

Chapter 1: HTML INTRODUCTION

HTML is one of the most widely used languages on Web to develop web pages. It helps you delve into the world of [Web Development](#) and improve your skills. So, let's get into the details of **What is HTML** and what are the fundamentals of HTML in the following sequence:

- ✓ What is HTML
- ✓ HTML Structure
- ✓ HTML Elements
- ✓ How does HTML Work?

What is HTML?

A **markup language** is a computer language that is used to apply layout and formatting conventions to a text document. Markup language makes the text more **interactive** and **dynamic**. It can turn text into images, tables, links, etc.

HTML stands for **Hyper Text Markup Language** and it is the standard markup language for creating web pages and web applications. It is used to describe the structure of Web pages using markup.

HTML Document

The three block level tags that you need for your HTML document are `<html>`, `<head>`, and `<body>`.

1. The `<html></html>` tag is the highest level element that encloses every HTML page.
2. The `<head></head>` tag holds meta information such as the page's title and charset.
3. Finally, the `<body></body>` tag encloses all the content that appears on the page.

The <!DOCTYPE> Declaration

The <!DOCTYPE> declaration represents the document type, and helps browsers to display web pages correctly.

It must only appear once, at the top of the page (before any HTML tags).

The <!DOCTYPE> declaration is not case sensitive.

The <!DOCTYPE> declaration for HTML5 is:

<!DOCTYPE html>

HTML Headings

HTML headings are defined with the `<h1>` to `<h6>` tags.

`<h1>` defines the most important heading. `<h6>` defines the least important heading:

An HTML element is defined by a start tag, some content, and an end tag.

Example

`<h1>`Heading 1`</h1>`

`<h2>`Heading 2`</h2>`

`<h3>`Heading 3`</h3>`

`<h4>`Heading 4`</h4>`

HTML Elements

The HTML **element** is everything from the start tag to the end tag:

`<tagname>Content goes here...</tagname>`

Examples of some HTML elements:

`<h1>My First Heading</h1>`

`<p>My first paragraph.</p>`

Start tag	Element content	End tag
<code><h1></code>	My First Heading	<code></h1></code>
<code><p></code>	My first paragraph.	<code></p></code>
<code>
</code>	None	none

NOTE: Some HTML elements have no content (like the `
` element). These elements are called empty elements. Empty elements do not have an end tag!

How does HTML work?

HTML documents end with the **.html** or **.htm** extension. You can view it using any web browser. The browser reads the HTML file and renders the content for users to view it.

Each HTML page consists of a set of tags or elements which are known as the building blocks of web pages. They create a hierarchy that structures the content into sections, paragraphs, headings, and other content blocks.

Simple Html Webpage Structure:

<!.....My first Programme..!>

<!Doctype html>

<html>

<body>

<h1>My First Heading</h1>

<p>My first paragraph</p>

</body>

</html>