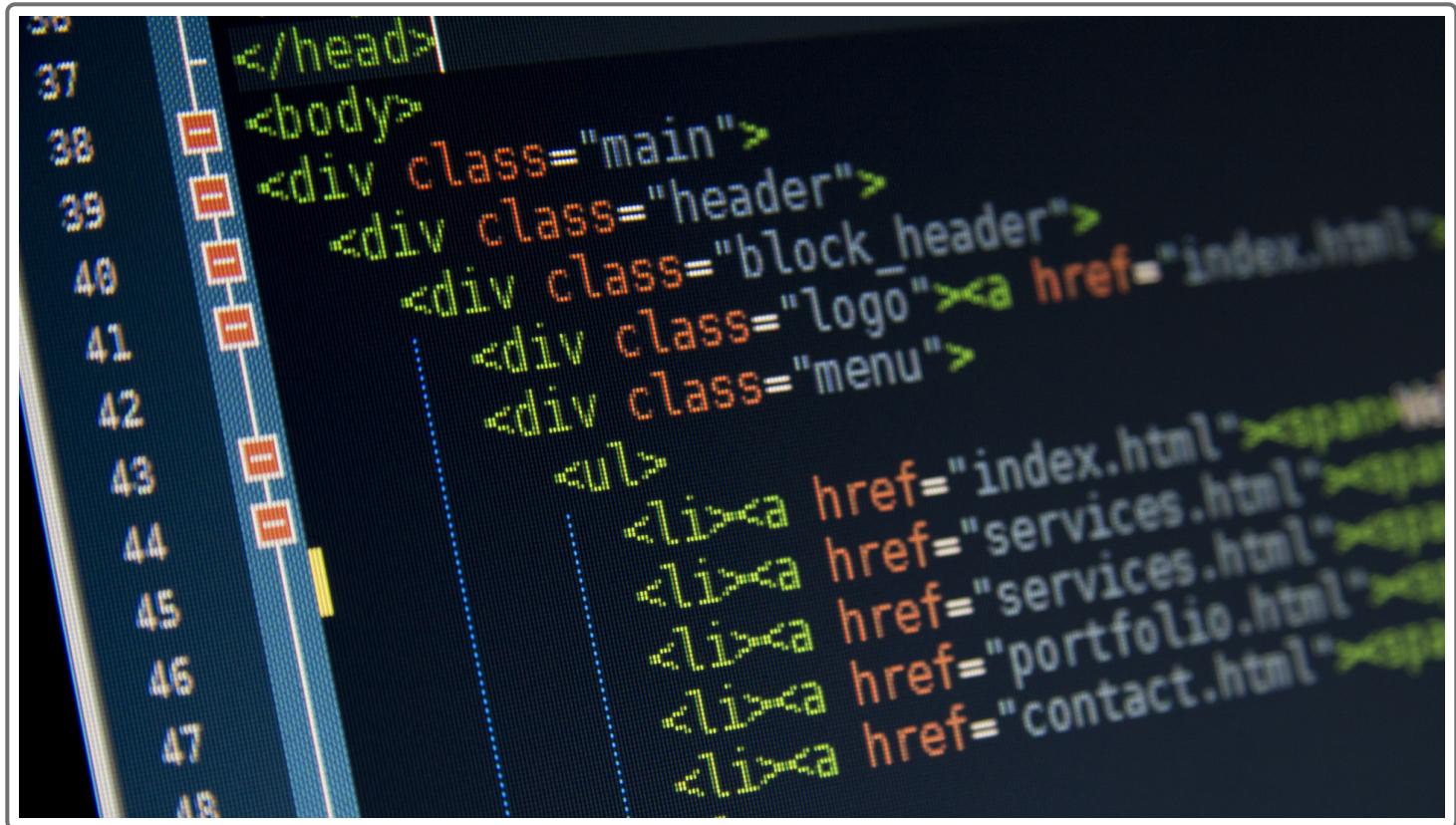


Basic HTML Elements



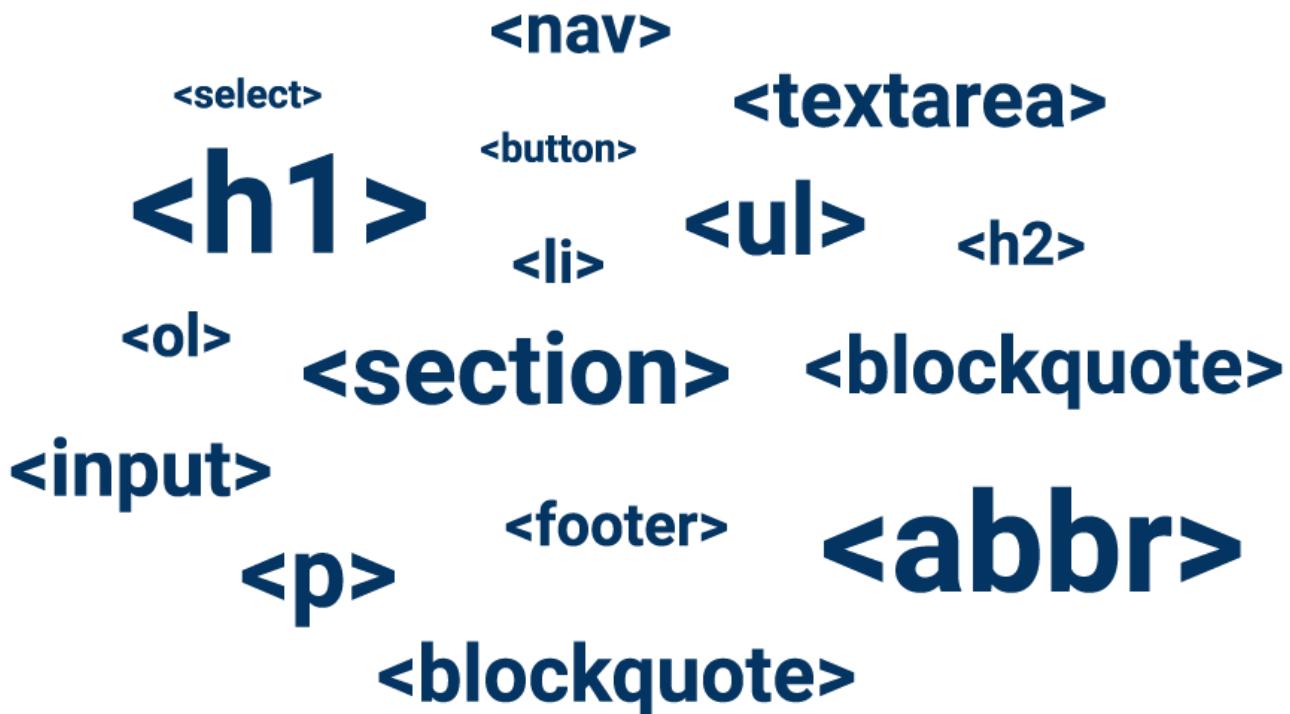
A screenshot of a code editor displaying an HTML file. The code is color-coded: blue for numbers, green for tags, and red for attributes. The structure shows a nested div hierarchy with a menu bar and a list of links.

```
35 </head>
36
37 <body>
38   <div class="main">
39     <div class="header">
40       <div class="block_header">
41         <div class="logo"><a href="index.html">
42           <div class="menu">
43             <ul>
44               <li><a href="index.html">span>
45               <li><a href="services.html">span>
46               <li><a href="services.html">span>
47               <li><a href="portfolio.html">span>
48               <li><a href="contact.html">span>
```

Recall that HTML is code that's used to specify elements and their roles on a webpage. These elements include titles, headers, footers, headings, lists, paragraphs, links, and more.

In this section, you'll learn how to create a basic HTML document. Getting some practical experience with HTML will later help you identify where to find the data that you want to extract as you go through the web scraping process.

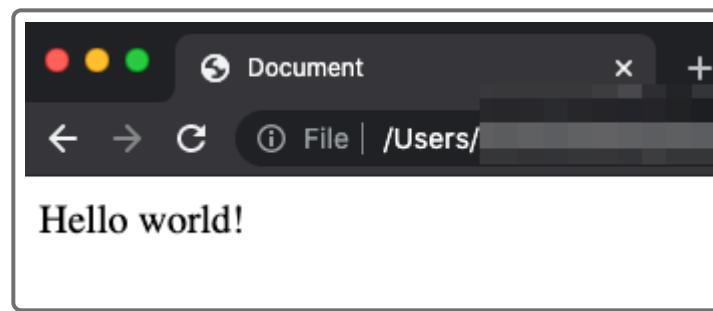
Let's begin by exploring some HTML elements that commonly exist on a webpage.



Open VS Code, create a file named **index0.html**, and then in this file, enter the following code:

```
<html>
<head>
    <title>Document</title>
</head>
<body>
    <p>Hello, world!</p>
</body>
</html>
```

Now, open the file by double-clicking it. It should open in a browser.



What do you notice? Many lines of code were needed to display "Hello world!" in the browser. Also, the browser toolbar displays the word "Document."

Next, let's break down the code a bit more.

Tags

HTML **tags** are instructions that tell a browser how to display the elements on a webpage. In general, each element gets an opening tag and a closing tag. An **opening tag** consists of the name of the tag enclosed in angle brackets (`<>`). A **closing tag** resembles the opening tag. But, it contains a slash immediately after the left angle bracket (`<`).

