

HTML Form

An **HTML form** is a section of a document which contains controls such as text fields, password fields, checkboxes, radio buttons, submit button, menus etc.

An HTML form facilitates the user to enter data that is to be sent to the server for processing such as name, email address, password, phone number, etc. .

Why use HTML Form

HTML forms are required if you want to collect some data from of the site visitor.

For example: If a user want to purchase some items on internet, he/she must fill the form such as shipping address and credit/debit card details so that item can be sent to the given address.

HTML Form Syntax

1. `<form action="server url" method="get|post">`
 2. `//input controls e.g. textfield, textarea, radiobutton, button`
 3. `</form>`
-

HTML Form Tags

Let's see the list of HTML 5 form tags.

Tag	Description
<form>	It defines an HTML form to enter inputs by the used side.
<input>	It defines an input control.
<textarea>	It defines a multi-line input control.
<label>	It defines a label for an input element.
<fieldset>	It groups the related element in a form.

<legend>	It defines a caption for a <fieldset> element.
<select>	It defines a drop-down list.
<optgroup>	It defines a group of related options in a drop-down list.
<option>	It defines an option in a drop-down list.
<button>	It defines a clickable button.

HTML 5 Form Tags

Let's see the list of HTML 5 form tags.

Tag	Description
<datalist>	It specifies a list of pre-defined options for input control.
<keygen>	It defines a key-pair generator field for forms.
<output>	It defines the result of a calculation.

HTML <form> element

The HTML <form> element provide a document section to take input from user. It provides various interactive controls for submitting information to web server such as text field, text area, password field, etc.

Note: The <form> element does not itself create a form but it is container to contain all required form elements, such as <input>, <label>, etc.

Syntax:

1. **<form>**
2. //Form elements
3. **</form>**


HTML <input> element

The HTML `<input>` element is fundamental form element. It is used to create form fields, to take input from user. We can apply different input field to gather different information from user. Following is the example to show the simple text input.

Example:

1. `<body>`
2. `<form>`
3. Enter your name `
`
4. `<input type="text" name="username">`
5. `</form>`
6. `</body>`

Output:

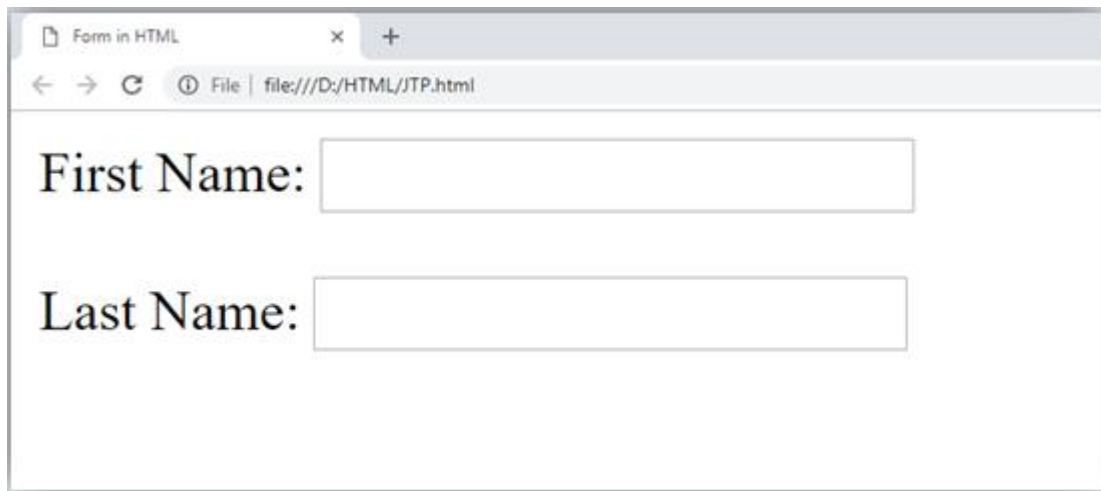
A screenshot of a web browser displaying a simple form. The form is enclosed in a light gray border. At the top, the text "Enter your name" is written in a large, black, serif font. Below the text is a single-line text input field with a light gray border and a white background.

HTML TextField Control

The `type="text"` attribute of input tag creates textfield control also known as single line textfield control. The name attribute is optional, but it is required for the server side component such as JSP, ASP, PHP etc.

