

Forms

Monday, June 20, 2016 10:37 AM

<form> </form>

- **<form action="value"** should be the URL page on the server that will receive the info">
- **<form method="get">** //get is ideal for short forms, and when you are just trying to retrieve data from the server. **(Not for sending, adding, or deleting from a database)**
- **<form method="post">** //post is ideal for long forms, uploading files, contains sensitive data, and if you are adding or deleting information from a database

Note:

If the method attribute is not used, then data will be sent out using the get method which is not secure

Text input:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php">
<p> Username: <input type="text" name="username" size="15" maxlength="30" /> </p>
</form>
```

Username :

- type="text" //creates single line input
- name="" //server needs to know which form control each piece of data was entered into, **each form control requires a name attribute and a unique set value**
- size="" //this shouldn't be used on new forms due to css
- maxlength="" //limit the number of characters that a user may enter in this text field

Password input:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/login.php">
<p> Password: <input type="password" name="password" size="15" maxlength="30" /> </p>
</form>
```

Password:

- type="password" //creates single line input where characters are blocked out

Text/Comment area:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/comments.php">
<p> what did you think of this article? </p>
<textarea name="comments" cols="20" rows="4"> Enter your comments... </textarea>
```

Enter your comments...

- in between the open and close tag for **<textarea>** prompts the comment box
- If this not touched before the user submits the server will receive "Enter your comments" as the data

Radio button:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/profile.php">
<p>Please select your favorite genre: <br />
<input type="radio" name="genre" value="rock" checked="checked" /> Rock
<input type="radio" name="genre" value="pop" /> Pop
<input type="radio" name="genre" value="jazz" /> Jazz
</p>
</form>
```

Please select your favorite genre:

■ Rock o Pop o Jazz

- type="radio" // single checkbox like form
- checked="checked" //this can be used to identify which value should be selected when the page loads
only one of the radio buttons on a single form should be checked

CheckBox:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/profile.php">
  <p>Please select your favorite music service(s): <br />
  <input type="checkbox" name="service" value="itunes" checked="checked" /> iTunes
  <input type="checkbox" name="service" value="spotify" /> Spotify
  <input type="checkbox" name="service" value="pandora" /> Pandora
</p>
</form>
```

Please select your favorite music service(s):

☒ iTunes ☐ Spotify ☐ Pandora

- Type="checkbox" //multiple boxes can be selected if needed

Dropdown List Box:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/profile.php">
  <p> What device do you listen to music on? <br />
  <select name="devices">
    <option value="ipod"> ipod </option>
    <option value="computer"> computer </option>
    <option value="phone"> phone </option>
  </select>
</form>
```

What device do you listen to music on?

ipod
computer
phone

Multiple Select box:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/profile.php">
  <p> What instrument do you know how to play? (You can select more than one option by holding down
  control on a PC or command key on a Mac while selecting different options.) <br />
  <select name="instrument" multiple="multiple">
    <option value="guitar" selected="selected"> guitar</option>
    <option value="bass"> bass </option>
    <option value="drums" selected="selected"> drums </option>
  </select>
</form>
```

What instrument do you know how to play? (You can select more than one option by holding down control on a PC or command key on a Mac while selecting different options.)

guitar
bass
drums

Note:

Prompt out to the user if it's a multiple select box, otherwise it's pointless

File input box:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/upload.php" method="post">
<p>Upload your song in MP3 format:</p>
<input type="file" name="user-song" value="browse your computer" /><br />
<input type="submit" value="Upload" />
</form>
```

Upload your song in MP3 format:
 [] (browse your computer)
 (upload)

- type="file" // creates a box that is followed by a browse button
- type="submit" //this button is needed in order to send a form to the server
- value="" //controls what appears on a button

Image button:

```
<form action="http://www.example.org/subscribe.php">
<p>Subscribe to our email list:</p>
<input type="text" name="email" />
<input type="image" src="images/subscribe.jpg" width="100" height="20" />
</form>
```

Subscribe to our email list:
 [] [Subscribe]

- type="image" //acts like a submit button
- src="images/subscribe.jpg" needs to be specified

Labelling Form Controls:

```
<label> Age: <input type="text" name="age" /></label>
<br />
Gender:
<input id="female" type="radio" name="gender" value="f"> <label for="female">Female</label>
<input id="male" type="radio" name="gender" value="m"> <label for="male">Male</label>
```

Age:[]
 Gender: o Female o Male

- <label> purpose of identifying each form control from another, is if a user clicks on the text within the <label> element, it toggles the control</label>
- for="" states which form control the label belongs to //value is the same as the name attribute

The best place to put <label> elements:

Above or to the left: .text inputs .text areas .select boxes .file uploads
 To the right: .individual checkboxes .individual radio buttons

Grouping Form Elements:

```
<fieldset>
<legend>Contact details</legend>
<label>Email:<br />
<input type="text" name="email" /></label> <br />
<label>Mobile:<br />
<input type="text" name="mobile" /></label><br />
```

```
<label>Telephone:<br />
<input type="text" name="telephone" /></label>
</fieldset>
```

- **<fieldset>** allows you to group related form controls together **</fieldset>**
- **<legend>** comes directly after the opening **<fieldset>** tag and contains a caption which helps identify the purpose of that group of form controls **</legend>**

Form validation:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/login/" method="post">
<label for="username">Username:</label>
<input type="text" name="username" required="required" /></title><br />
<label for="password">Password:</label>
<input type="password" name="password" required="required" />
<input type="submit" value="Submit" />
</form>
```

- required="required" is a boolean attribute that specifies that this particular field must be filled before submitting the form

Date input:

```
<form action="http://www.example.com/bookings/" method="post">
<label for="username">Departure date:</label>
<input type="date" name="depart" />
<input type="submit" value="Submit" />
</form>
```

- type="date" //a date selection box is presented to the user
- **Note:** you still need to have a submit button to send the data to the server

Email input:

```
<form action="http://www.example.org/subscribe.php">
<p>Please enter your email address:</p>
<input type="email" name="email" />
<input type="submit" value="Submit" />
</form>
```

Url input:

```
<form action="http://www.example.org/profile.php">
<p>Please enter your website address:</p>
<input type="url" name="website" />
<input type="submit" value="Submit" />
</form>
```

Search input:

```
<form action="http://www.example.org/search.php">
<p>Search:</p>
<input type="search" name="search" placeholder="Enter keyword" />
<input type="submit" value="Search" />
</form>
```

- Placeholder="" // already set value in text box