

# IMPROVE UX USING <datalist>

TODO:

- Exercise
- Eat
- Work
- Sleep

Primary Color:



Other...

Start Date:

- |            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| 06/06/2022 | Before 7 days  |
| 29/05/2022 | Before 15 days |
| 13/05/2022 | Before 30 days |
| Other...   |                |

Start Time:

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 10:00 AM | Morning   |
| 4:00 PM  | Afternoon |
| 9:00 PM  | Night     |
| Other... |           |

# <datalist> Data List Element

<datalist> element defines list of recommended options for various types of input controls.

To associate datalist with any input control, datalist must define **id** attribute and the input control should set that **id** value in **list** attribute.



HTML CSS

```
<label>
  TODO:
  <input type="text" list="common-todos">

  <datalist id="common-todos">
    <option value="Exercise">
    <option value="Eat">
    <option value="Work">
    <option value="Sleep">
  </datalist>
</label>
```

Result

# <datalist> With Label

We can also provide label to each option to provide extra information. (Firefox shows only label in this case)

When we enter any text in input control, it will search for that text in both value and label.

Label can be set either by setting **label** attribute or by setting text content in **<option>** element.



HTML CSS

```
<label>
  Country Code:
  <input type="text" list="country-codes">
  <datalist id="country-codes">
    <option value="IN" label="India">
    <option value="US">USA</option>
    <option value="CN">China</option>
    <option value="EU">Europe</option>
  </datalist>
</label>
```

Result

Country Code:

- IN  
India
- US  
USA
- CN  
China
- EU  
Europe

# <datalist> With Range Input

When <datalist> is provided to range type input, it shows marker.

datalist with range input works in all modern browsers except Firefox.



HTML CSS

```
<label>
  Scale:
  <input type="range" min="1" max="5"
    step="1" list="scales">

  <datalist id="scales">
    <option value="1">
    <option value="2">
    <option value="3">
    <option value="4">
    <option value="5">
  </datalist>
</label>
```

Result

Scale: 

# <datalist> With Color Input

When <datalist> is provided to color type input, it shows those colors as swatches for quick selection.

datalist with color input works in all modern browsers except Firefox.



HTML CSS

```
<label>
  Primary Color:
  <input type="color" list="colors">
  <datalist id="colors">
    <option value="#4d32bf">
    <option value="#ac45fa">
    <option value="#f9427c">
    <option value="#fac642">
    <option value="#4fd6be">
  </datalist>
</label>
```

Result



# <datalist> With Date Input

When **<datalist>** is provided to date type input, it shows those dates for quick selection. It shows labels as extra information.

It works only in chromium-based browsers such as Chrome, Edge, Opera etc.



HTML CSS

```
<label>
  Start Date:
  <input type="date" list="preferred-date">
  <datalist id="preferred-date">
    <option value="2022-06-06">
      Before 7 days
    </option>
    <option value="2022-05-29">
      Before 15 days
    </option>
    <option value="2022-05-13">
      Before 30 days
    </option>
  </datalist>
</label>
```

Result

Start Date:

06/06/2022	Before 7 days
29/05/2022	Before 15 days
13/05/2022	Before 30 days
<input type="text" value="Other..."/>	



# <datalist> With Time Input

When <datalist> is provided to time type input, it shows those time for quick selection.

It works only in chromium-based browsers such as Chrome, Edge, Opera etc.



HTML CSS

```
<label>
  Start Time:
  <input type="time" list="preferred-time">

  <datalist id="preferred-time">
    <option value="10:00">Morning</option>
    <option value="16:00">Afternoon</option>
    <option value="21:00">Night</option>
  </datalist>
</label>
```

Result

Start Time: --:-- -- ⌚

10:00 AM	Morning
4:00 PM	Afternoon
9:00 PM	Night
Other...	

# <datalist> With Datetime Input

When <datalist> is provided to datetime type input, it shows those datetime for quick selection.

It works only in chromium-based browsers such as Chrome, Edge, Opera etc.



HTML CSS

```
<label>
  Party Date/Time:
  <input
    type="datetime-local"
    list="preferred-datetime">

<datalist id="preferred-datetime">
  <option value="2022-12-25T20:00">
    Chirstmas party
  </option>
  <option value="2022-12-31T22:00">
    New year party
  </option>
</datalist>
</label>
```

Result

Party Date/Time:

dd/mm/yyyy, --:-- --	📅
25/12/2022, 8:00 PM	Chirstmas party
31/12/2022, 10:00 PM	New year party
Other...	



## `<datalist>` **Limitations**

- We cannot change the style or position of data list using CSS.
- We cannot control the search behavior of the data list items. That means, we cannot define when (at how many characters) to start filtering the list or when to start showing the data list.
- datalist with text input works in all the modern browsers but datalist does not work with all kinds of input in all the browsers. It is very well supported in Chromium-based browsers only.

# Do you find it helpful? 😊

If yes, then please don't forget to  
**Like & Share**

**Follow me** to get daily content about  
web development