1. `<form>`
2. First Name: `<input type="text" name="firstname"/>
`
3. Last Name: `<input type="text" name="lastname"/>
`
4. `</form>`

Output:

A screenshot of a web browser window. The title bar says "Form in HTML". The address bar shows "file:///D:/HTML/JTP.html". The main content area contains two text input fields. The first field is preceded by the text "First Name:". The second field is preceded by the text "Last Name:". Both fields are empty and have a light gray border.

Note: If you will omit 'name' attribute then the text filed input will not be submitted to server.

HTML <textarea> tag in form

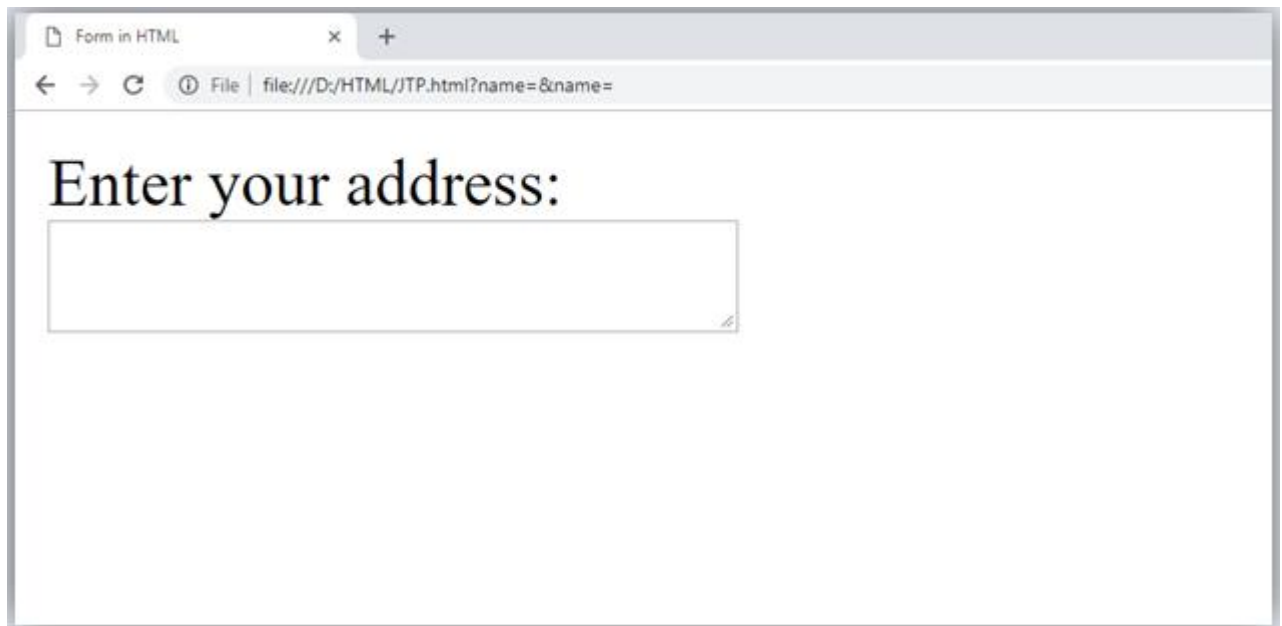
The <textarea> tag in HTML is used to insert multiple-line text in a form. The size of <textarea> can be specify either using "rows" or "cols" attribute or by CSS.

Example:

1. <!DOCTYPE html>
2. <html>
3. <head>
4. <title>Form in HTML</title>
5. </head>
6. <body>
7. <form>
8. Enter your address:

9. <textarea rows="2" cols="20"> </textarea>
10. </form>
11. </body>
12. </html>

Output:



Label Tag in Form

It is considered better to have label in form. As it makes the code parser/browser/user friendly.

If you click on the label tag, it will focus on the text control. To do so, you need to have for attribute in label tag that must be same as id attribute of input tag.

NOTE: It is good to use `<label>` tag with form, although it is optional but if you will use it, then it will provide a focus when you tap or click on label tag. It is more worthy with touchscreens.

