

Additional HTML Elements: HTML <fieldset> and <legend>

Estimated time needed: 35 minutes

Special HTML Elements

In this section, you will explore two tags found within the <form> tag, namely the <fieldset> and <legend> tags.

Objectives

After completing this reading section, you will be able to:

1. Use the <fieldset> tag appropriately in HTML pages
2. Use the <legend> tag to decorate your fieldset

HTML fieldset tag

- The HTML <fieldset> tag is found within the <form> tag and is used to group related elements in an HTML form, often by enclosing them within a box.
- There is no restriction to the kind of elements that can be inside a fieldset, but they are mostly used to group related input type of elements, as shown in the example below.
- The fieldset element is especially useful in large forms, where readability and ease of access can be improved with segmentation. Browsers will most likely render a frame around the grouped controls.

Syntax

```
<fieldset> Contents... </fieldset>
```

Attributes

1. **disabled:** It specifies that the elements belonging to the fieldset should be disabled.
2. **form:** It specifies the id of the form that the fieldset is to be considered a part of.
3. **name:** It specifies the name for the fieldset.

Example

In the first example we will create a form with two fieldsets separating personal and professional details:

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
8. 8
9. 9
10. 10
11. 11
12. 12
13. 13
14. 14
15. 15
16. 16
17. 17
18. 18
19. 19
20. 20
21. 21
22. 22
23. 23
24. 24
25. 25
26. 26
27. 27
28. 28
29. 29
30. 30
31. 31
32. 32
33. 33
34. 34

1. <!DOCTYPE html>
2. <html>
3.   <body>
4.     <h1>The fieldset element</h1>
5.
6.     <form>
7.       <fieldset name="personal_details">
8.         <label for="fname">First name:</label>
9.         <input type="text" id="fname" name="fname"><br>
10.        <label for="lname">Last name:</label>
11.        <input type="text" id="lname" name="lname"><br>
12.        <label for="email">Email:</label>
13.        <input type="email" id="email" name="email"><br>
```

```

14.         <label for="phone">Phone Number:</label>
15.         <input type="tel" id="phone" name="phone"><br>
16.     </fieldset>
17.
18.     <br>
19.
20.     <fieldset name="professional_details">
21.         <label for="occupation">Occupation:</label>
22.         <input type="text" id="occupation" name="occupation"><br>
23.         <label for="company">Company:</label>
24.         <input type="text" id="company" name="company"><br>
25.         <label for="start">Start Date:</label>
26.         <input type="date" id="start" name="start"><br>
27.         <label for="end">End Date:</label>
28.         <input type="date" id="end" name="end"><br>
29.     </fieldset>
30.     <br>
31.     <input type="submit" value="Submit">
32. </form>
33. </body>
34. </html>

```

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Output

The fieldset element

First name:


Last name:


Email:

Phone Number:

Occupation:

Company:

Start Date: 

End Date: 

Submit

HTML legend tag

A **fieldset** can additionally have a title or name, which can be provided by **legend**.

The **<legend>** tag is used with the **<fieldset>** element as a first child (the first inner tag) to define the caption for the grouped related fields. By using the **<legend>** tag with **<fieldset>** elements, it is easy to understand the purpose of grouped form elements.

Example

To understand the <legend> tag, let's add this tag to the above example and see the output:

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
8. 8
9. 9
10. 10
11. 11
12. 12
13. 13
14. 14
15. 15
16. 16
17. 17
18. 18
19. 19
20. 20
21. 21
22. 22
23. 23
24. 24
25. 25
26. 26
27. 27
28. 28
29. 29
30. 30
31. 31
32. 32
33. 33
34. 34
35. 35
36. 36
37. 37
38. 38

1. <!DOCTYPE html>
2. <html>
3.   <body>
4.     <h1>The fieldset element</h1>
5.
6.     <form>
7.       <fieldset name="personal_details">
8.         <legend>Personal Details</legend>
9.
10.        <label for="fname">First name:</label>
11.        <input type="text" id="fname" name="fname"><br>
12.        <label for="lname">Last name:</label>
13.        <input type="text" id="lname" name="lname"><br>
14.        <label for="email">Email:</label>
15.        <input type="email" id="email" name="email"><br>
16.        <label for="phone">Phone Number:</label>
17.        <input type="tel" id="phone" name="phone"><br>
18.      </fieldset>
19.
20.      <br>
21.
22.      <fieldset name="professional_details">
23.        <legend>Professional Details</legend>
24.
25.        <label for="occupation">Occupation:</label>
26.        <input type="text" id="occupation" name="occupation"><br>
27.        <label for="company">Company:</label>
28.        <input type="text" id="company" name="company"><br>
29.        <label for="start">Start Date:</label>
30.        <input type="date" id="start" name="start"><br>
31.        <label for="end">End Date:</label>
32.        <input type="date" id="end" name="end"><br>
33.      </fieldset>
34.      <br>
35.      <input type="submit" value="Submit">
36.    </form>
37.  </body>
38. </html>
```

Copied!

Output

The fieldset element

Personal Details

First name:

Last name:


Email:


Phone Number:

Professional Details

Occupation:

Company:

Start Date: 

End Date: 

Submit

Congratulations! You have completed the exercise.

Author(s)

Sourabh Mohan

Michelle Saltoun



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