# < The Preformatted Text element</pre>

The HTML element represents preformatted text which is to be presented exactly as written in the HTML file. The text is typically rendered using a non-proportional, or monospaced , font. Whitespace inside this element is displayed as written.

## Try it



If you have to display reserved characters such as <, >, &, and " within the tag, the characters must be escaped using their respective HTML entity.

## **Attributes**

This element only includes the global attributes.

#### cols A

Contains the preferred count of characters that a line should have. It was a non-standard synonym of width. To achieve such an effect, use CSS width instead.

#### width 🛍 🛕

Contains the *preferred* count of characters that a line should have. Though technically still implemented, this attribute has no visual effect; to achieve such an effect, use CSS width instead.

#### wrap 🛕 🛅

Is a *hint* indicating how the overflow must happen. In modern browser this hint is ignored and no visual effect results in its present; to achieve such an effect, use CSS white-space instead.

## Accessibility concerns

It is important to provide an alternate description for any images or diagrams created using preformatted text. The alternate description should clearly and concisely describe the image or diagram's content.

People experiencing low vision conditions and browsing with the aid of assistive technology such as a screen reader may not understand what the preformatted text characters are representing when they are read out in sequence.

A combination of the <a href="figure">
<a href="figure">figure</a> and <a href="figure">figure

#### Example

```
</figcaption>
</figure>
```

- MDN Understanding WCAG, Guideline 1.1 explanations
- H86: Providing text alternatives for ASCII art, emoticons, and leetspeak W3C Techniques for WCAG 2.0 🗷

# **Examples**

Basic example

### HTML

#### Result

```
Using CSS to change the font color is easy.

body {
    color: red;
}
```

Escaping reserved characters

### HTML

```
let i = 5;

if (i < 10 &amp;&amp; i &gt; 0)
   return &quot;Single Digit Number&quot;
```

#### Result

```
let i = 5;
if (i < 10 && i > 0)
   return "Single Digit Number"
```

# **Technical Summary**

Content categories	Flow content, palpable content.
Permitted content	Phrasing content.
Tag omission	None, both the starting and ending tag are mandatory.
Permitted parents	Any element that accepts flow content.
Implicit ARIA role	No corresponding role ☑
Permitted ARIA roles	Any
DOM interface	HTMLPreElement .

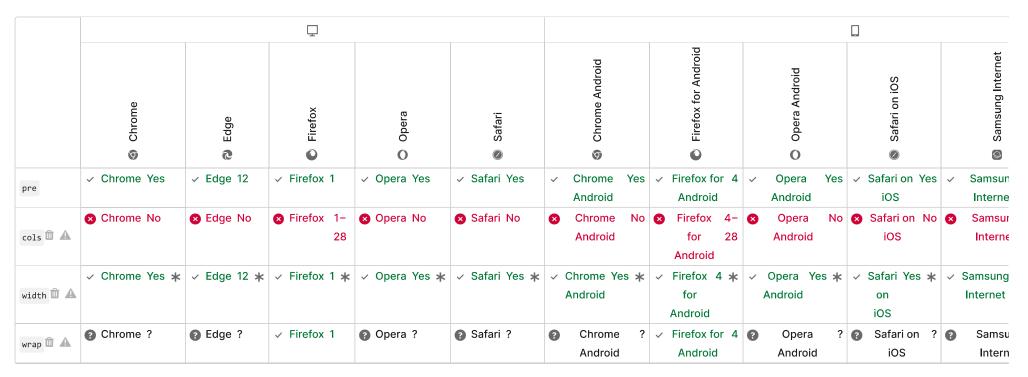
# **Specifications**

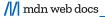
Specification

HTML Standard
# the-pre-element

# **Browser compatibility**

Report problems with this compatibility data on GitHub 2





🗸 ruii support 💢 no support 📆 compatibility unknown 🔥 non-standard. Check cross-browser support before using. 📗 Deprecated, not for use in new websites. 💢 See implementation notes.

## See also

- CSS: white-space, word-break
- HTML Entity
- Related element: <code>

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