



FEWD - Form Basics

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Agenda


- Forms
- Inputs
- Styling

But first:

Pop quiz hot-shots!

Forms

How we can get data from users.

 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY** [Sign In](#)

FRONT-END WEB DEVELOPMENT
APPLY NOW

Where are you thinking of taking this course?

CONTINUE TO APPLICATION

Fill out some basic information and complete the following application to be considered for the course.

Form Tag

HTML:

```
<form action="register.php" method="post" enctype="multipart/form-data">  
  <!--Data collection elements go here-->  
</form>
```

Forms

- Wrapper for data collection elements
 - Text fields
 - Dropdowns
 - Radio Buttons
 - etc

Forms

Tells the page:

- Where to send the data
- How to send it
- What is being sent

Form Tag

```
<form>  
  <!-- Inputs and other stuff -->  
</form>
```

Available Attributes

- method
- action
- enctype

Form - Method

- The method by which the browser sends the form
- Possible values: `get`, `post`, `put`, `delete`
- `get` and `post` are most commonly used

```
<form method="post">
```

Form - Action

- Specifies the URL the form should be submitted to
- Usually a Back End address
- Also directs the browser to the URL unless prevented with JS

```
<form action="/api/submitContactForm">
```

Form - enctype

- Specifies how the data should be encoded before sending
- Only required if the form includes a file upload element
- Value should almost always be: `multipart/form-data` if required

```
<form enctype="multipart/form-data">
```

A complete form tag

```
<form action="register.php" method="post" enctype="multipart/form-data">  
  <!--Data collection elements go here-->  
</form>
```

Inputs

`<input>` **tag**

Place between `<form>` `</form>` tags

Main Attributes

- Type
 - "text", "password", "radio", "file", "submit" etc
- Name
 - Used server side to identify data
- Value

`<input>` tag

Other attributes


- Placeholder
 - Displayed when field value is empty
- Required
 - Prevents form from being submitted if field is empty

Text

Use value to set initial text

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

```
<input type="text" name="firstName" value="Bob" placeholder="Enter your first name">
```

 GENERAL ASSEMBLY Sign in

FRONT-END WEB DEVELOPMENT

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CONTINUE TO APPLICATION

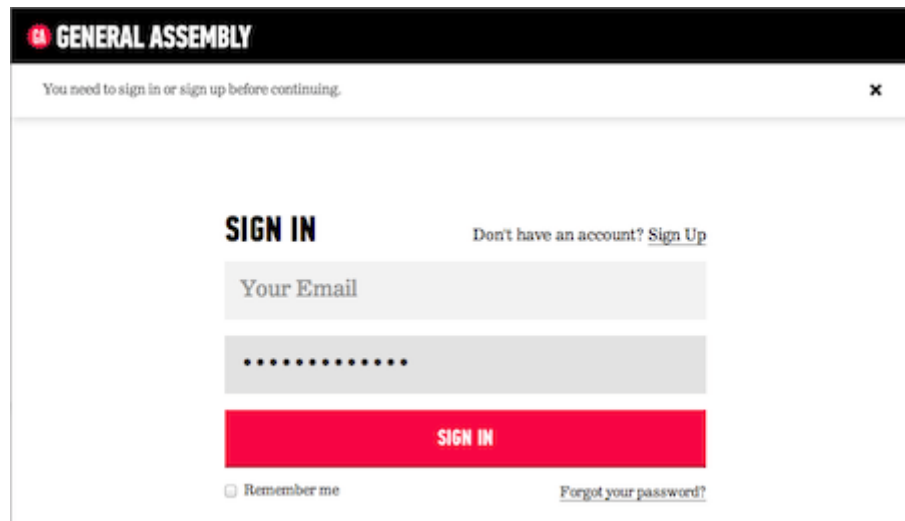
Fill out some basic information and complete the following application to be considered for the course.

