**HTML Attributes**

**What are Attributes?**

HTML attributes provide additional information about the HTML elements.

* All HTML elements can have attributes.
* There may be more than 1 attributes in HTML Elements.
* Attributes are always specified in the start tag.

Attributes usually come in name/value pairs like:

**Syntax:**

* name="value"

**Representation:**

* <tagname attributeName=“attributeValue”>Content goes here...</tagname>

**Most Used Attributes:**

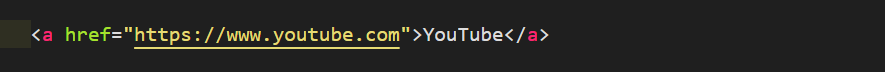
In this PDF the most used and important attributes have been explained:

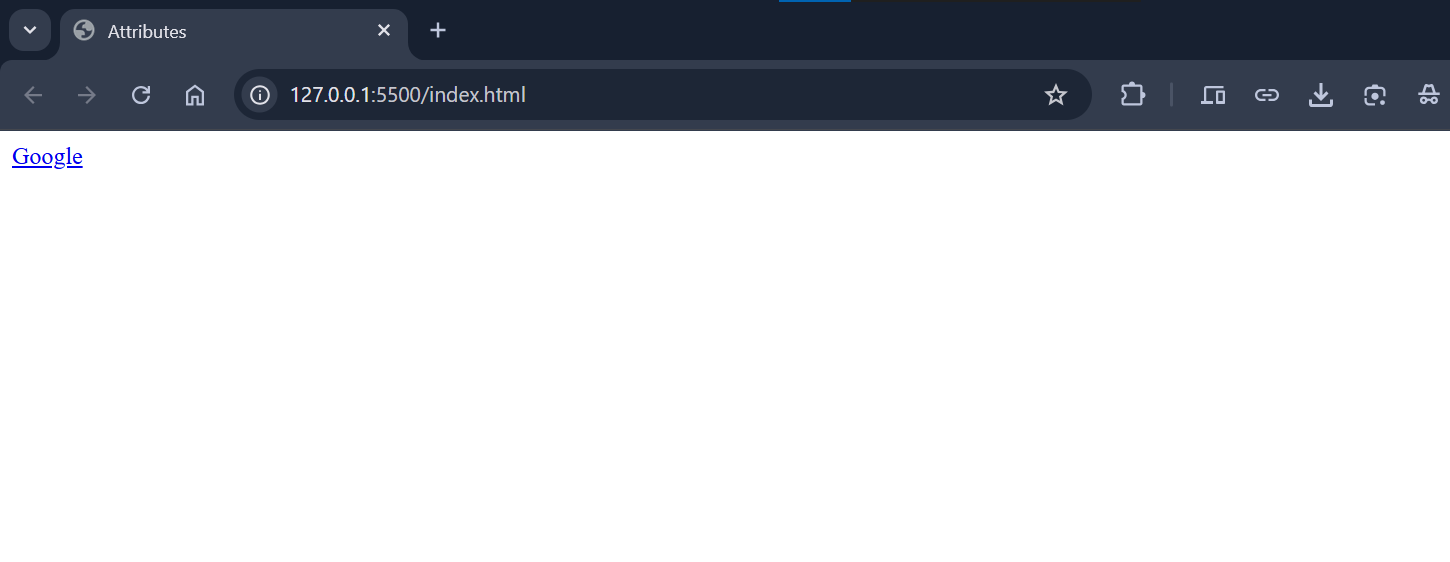
1. href
2. src
3. height, width
4. alt
5. style

**The href Attribute:**

The <a> tag defines a hyperlink. The “href” attribute specifies the URL of the page the link goes to:

