HTML5 Introduction

What is New in HTML5?

The DOCTYPE declaration for HTML5 is very simple:

The character encoding (charset) declaration is also very simple:

HTML5 Example:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
<meta charset="UTF-8">
<title>Title of the document</title>
</head>

<body>


Content of the document......
</body>

</html>
```

[Try it Yourself »](#)

The default character encoding in HTML5 is UTF-8.

New HTML5 Elements

The most interesting new HTML5 elements are:

New **semantic elements** like `<header>`, `<footer>`, `<article>`, and `<section>`.

New **attributes of form elements** like number, date, time, calendar, and range.

New **graphic elements**: `<svg>` and `<canvas>`.

New **multimedia elements**: `<audio>` and `<video>`.

In the next chapter, [HTML5 Support](#), you will learn how to "teach" older browsers to handle "unknown" (new) HTML elements.

New HTML5 API's (Application Programming Interfaces)

The most interesting new API's in HTML5 are:

- HTML Geolocation
- HTML Drag and Drop
- HTML Local Storage
- HTML Application Cache
- HTML Web Workers
- HTML SSE

Tip: HTML Local storage is a powerful replacement for cookies.

Removed Elements in HTML5

The following HTML4 elements have been removed in HTML5:

Removed Element	Use Instead
<acronym>	<abbr>
<applet>	<object>
<basefont>	CSS
<big>	CSS
<center>	CSS
<dir>	
<font>	CSS
<frame>	
<frameset>	
<noframes>	
<strike>	CSS, <s>, or <del>
<tt>	CSS

In the chapter HTML5 Migration, you will learn how to easily migrate from HTML4 to HTML5.

HTML History

Since the early days of the World Wide Web, there have been many versions of HTML:

Year	Version
1989	Tim Berners-Lee invented www
1991	Tim Berners-Lee invented HTML
1993	Dave Raggett drafted HTML+
1995	HTML Working Group defined HTML 2.0
1997	W3C Recommendation: HTML 3.2
1999	W3C Recommendation: HTML 4.01
2000	W3C Recommendation: XHTML 1.0
2008	WHATWG HTML5 First Public Draft
2012	WHATWG HTML5 Living Standard
2014	W3C Recommendation: HTML5
2016	W3C Candidate Recommendation: HTML 5.1
2017	W3C Recommendation: HTML5.1 2nd Edition
2017	W3C Recommendation: HTML5.2

From 1991 to 1999, HTML developed from version 1 to version 4.

In year 2000, the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) recommended XHTML 1.0. The XHTML syntax was strict, and the developers were forced to write valid and "well-formed" code.

In 2004, W3C's decided to close down the development of HTML, in favor of XHTML.

In 2004, WHATWG (Web Hypertext Application Technology Working Group) was formed. The WHATWG wanted to develop HTML, consistent with how the web was used, while being backward compatible with older versions of HTML.

In 2004 - 2006, the WHATWG gained support by the major browser vendors.

In 2006, W3C announced that they would support WHATWG.

In 2008, the first HTML5 public draft was released.

In 2012, WHATWG and W3C decided on a separation:

WHATWG wanted to develop HTML as a "Living Standard". A living standard is always updated and improved. New features can be added, but old functionality cannot be removed.

The WHATWG HTML5 Living Standard was published in 2012, and is continuously updated.

W3C wanted to develop a definitive HTML5 and XHTML standard.

The W3C HTML5 Recommendation was released 28 October 2014.

The W3C HTML5.1 2nd Edition Recommendation was released 3 October 2017.

The W3C HTML5.2 Recommendation was released 14 December 2017.