Password

Hides characters as typed

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

```
<input type="password" name="signInPassword" placeholder="Enter your password" required>
```



The screenshot shows a web interface for General Assembly. At the top, there's a black header with the 'GA' logo and the text 'GENERAL ASSEMBLY'. Below the header, a white banner contains the message 'You need to sign in or sign up before continuing.' with a close button (X). The main content area is white and features a 'SIGN IN' section. On the right side of this section, there's a link: 'Don't have an account? [Sign Up](#)'. The form consists of two input fields: the first is labeled 'Your Email' and the second is a password field filled with dots. Below these fields is a red button labeled 'SIGN IN'. At the bottom left, there's a checkbox labeled 'Remember me'. At the bottom right, there's a link: '[Forgot your password?](#)'.

Radio

Radio buttons. Allows user to select one option from a set.

```
<input type="radio" name="pet" value="cat">Cat  
<input type="radio" name="pet" value="dog">Dog  
<input type="radio" name="pet" value="velociraptor" checked>Raptor
```

Checkbox

Checkboxes. Allows user to select one or more options from a set.

```
<input type="checkbox" name="pet" value="cat">Cat  
<input type="checkbox" name="pet" value="dog">Dog  
<input type="checkbox" name="pet" value="velociraptor" checked>Raptor
```

File

Creates a file upload element

```
<input type="file">
```

```
<input type="file" name="profilePhoto">
```

- Remember to provide the `enctype` attribute to `multipart/form-data` on the parent `<form>`
- Note that you cannot pre-populate a file field value

Submit Button

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

```
<input type="submit" value="Sign Me Up!">
```

- Creates a clickable button that submits the form
- Value is button text
- Submits the form to the URL in the form's `action`

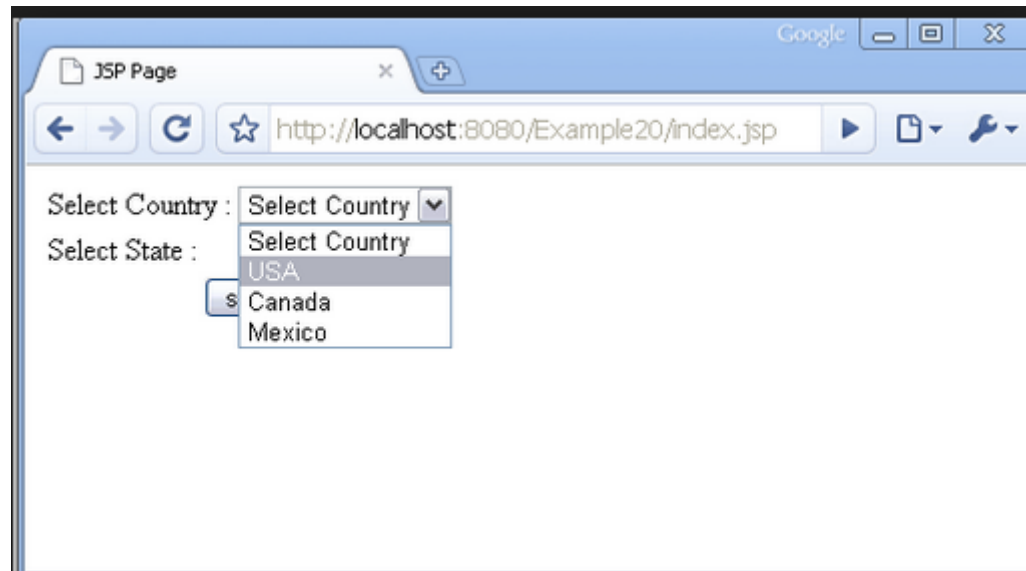
Textarea

Multi-line text input box

```
<textarea></textarea>
```

```
<textarea name="comments" placeholder="Enter feedback/comments here">  
    Best ride EVER!  
</textarea>
```

Select and Option



Select and Option

```
<select name="cities">
  <option value="mel">Melbourne</option>
  <option value="syd">Sydney</option>
  <option value="dar">Darwin</option>
  <option value="per">Perth</option>
  <option value="hob" selected>Hobart</option>
  <option value="bri">Brisbane</option>
  <option value="can">Canberra</option>
</select>
```

Labels

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

- Link to fields by matching the label's `for` to the field's `id`
- Clicking the label also triggers a click for the field it is linked to
- Very handy for radio buttons and checkboxes

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




Styling Forms



Relaxr Registration Form

Further Reading

- MDN - Styling HTML Form
- SitePoint HTML5 Forms: The Markup
- Form validation with JS
- AJAX