

HTML FORMS AND INPUTS

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HTML FORMS

An HTML form is used to collect user input. The user input is most often sent to a server for processing.

The HTML `<form>` element is used to create an HTML form for user input:

`<form>`

form elements

`</form>`

The `<form>` element is a container for different types of input elements, such as: text fields, checkboxes, radio buttons, submit buttons, etc.

Example:

Lets create a form with two input fields for first and last name, and a submit button.

First name:

Last name:

Source code

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<h2>HTML Forms</h2>
```

```
<form>
```

```
<label for="fname">First name:</label><br>
```

```
<input type="text" id="fname" name="fname" value="John"><br>
```

```
<label for="lname">Last name:</label><br>
```

```
<input type="text" id="lname" name="lname" value="Doe"><br><br>
```

```
<input type="submit" value="Submit">
```

```
</form>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

THE INPUT ELEMENT

The HTML `<input>` element is the most used form element. An `<input>` element can be displayed in many ways, depending on the `type` attribute.

Text Fields: The `<input type="text">` defines a single-line input field for text input

Here are some examples:

Type	Description
<code><input type="text"></code>	Displays a single-line text input field
<code><input type="radio"></code>	Displays a radio button (for selecting one of many choices)
<code><input type="checkbox"></code>	Displays a checkbox (for selecting zero or more of many choices)
<code><input type="submit"></code>	Displays a submit button (for submitting the form)
<code><input type="button"></code>	Displays a clickable button

Exercise: Let's add 2 radio button inputs with labels Yes and No. Also add a checkbox with label “accept terms and conditions”. Also remove the values from our previous input to make them just text fields

The label Element

Notice the use of the `<label>` element in the example above.

The `<label>` tag defines a label for many form elements.

The `<label>` element is useful for screen-reader users, because the screen-reader will read out loud the label when the user focuses on the input element.

The `<label>` element also helps users who have difficulty clicking on very small regions (such as radio buttons or checkboxes) - because when the user clicks the text within the `<label>` element, it toggles the radio button/checkbox.

The `for` attribute of the `<label>` tag should be equal to the `id` attribute of the `<input>` element to bind them together.

Radio Buttons

The `<input type="radio">` defines a radio button.

Radio buttons let a user select ONE of a limited number of choices.

Form with Radio buttons

<p>Choose your favorite Web language:</p>

<form>

<input type="radio" id="html" name="fav_language" value="HTML">

<label for="html">HTML</label>

<input type="radio" id="css" name="fav_language" value="CSS">

<label for="css">CSS</label>

<input type="radio" id="javascript" name="fav_language" value="JavaScript">

<label for="javascript">JavaScript</label>

</form>

Checkboxes

The `<input type="checkbox">` defines a checkbox.

Checkboxes let a user select ZERO or MORE options of a limited number of choices.

```
<form>
```

```
<input type="checkbox" id="vehicle1" name="vehicle1" value="Bike">
```

```
<label for="vehicle1"> I have a bike</label><br>
```

```
<input type="checkbox" id="vehicle2" name="vehicle2" value="Car">
```

```
<label for="vehicle2"> I have a car</label><br>
```

```
<input type="checkbox" id="vehicle3" name="vehicle3" value="Boat">
```

```
<label for="vehicle3"> I have a boat</label>
```

```
</form>
```

FORM ELEMENTS

The HTML `<form>` element can contain one or more of the following form elements:

- `<input>`
- `<label>`
- `<select>`
- `<textarea>`
- `<button>`
- `<fieldset>`
- `<legend>`
- `<datalist>`
- `<output>`
- `<option>`
- `<optgroup>`
-

The `<input>` element can be displayed in several ways, depending on the `type` attribute.

The `<label>` element is useful for screen-reader users, because the screen-reader will read out loud the label when the user focus on the input element.

The Select Element

The `<select>` element defines a drop-down list:

```
<label for="cars">Choose a car:</label>
```

```
<select id="cars" name="cars">
```

```
<option value="volvo">Volvo</option><option value="saab">Saab</option>
```

```
<option value="fiat">Fiat</option><option value="audi">Audi</option>
```

```
</select>
```

The `<option>` element defines an option that can be selected. By default, the first item in the drop-down list is selected. To define a pre-selected option, add the `selected` attribute to the option: `<option value="fiat" selected>Fiat</option>`

Use the `multiple` attribute to allow the user to select more than one value: like `<select id="cars" name="cars" multiple>`

NB: Hold down the Ctrl (windows) / Command (Mac) button to select multiple options.

TextArea Element

The `<textarea>` element defines a multi-line input field (a text area): `<textarea name="" >`

```
<textarea name="message" rows="10" cols="30">
```

The cat was playing in the garden.

```
</textarea>
```

The `rows` attribute specifies the visible number of lines in a text area.

The `cols` attribute specifies the visible width of a text area.

The `<button>` Element

The `<button>` element defines a clickable button:

```
<button type="button" onclick="alert('Hello World!')">Click Me!</button>
```

Read about form attributes

https://www.w3schools.com/html/html_form_attributes_form.asp