



# HTML Block and Inline Elements

[< Previous](#)[Next >](#)

Every HTML element has a default display value, depending on what type of element it is.

There are two display values: block and inline.

## Block-level Elements

A block-level element always starts on a new line, and the browsers automatically add some space (a margin) before and after the element.

A block-level element always takes up the full width available (stretches out to the left and right as far as it can).

Two commonly used block elements are: `<p>` and `<div>`.

The `<p>` element defines a paragraph in an HTML document.

The `<div>` element defines a division or a section in an HTML document.

The `<p>` element is a block-level element.

The `<div>` element is a block-level element.

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```
<p>Hello World</p>
<div>Hello World</div>
```

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Here are the block-level elements in HTML:

<address>	<article>	<aside>	<blockquote>	<canvas>
<dd>	<div>	<dl>	<dt>	<fieldset>
<figcaption>	<figure>	<footer>	<form>	<h1>-<h6>
<header>	<hr>	<li>	<main>	<nav>
<noscript>	<ol>	<p>	<pre>	<section>
<table>	<tfoot>	<ul>	<video>	

## Inline Elements

An inline element does not start on a new line.

An inline element only takes up as much width as necessary.

This is a <span> element inside a paragraph.

## Example

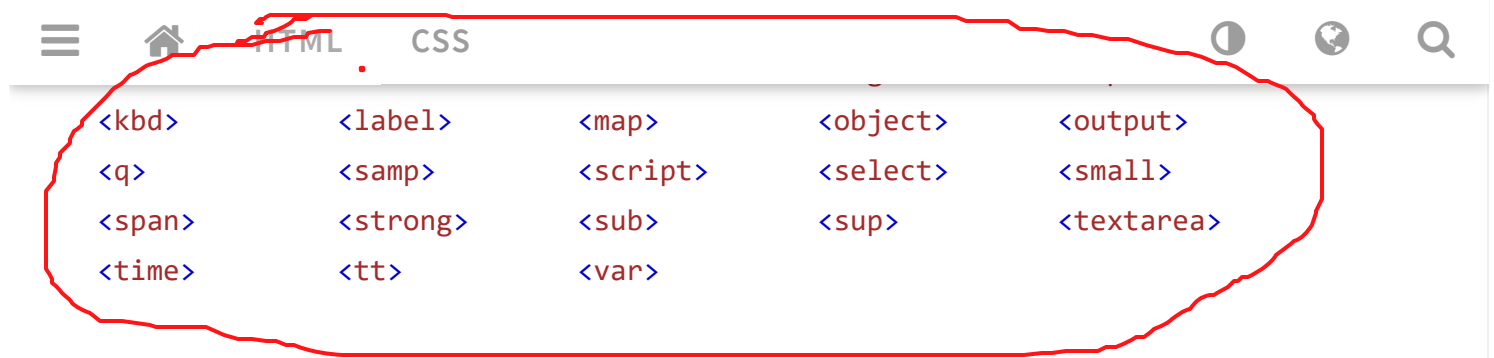
```
<span>Hello World</span>
```

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Here are the inline elements in HTML:

<a>	<abbr>	<acronym>	<b>	<bdo>
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**Note:** An inline element cannot contain a block-level element!

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## The `<div>` Element

The `<div>` element is often used as a container for other HTML elements.

The `<div>` element has no required attributes, but `style`, `class` and `id` are common.

When used together with CSS, the `<div>` element can be used to style blocks of content:

### Example

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```
</div>  
<p>London is the capital city of England. It is the most populous city in  
the United Kingdom, with a metropolitan area of over 13 million inhabitants.  
</p>  
</div>
```

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## The <span> Element

The `<span>` element is an inline container used to mark up a part of a text, or a part of a document.

The `<span>` element has no required attributes, but `style`, `class` and `id` are common.

When used together with CSS, the `<span>` element can be used to style parts of the text:

### Example

```
<p>My mother has <span style="color:blue;font-weight:bold;">blue</span> eyes  
and my father has <span style="color:darkolivegreen;font-weight:bold;">dark  
green</span> eyes.</p>
```

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## Chapter Summary

- There are two display values: block and inline
- A block-level element always starts on a new line and takes up the full width available

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- The `<div>` element is a block-level and is often used as a container for other HTML elements
- The `<span>` element is an inline container used to mark up a part of a text, or a part of a document

## HTML Tags

Tag	Description
<code>&lt;div&gt;</code>	Defines a section in a document (block-level)
<code>&lt;span&gt;</code>	Defines a section in a document (inline)

For a complete list of all available HTML tags, visit our [HTML Tag Reference](#).

[< Previous](#)[Next >](#)

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