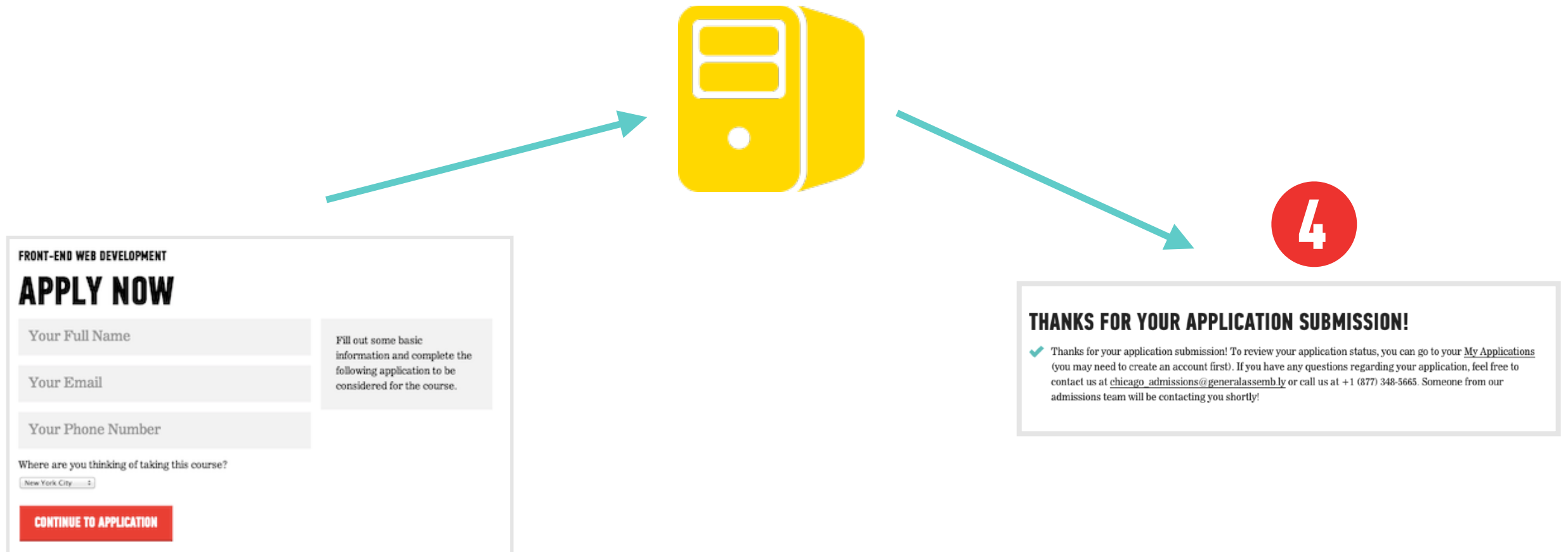
FORMS

Form controls live inside the <form element>

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php" method="post">
  <!--Data collection elements go here-->
</form>
```

FORMS

Form attributes:

```html
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php" method="post">
  <!--Data collection elements go here-->
</form>
```

FORMS

Form attributes:

ACTION (REQUIRED)
Where to send the data (URL)

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php" method="post">
  <!--Data collection elements go here-->
</form>
```

FORMS

Form attributes:

ACTION (REQUIRED)
Where to send the data (URL)

METHOD (WILL USUALLY HAVE)
How to send it (post or get)

```html
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php" method="post">
   <!--Data collection elements go here-->
</form>
```

FORMS — METHODS

POST

‣ Data is not shown in URL
‣ Can contain sensitive data
‣ No size limitations
‣ Adds information to, or deletes info from a database

GET

‣ Short forms (such as search fields)
‣ Appended to URL in name/value pairs
‣ Never use for sensitive info!!!
‣ Useful for form submissions when user wants to bookmark results

GA Gallery   ×

gallery.ga.co/FEWD?metro=new-york-city

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php" method="post">
    <!--Data collection elements go here-->
</form>
```
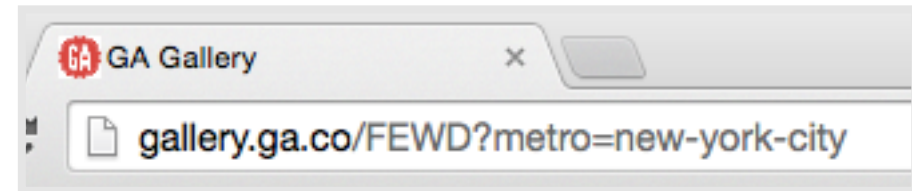
GETTING INFORMATION FROM USER

GETTING INFO — INPUTS

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php" method="post">
    <input type="text" name="fullName" placeholder="Enter your full name">
</form>
```

▸ Allow us to get content from users.
▸ Should live inside our form tags.

A few attributes inputs will usually have:

  ▸ **type** — What type of input is it?
  ▸ **name, value** — The name attribute is sent to the user along with the value the user selects.
  ▸ **placeholder** — For text inputs - hint for what user should enter in field

FORM — TYPES OF INPUTS

ADD TEXT

MAKE CHOICES

SUBMIT

Your Email

Where are you thinking of taking this course?