For example, all the content on our simple webpage is contained between the `<html>` opening tag and the `</html>` closing tag.

Likewise, a `title` element begins with the `<title>` opening tag and ends with the `</title>` closing tag. (Notice that the slash in `</title>` lets us know that it's a closing tag.)

A paragraph element begins with the `<p>` opening tag and ends with the `</p>` closing tag. In our code, the text "Hello, world!" comes between those two tags.

You might have noticed that an HTML element can enclose other elements. For example, the `html` tags enclose the `body` tags. And, the `body` tags, in turn, enclose the `p` tags.

Head

Each HTML document always contains two elements: a `head` and a `body`. The `head` contains information about the document itself, which is also called the **metadata**. As our simple webpage code shows, it contains the title of the document. It can also contain information that doesn't display on the webpage.

Body

The **body** contains all the elements that display on the webpage. In our example, the **body** tags contain the paragraph element (represented by the **p** tags). And, the **p** tags, in turn, contain the "Hello world!" text.

Now, try to create an HTML document yourself in the following Skill Drill:

SKILL DRILL

Create a new HTML document, and name it **index1.html**. Make "Web Scraping" (without the quotation marks) the title of the document. And, add a paragraph that consists of the following text: I am learning about web scraping!

Here are a couple of hints: Place the title between **<title>** and **</title>** tags. Place the paragraph text between **<p>** and **</p>** tags.

Terrific work! You've demonstrated your ability to create an original HTML document. But as you know, webpages usually contain lots of content. So, let's move on to other components of an HTML page: declarations and metatags.

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