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Can I use a div inside a list item?

Asked 8 years, 3 months ago Active 4 years, 11 months ago Viewed 59k times



Why is the following code valid when I am using a `<div>` inside a `` ?

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2

```
<ul>
  <li class="aschild">
    <div class="nav">Test</div>
  </li>
</ul>
```

html

html5

validation

xhtml

html-lists

edited Oct 8 '14 at 10:18



kapa

66.2k

17

139

169

asked Jun 23 '11 at 5:36



Vimal Basdeo

2,816

21

61

94

3 What is the problem that you have when you have this code in a page? – [carlosfigueira](#) Jun 23 '11 at 5:38

Is it correct? – [pavium](#) Jun 23 '11 at 5:39

7 @Vimal Basdeo : Intriguing: a question about why you don't have a problem. – [Mitch Wheat](#) Jun 23 '11 at 5:39

1 No problem at all.It displays correctly but as googled I found that I cannot use a div inside a list so I just want to confirm if it's ok to use a div inside a list – [Vimal Basdeo](#) Jun 23 '11 at 5:45

3 The question is valid, bashing and downvoting the OP is quite meaningless in this case. As I guess, it is based on a misunderstanding and as such, it would be beneficial to be answered correctly (now I see though that @Jawad's link is an exact duplicate). – [kapa](#) Jun 23 '11 at 5:52

5 Answers

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```
<!ELEMENT li %Flow;>
<!ENTITY % Flow "(#PCDATA | %block; | form | %inline; | %misc;)*">
<!ENTITY % block      "p | %heading; | div | %lists; | %blocktext; | fieldset | table">
```

answered Jun 23 '11 at 5:47



Jawad

4,955 10 32 42

7 Could you elaborate on what that block of code above actually means? Thanks. – yochannah Sep 26 '13 at 15:22

3 @yochannah: That's just the DTD. It is irrelevant now since HTML5 is no longer DTD based. w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd – Jawad Oct 2 '13 at 7:58

10 What is HTML5 based on now? – Crimbo Apr 13 '17 at 15:54

Inside a `` you can have anything you could naturally put inside a `<div>`. They are no different in this sense.

41

It should be valid in HTML4, XHTML and HTML5 as well.

This is **NOT** valid though (so the sources you found about "no divs in lists" could refer to this situation):

```
<ul>
  <li></li>
  <div></div>
  <li></li>
</ul>
```

So: Lists (`ul` , `ol`) can only have `li` s as their children. But `li` s can have anything as their children.

edited Apr 30 '13 at 13:57

answered Jun 23 '11 at 5:44



kapa

66.2k 17 139 169

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other. – [kapa](#) Jun 23 '11 at 5:58

Great catch. Cheers! – [Jawad](#) Jun 23 '11 at 6:00



14



Because `` is a block element, not an inline element like `` or `<a>` .

answered Jun 23 '11 at 5:44

[twsaef](#)

1,424 1 11 26



7



An `` is a block element, and will work perfectly fine with other block elements inside.

answered Jun 23 '11 at 5:54

[Adam](#)

3,791 12 39 54



4



Yes, you can. As much as you want.

answered Jun 23 '11 at 5:44

[Jose Faeti](#)

10.5k 5 31 51

8 I am convinced. – [redolent](#) Apr 10 '17 at 22:33