Chicago

Continue

INPUTS — TEXT

```
<input type="text" name="username">
```

Your Full Name

```
<input type="email" name="email">
```

Your Email

```
<input type="password" name="password">
```

••••••••••••

*Can also carry a maxlength attribute to limit the number of characters the user may enter

LABELS

Information about the input field should be put in a <label> tag:

```
<label for="yourName">Name</label>
<input type="text" name="name" id="yourName">
```

To tie the two together:

```
<label for="yourName">Name</label>
<input type="text" name="name" id="yourName">
```

Note: Clicking the label text places the focus in the input field (great for radio buttons)

CHECKBOXES AND RADIO BUTTONS

```
<input type="checkbox" name="store_credentials">
```

☐ Remember me

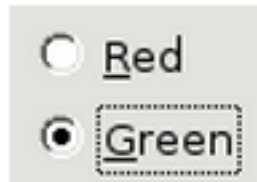Radio buttons are *grouped together by their name attribute*

```
<input type="radio" name="color" value="red">
<input type="radio" name="color" value="green"checked="checked">
```

○ Red
◉ Green

SELECT AND OPTION

Where are you thinking of taking this course?

| Chicago |

| Atlanta |
| Austin |
| Boston |
| ✓ Chicago |
| Hong Kong |
| London |
| Los Angeles |
| Melbourne |
| New York City |
| San Francisco |
| Seattle |
| Sydney |
| Washington D.C. |

```html
<select name="referral">
 <option value="friend">Friend</option>
 <option value="instructor">Instructor</option>
 <option value="online">Online</option>
</select>
```

SUBMIT FORM

```
<input type="submit" value="Continue">
```

Continue

NAME/VALUE PAIRS

▸ Information is sent from the browser to the server using name/value pairs.

```
<input type="text" name="username">
```

sarahbethholden@gmail.com|

NAME   **VALUE**

username=sarahbethholden@gmail.com

```
<input type="radio" name="color" value="red">
<input type="radio" name="color" value="green" checked="checked">
```
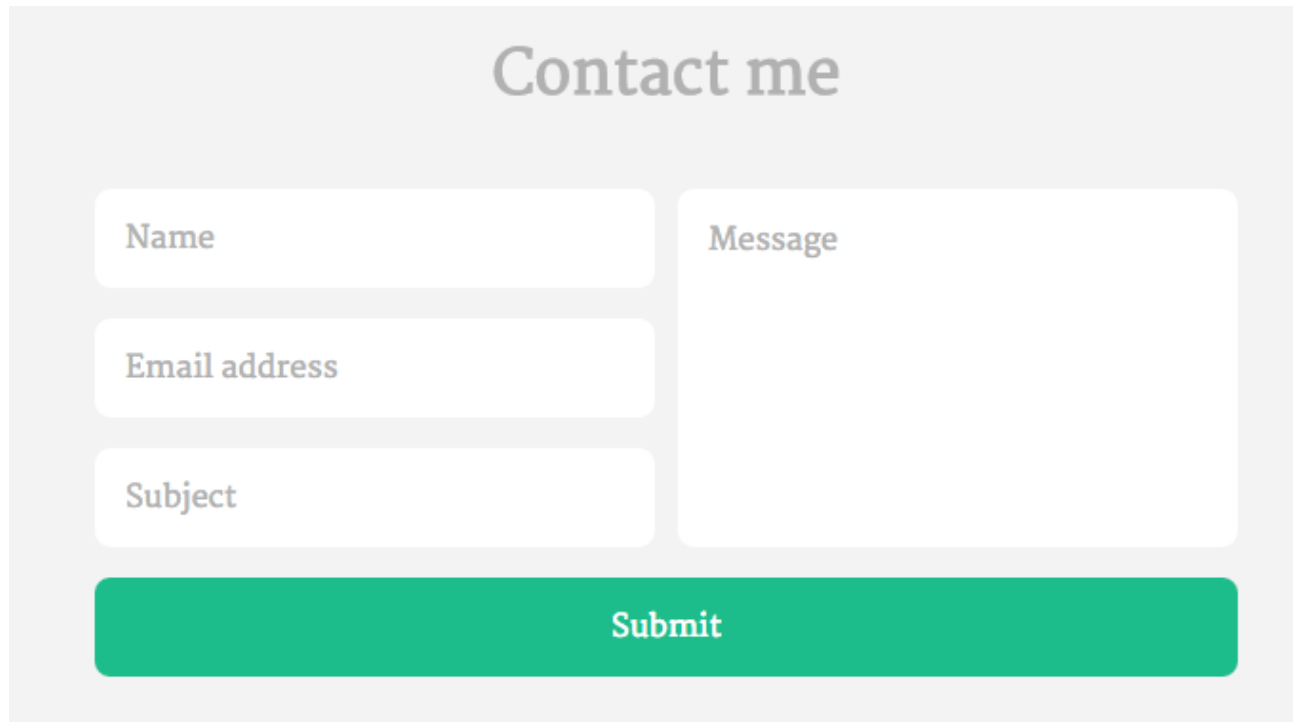
○ Red
◉ Green

NAME   **VALUE**

color=green

CONTACT FORM

BUILDING A FUNCTIONAL CONTACT FORM

1. I recommend FormSpree for contact forms that send you an email without having to use PHP.
2. Your site will need to be hosted on a server in order to test emails.