1. `<form>`
2. `<label for="firstname">First Name: </label>
`
3. `<input type="text" id="firstname" name="firstname"/>
`
4. `<label for="lastname">Last Name: </label>`
5. `<input type="text" id="lastname" name="lastname"/>
`
6. `</form>`

Output:

First Name:

Last Name:

HTML Password Field Control

The password is not visible to the user in password field control.

1. `<form>`
2. `<label for="password">Password: </label>`
3. `<input type="password" id="password" name="password"/>
`
4. `</form>`

Output:

Password:

HTML 5 Email Field Control

The email field is new in HTML 5. It validates the text for correct email address. You must use @ and . in this field.

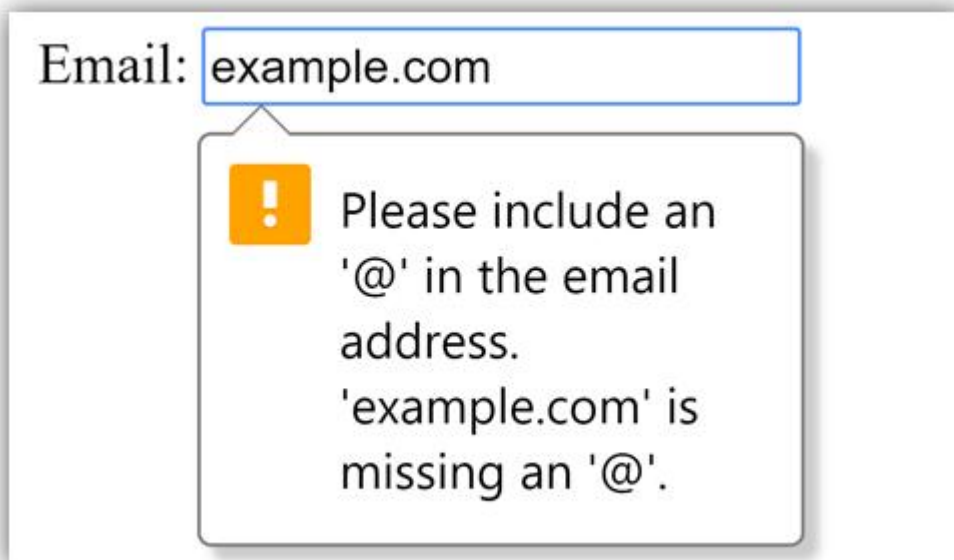
1. `<form>`

2. `<label for="email">Email: </label>`
3. `<input type="email" id="email" name="email"/>
`
4. `</form>`

It will display in browser like below:

Email:

Note: If we will not enter the correct email, it will display error like:



Radio Button Control

The radio button is used to select one option from multiple options. It is used for selection of gender, quiz questions etc.

If you use one name for all the radio buttons, only one radio button can be selected at a time.

Using radio buttons for multiple options, you can only choose a single option at a time.

1. `<form>`

2. `<label for="gender">Gender: </label>`
3. `<input type="radio" id="gender" name="gender" value="male"/>Male`
4. `<input type="radio" id="gender" name="gender" value="female"/>Female`
`
`
5. `</form>`

Gender: ☐ Male ☒ Female

Checkbox Control

The checkbox control is used to check multiple options from given checkboxes.

1. `<form>`
2. Hobby:`
`
3. `<input type="checkbox" id="cricket" name="cricket" value="cricket"/>`
4. `<label for="cricket">Cricket</label>
`
5. `<input type="checkbox" id="football" name="football" value="football"/>`
6. `<label for="football">Football</label>
`
7. `<input type="checkbox" id="hockey" name="hockey" value="hockey"/>`
8. `<label for="hockey">Hockey</label>`
9. `</form>`

Note: These are similar to radio button except it can choose multiple options at a time and radio button can select one button at a time, and its display.

Output:

Hobby:



Cricket



Football



Hockey

Submit button control

HTML `<input type="submit">` are used to add a submit button on web page. When user clicks on submit button, then form get submit to the server.