**Example:**

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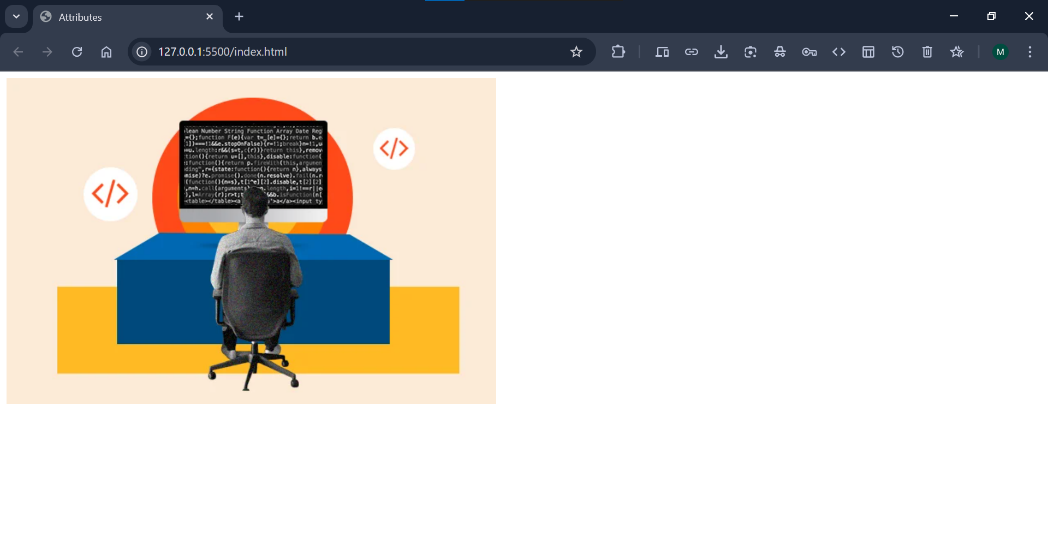
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**The src Attribute:**

The <img> tag is used to embed an image in an HTML page. The src attribute specifies the path to the image to be displayed:

**Example:**

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**2 Ways To Specify The URL:**

There are two ways to specify the URL in the src attribute:

* **Absolute URL**
* **Relative URL**

**1. Absolute URL** - Links to an external image that is hosted on another website. Example: src="https://www.w3schools.com/images/img\_girl.jpg".

**Notes:** External images might be under copyright. If you do not get permission to use it, you may be in violation of copyright laws. In addition, you cannot control external images; it can suddenly be removed or changed.

**2. Relative URL** - Links to an image that is hosted within the website. Here, the URL does not include the domain name. If the URL begins without a slash, it will be relative to the current page. Example: src="img\_girl.jpg". If the URL begins with a slash, it will be relative to the domain. Example: src="/images/img\_girl.jpg".

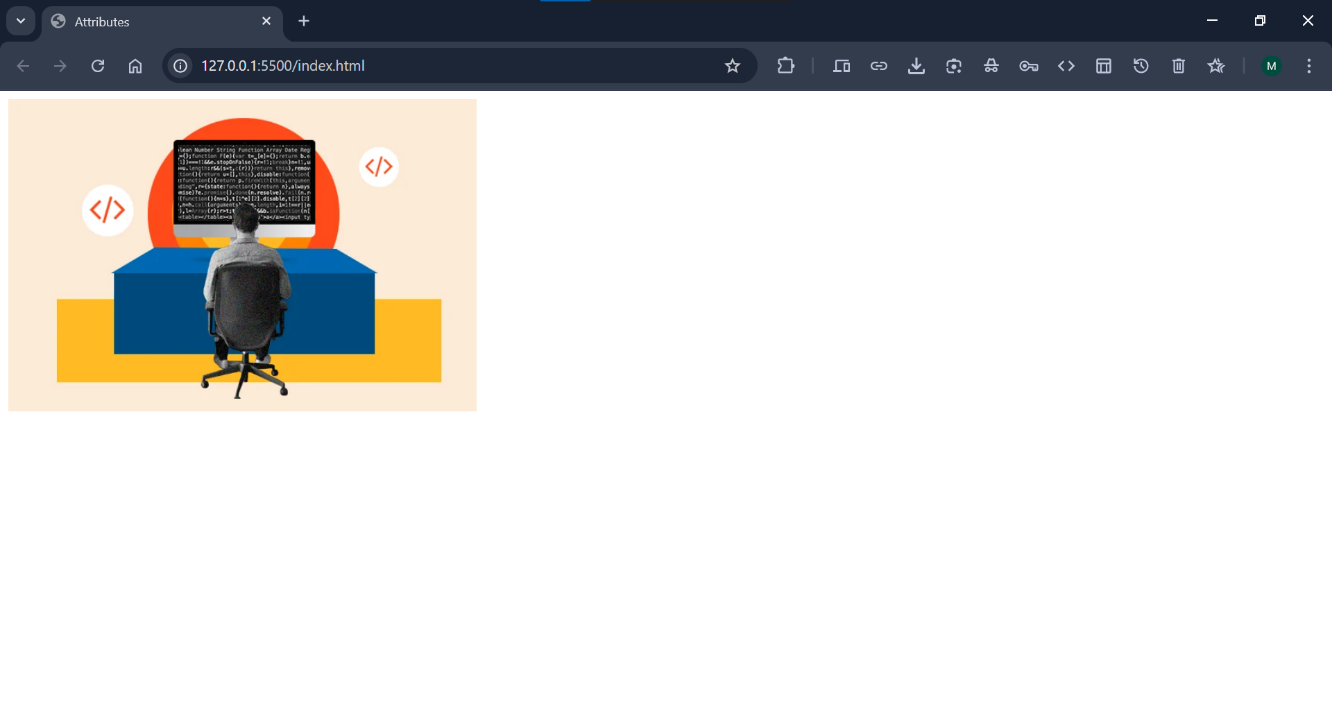
**Tip:** It is almost always best to use relative URLs. They will not break if you change domain.

**The height and width Attributes:**

The <img> tag should also contain the  height  and width  attributes, which specify the width and height of the image (in pixels):

**Example:**

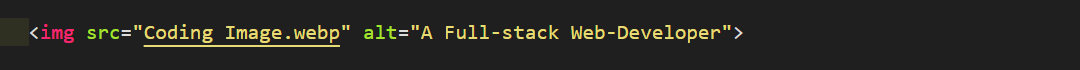


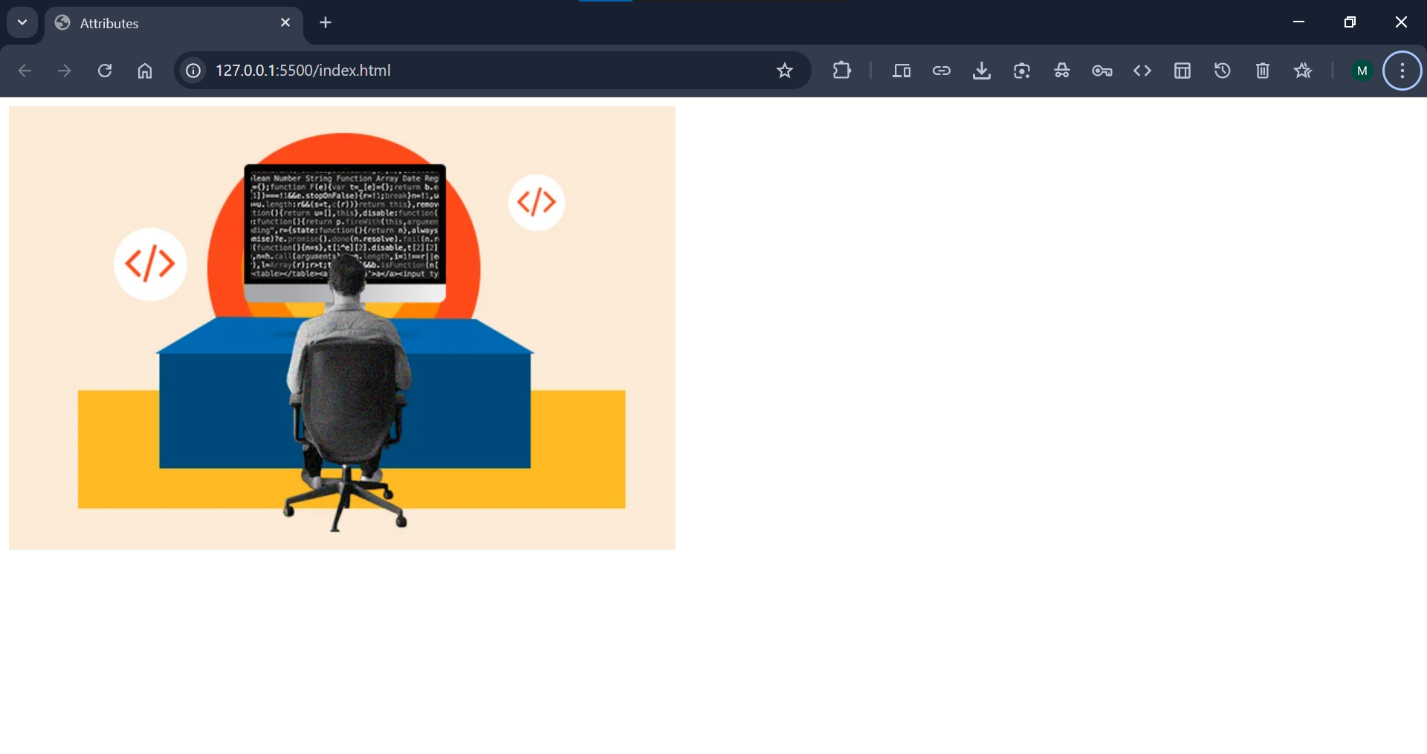


**The alt Attribute:**

The required alt attribute for the <img> tag specifies an alternate text for an image, if the image for some reason cannot be displayed. This can be due to a slow connection, or an error in the src attribute, or if the user uses a screen reader.

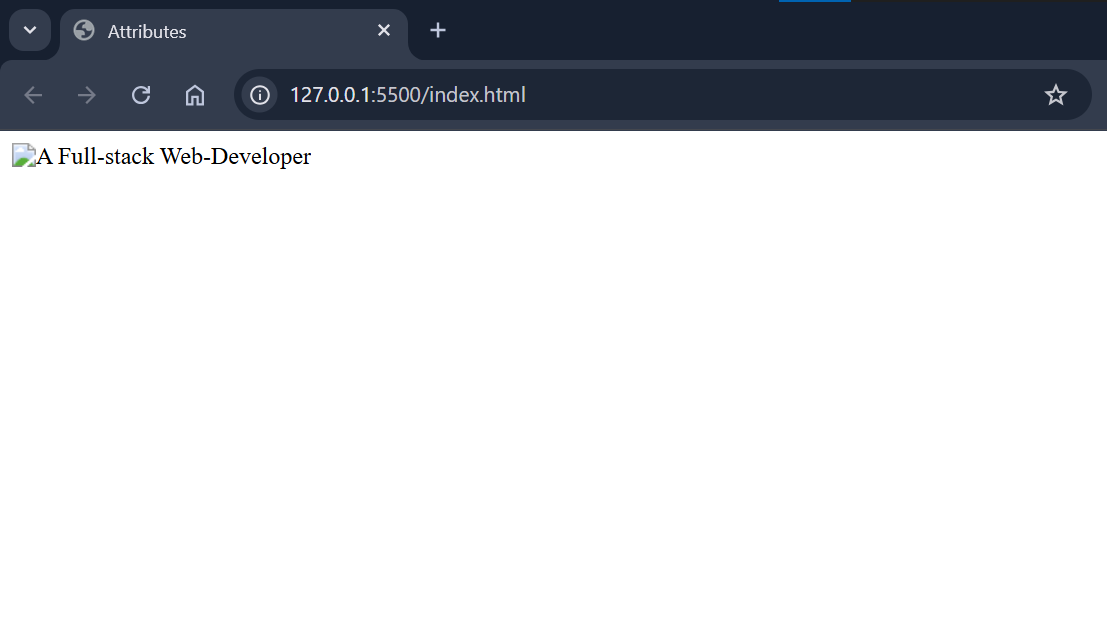
**Example:**





See what happens if we try to display an image that does not exist:



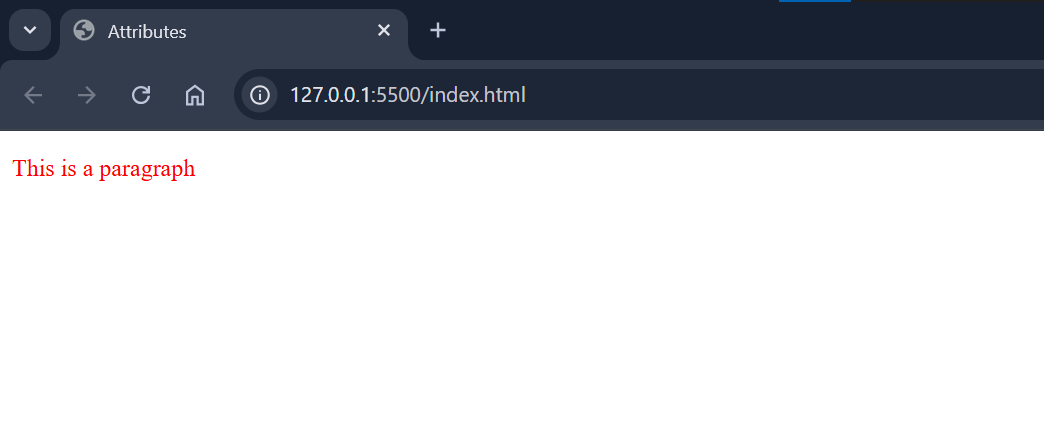


**The style Attribute:**

The style attribute is used to add styles to an element, such as color, font, size, and more.

**Example:**





**The lang Attribute:**

You should always include the lang attribute inside the <html> tag, to declare the language of the Web page. This is meant to assist search engines and browsers.

The following example specifies English as the language:



Country codes can also be added to the language code in the lang attribute. So, the first two characters define the language of the HTML page, and the last two characters define the country.

The following example specifies English as the language and United States as the country:

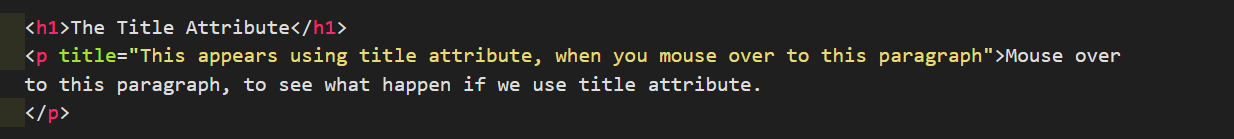


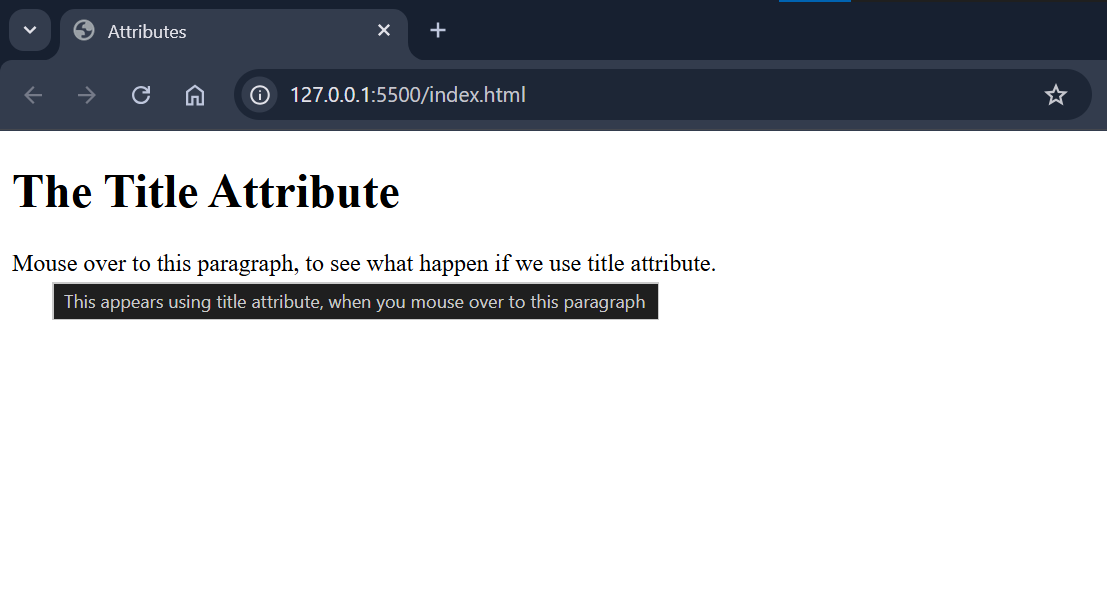
The title Attribute:

The title attribute defines some extra information about an element.

The value of the title attribute will be displayed as a tooltip when you mouse over the element:

**Example:**





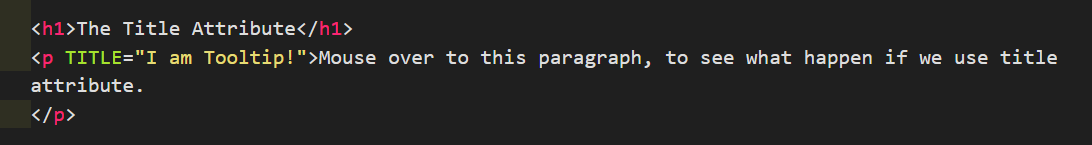
**Always Use Lowercase Attributes:**

The HTML standard does not require lowercase attribute names.

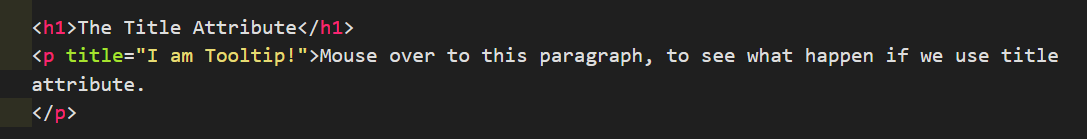
The title attribute (and all other attributes) can be written with uppercase or lowercase like **title** or **TITLE**.

**Example:**

Use uppercase attribute name:



Use lowercase attribute name:



However, W3C **recommends** lowercase attributes in HTML, and **demands** lowercase attributes for stricter document types like XHTML.

At W3Schools we always use lowercase attribute names.

**Always Quote Attribute Values:**

The HTML standard does not require quotes around attribute values.

However, W3C **recommends** quotes in HTML, and **demands** quotes for stricter document types like XHTML.

**Bad:**

Do not use quotations in attribute values:



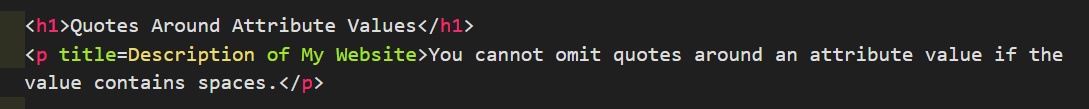
**Good:**

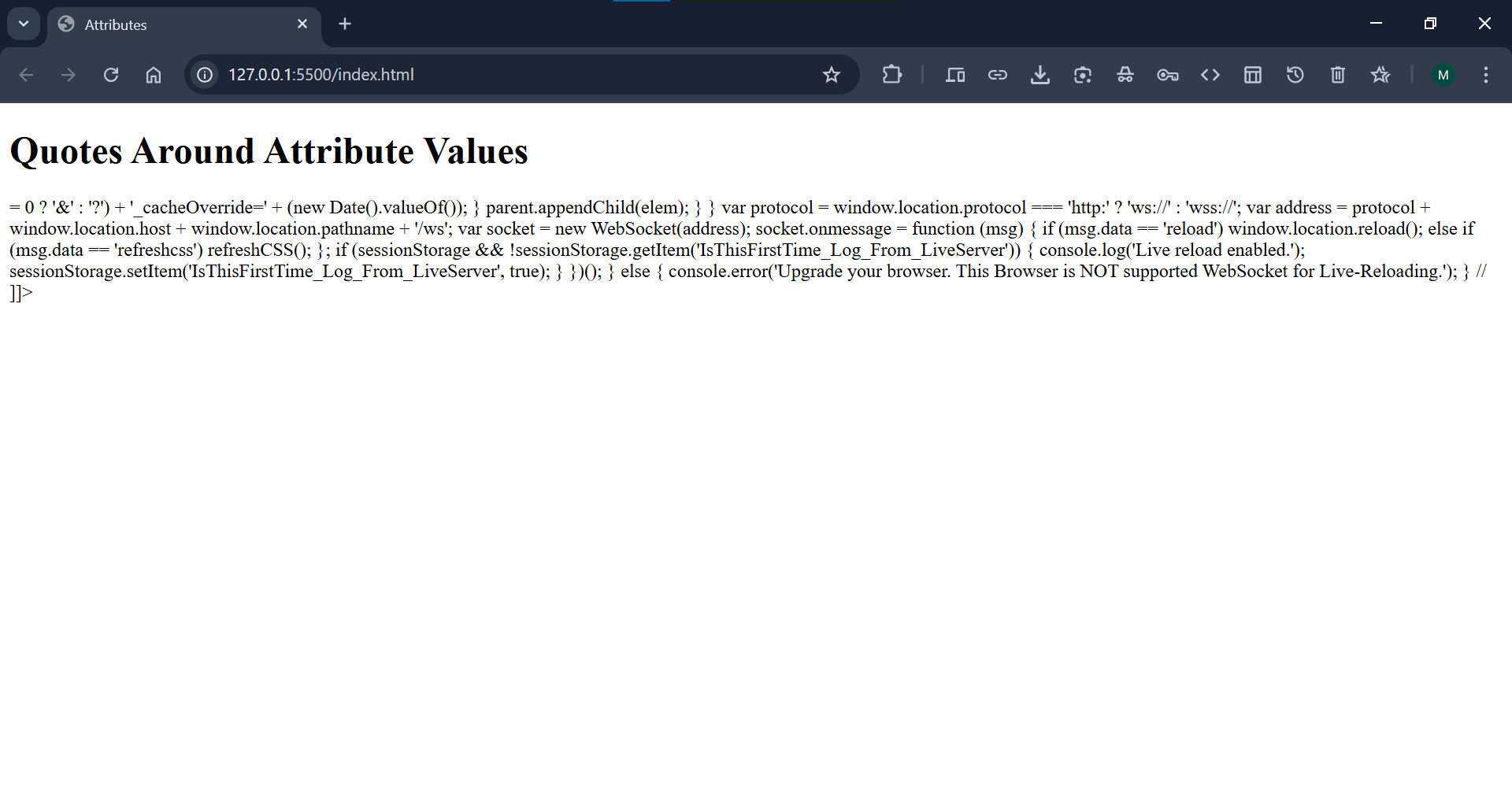
Use quotations in attribute values:



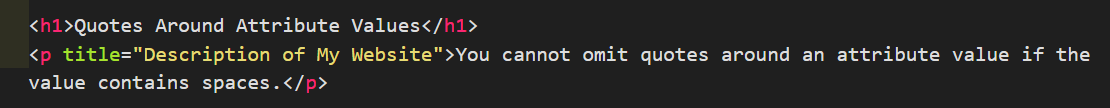
Sometimes you have to use quotes. This example will not display the title attribute correctly, because it contains a space:

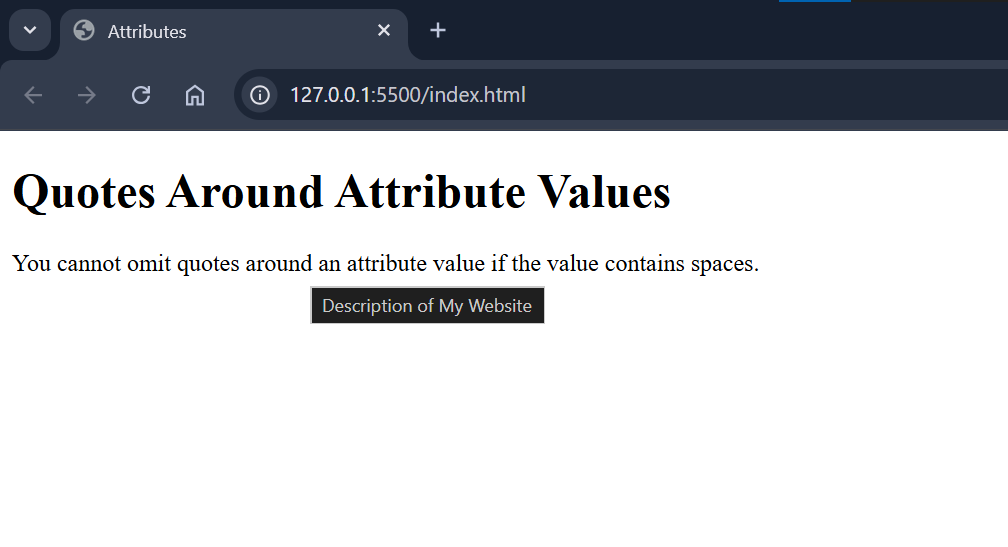
**Example:**





If we use quotes in title attribute, it will display correctly:



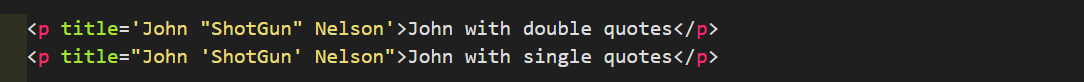
At W3Schools we always use quotes around attribute values.

**Single or Double Quotes?**

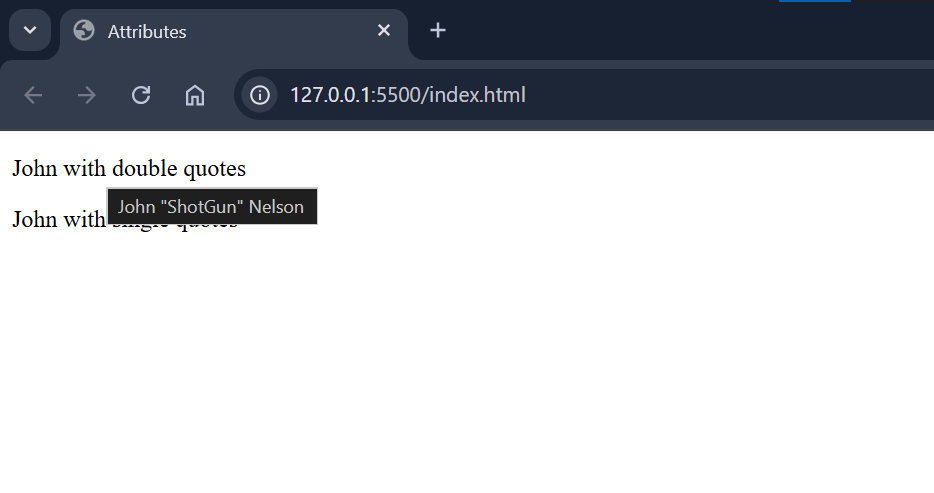
Double quotes around attribute values are the most common in HTML, but single quotes can also be used.

In some situations, when the attribute value itself contains double quotes, it is necessary to use single quotes:

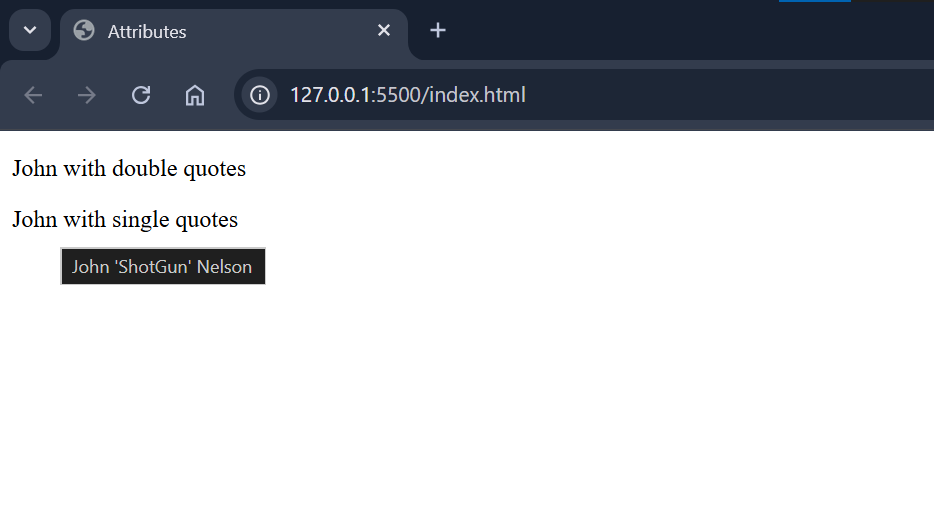
**Example:**

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**Single Quotes Effect:**



**Double Quotes Effect:**



**Chapter Summary:**

* All HTML elements can have **attributes**
* The href attribute of <a> specifies the URL of the page the link goes to
* The src attribute of <img> specifies the path to the image to be displayed
* The width and height attributes of <img> provide size information for images
* The alt attribute of <img> provides an alternate text for an image
* The style attribute is used to add styles to an element, such as color, font, size, and more
* The lang attribute of the <html> tag declares the language of the Web page
* The title attribute defines some extra information about an element

**HTML Attribute Reference:**

A complete list of all attributes for each HTML element, is listed in our:

[HTML Attribute Reference](https://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_attributes.asp).