HTML Forms

- HTML forms are used to pass data to a server.
- You 've met the < form > element, so this section goes on to cover the different types of form controls that live inside the < form > element to collect data from a visitor to your site. You will see:
  - Text input controls
  - Buttons
  - Checkboxes and radio buttons
  - Select boxes (sometimes referred to as drop - down menus and list boxes)
  - File select boxes
  - Hidden controls
- The <form> tag is used to create an HTML form:
  <form>
  .
  input elements
  .
  </form>

HTML Forms - The Input Element

- Text Fields
  - `<input type="text" />` defines a one-line input field that a user can enter text into:

```
<form>
First name: <input type="text" name="firstname“
value = “Username Here!” size=”20”maxlength=”64” />
<br />
Last name: <input type="text" name="lastname" />
</form>
```

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Multiple - Line Text Input Controls

  < form action="http://www.example.org/feedback.aspx" method="post" >

  Please tell us what you think of the site and then click submit: < br / >

  < textarea name="txtFeedback" rows="20" cols="50" >

  Enter your feedback here.

  < /textarea >

  < br / >

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

  < /form >

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Password Field
  - <input type="password" /> defines a password field:

<form>
Password: <input type="password" name="pwd" />
</form>

How the HTML code above looks in a browser:

Password: [   ]

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Radio Buttons
  - <input type="radio" /> defines a radio button. Radio buttons let a user select ONLY ONE of a limited number of choices:

  <form>
  <input type="radio" name="sex" value="male" /> Male
  <input type="radio" name="sex" value="female" /> Female
  </form>

How the HTML code above looks in a browser:

⊙ Male
⊙ Female

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Checkboxes
  - `<input type="checkbox" />` defines a checkbox. Checkboxes let a user select ONE or MORE options of a limited number of choices.

  ```
  <form>
  <input type="checkbox" name="vehicle" value="Bike" /> I have a bike<br />
  <input type="checkbox" name="vehicle" value="Car" /> I have a car
  </form>
  ```

How the HTML code above looks in a browser:

☐ I have a bike
☐ I have a car

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Submit Button
  - <input type="submit" /> defines a submit button.
  - A submit button is used to send form data to a server. The data is sent to the page specified in the form's action attribute. The file defined in the action attribute usually does something with the received input:

    <form name="input" action="html_form_action.asp" method="get">
    Username: <input type="text" name="user" value = "Input Search Text Here" size="20"maxlength="64" />
    <input type="submit" value="Submit" />
    </form>

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Button
  - When you use the **< input >** element to create a button, the type of button you create is specified using the **type** attribute.
  - The type attribute can take the following values to create a button:
    - submit , which creates a button that submits a form when pressed
    - reset , which creates a button that automatically resets form controls to their initial values as they were when the page loaded
    - button , which creates a button that is used to trigger a client - side script when the user clicks that button

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Button Example:

< input type="submit" name="btnVoteRed" value="Vote for reds" / >

< input type="submit" name="btnVoteBlue" value="Vote for blues" / >

< br / > < br / >

< input type="reset" value="Clear form" / > < br / > < br / >

< input type="button" value="calculate" onclick="calculate()" / >

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Using Images for Buttons
  - You can use an image for a button rather than using the standard button that a browser renders for you.
  - Creating an image button is very similar to creating any other button, but the type attribute has a value of image :

< input type="image" src="submit.jpg" alt="Submit" name="btnImage" / >

submit

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Select Boxes
  - A drop - down select box allows users to select one item from a drop - down menu. Drop - down select boxes can take up far less space than a group of radio buttons.

  < select name="selColor" >

  < option selected="selected" value="" > Select color < /option >

  < option value="red" > Red < /option >

  < option value="green" > Green < /option >

  < option value="blue" > Blue < /option >

  < /select >

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Creating Scrolling Select Boxes

  < form action="http://www.example.org/days.aspx" name="frmDays" method="get" >

  < select size="4" name="selDay" >

  < option value="Mon" > Monday < /option >

  < option value="Tue" > Tuesday < /option >

  < option value="Wed" > Wednesday < /option >

  < option value="Thu" > Thursday < /option >

  < option value="Fri" > Friday < /option >

  < option value="Sat" > Saturday < /option >

  < option value="Sun" > Sunday < /option >

  < /select >

  < br / > < br / > < input type="submit" value="Submit" / >

  < /form >

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- **Selecting Multiple Options with the multiple Attribute**

  < form action="http://www.example.org/days.aspx" method="get" name="frmDays" >

  Please select more than one day of the week (to select multiple days

  hold down the control key and click on your chosen days): < br / >

  < select name="selDays" **multiple="multiple"** >
      < option value="Mon" > Monday < /option >
      < option value="Tue" > Tuesday < /option >
      < option value="Wed" > Wednesday < /option >
      < option value="Thu" > Thursday < /option >
      < option value="Fri" > Friday < /option >
      < option value="Sat" > Saturday < /option >
      < option value="Sun" > Sunday < /option >
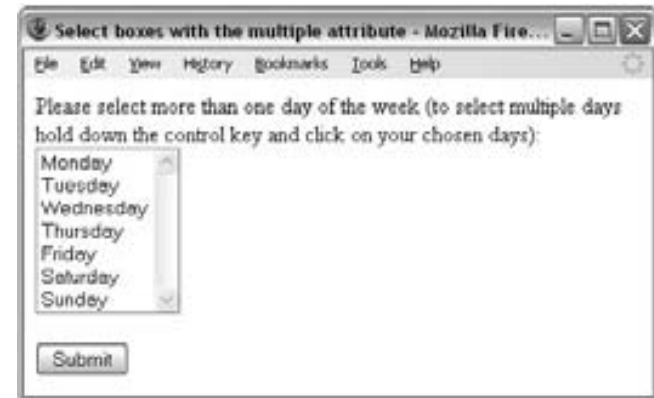 < /select >

  < br / > < br / > < input type="submit" value="Submit" >

  < /form >

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Hidden Controls
  - Sometimes you will want to pass information between pages without the user seeing it; to do this, you can use hidden form controls.
  - It is important to note, however, that while users cannot see them in the web page, if they were to look at the source code for the page they would be able to see the values in the code.

HTML Forms - The Input Element (cont.)

- Hidden Control example

< form action="http://www.example.com/ vote.aspx" method="get" name="fromVote" >

< input type="hidden" name="hidPageSentFrom" value="home page" / >

< input type="submit" value="Click if this is your favorite page of our site." / >

< /form >