Syntax:

1. `<input type="submit" value="submit">`

The type = submit , specifying that it is a submit button

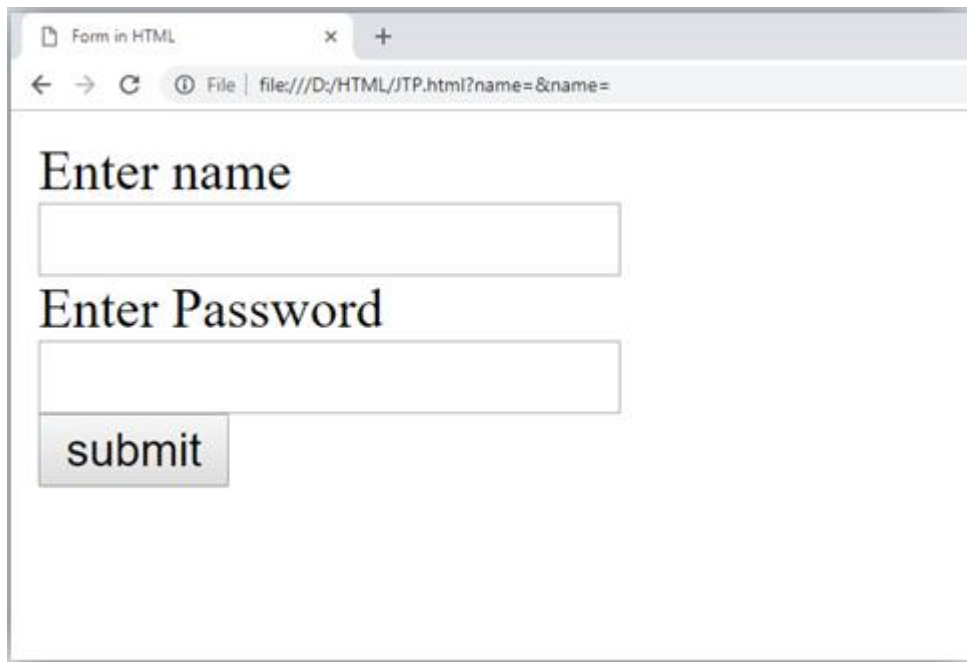
The value attribute can be anything which we write on button on web page.

The name attribute can be omit here.

Example:

1. `<form>`
2. `<label for="name">Enter name</label>
`
3. `<input type="text" id="name" name="name">
`
4. `<label for="pass">Enter Password</label>
`
5. `<input type="Password" id="pass" name="pass">
`
6. `<input type="submit" value="submit">`
7. `</form>`

Output:



Form in HTML

file:///D:/HTML/JTP.html?name=&name=

Enter name

Enter Password

submit

HTML <fieldset> element:

The <fieldset> element in HTML is used to group the related information of a form. This element is used with <legend> element which provide caption for the grouped elements.

Example:

1. **<form>**
2. **<fieldset>**
3. **<legend>**User Information:**</legend>**
4. **<label for="name">**Enter name**</label>
**
5. **<input type="text" id="name" name="name">
**
6. **<label for="pass">**Enter Password**</label>
**
7. **<input type="Password" id="pass" name="pass">
**
8. **<input type="submit" value="submit">**
9. **</fieldset>**
10. **lt;/form>**

Output:

User Information:

Enter name

Enter Password

submit

HTML Form Example

Following is the example for a simple form of registration.

1. `<!DOCTYPE html>`
2. `<html>`
3. `<head>`
4. `<title>Form in HTML</title>`
5. `</head>`
6. `<body>`
7. `<h2>Registration form</h2>`
8. `<form>`
9. `<fieldset>`
10. `<legend>User personal information</legend>`
11. `<label>Enter your full name</label>
`
12. `<input type="text" name="name">
`
13. `<label>Enter your email</label>
`
14. `<input type="email" name="email">
`
15. `<label>Enter your password</label>
`
16. `<input type="password" name="pass">
`
17. `<label>confirm your password</label>
`
18. `<input type="password" name="pass">
`
19. `
 <label>Enter your gender</label>
`
20. `<input type="radio" id="gender" name="gender" value="male"/>Male
`
21. `<input type="radio" id="gender" name="gender" value="female"/>Female
`
22. `<input type="radio" id="gender" name="gender" value="others"/>others </form>`

23. `
Enter your Address:
`
24. `<textarea> </textarea>
`
25. `<input type="submit" value="sign-up">`
26. `</fieldset>`
27. `</form>`
28. `</body>`
29. `</html>`

Test it Now

Output:

Registration form

User personal information

Enter your full name

Enter your email

Enter your password

confirm your password

Enter your gender

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ others

Enter your Address: