



FORMS

WITH **GUY ROUTLEDGE**

@GUYROUTLEDGE | #FEWD

AGENDA


- Forms & Inputs
- Form Solutions
- Application form Lab
- Project Showcase

OBJECTIVE

This phase of the course is all about interactivity.

Today we'll make a website more interactive by allowing user input

FORMS

 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sign in

FRONT-END WEB DEVELOPMENT

APPLY NOW

Your Full Name

Your Email

Your Phone Number

Fill out some basic information and complete the following application to be considered for the course.

Where are you thinking of taking this course?

New York City

CONTINUE TO APPLICATION

FORMS

Forms are the only way (without JavaScript) to have the user interact with a website.

We create the form in HTML, just like the rest of our content.

FORM TAG

```
<form action="register.php"  
      method="post"  
      enctype="multipart/form-data">  
  
    ...form elements go here...  
  
</form>
```

FORM TAG

The form tag is a container for a series of inputs.

When the form is submitted, all the data is sent to the server and processed on the back end.

FORM TAG

Attributes on the form tag determine:

- Where the data is sent - **action**
- What method the data is sent by - **method**
- The type of data being sent - **enctype**

FORMS

What type of information might we want to send in a form?

FORMS INPUTS

- Text
- Textarea
- Email, Password, URL, Search, Number, Tel, Color, Date
- File
- Range
- Select menu (dropdown)
- Checkboxes
- Radio Buttons
- Submit, Reset, Button

FORM INPUTS

An example of a form input and some of the available attributes

```
<input type="number"  
  name="qty"  
  id="quantity"  
  value="1"  
  min="1"  
  max="10"  
  placeholder="How many?">
```


FORM INPUTS

Attributes on the inputs determine:

- The **type** of input
- The **name** of the input used on the back-end
- An **id** for the input - used to link inputs to their labels
- The initial **value** of the input (optional)
- **minimum** or **maximum** values (optional for numeric types)
- A **placeholder** message (optional)

TEXT

Regular text input - fallback for non HTML5 browsers

 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY** [Sign in](#)

FRONT-END WEB DEVELOPMENT

APPLY NOW

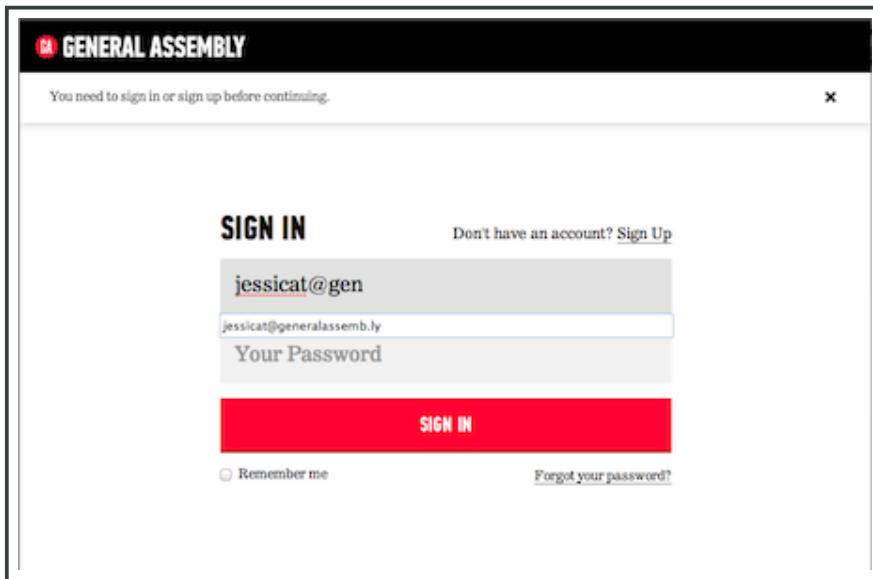
Where are you thinking of taking this course?

CONTINUE TO APPLICATION

Fill out some basic information and complete the following application to be considered for the course.

EMAIL

- Choose the right keyboard on mobile
- Automatically validates email addresses



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the General Assembly logo in the top left. A message at the top states, "You need to sign in or sign up before continuing." Below this, the "SIGN IN" section is visible. It includes a link for "Don't have an account? Sign Up". The email input field contains "jessicat@gen" and has a dropdown menu showing "jessicat@generalassemb.ly". The password field is labeled "Your Password". A red "SIGN IN" button is positioned below the fields. At the bottom, there is a "Remember me" checkbox and a "Forgot your password?" link.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

You need to sign in or sign up before continuing. ✕

SIGN IN Don't have an account? [Sign Up](#)

jessicat@gen

jessicat@generalassemb.ly

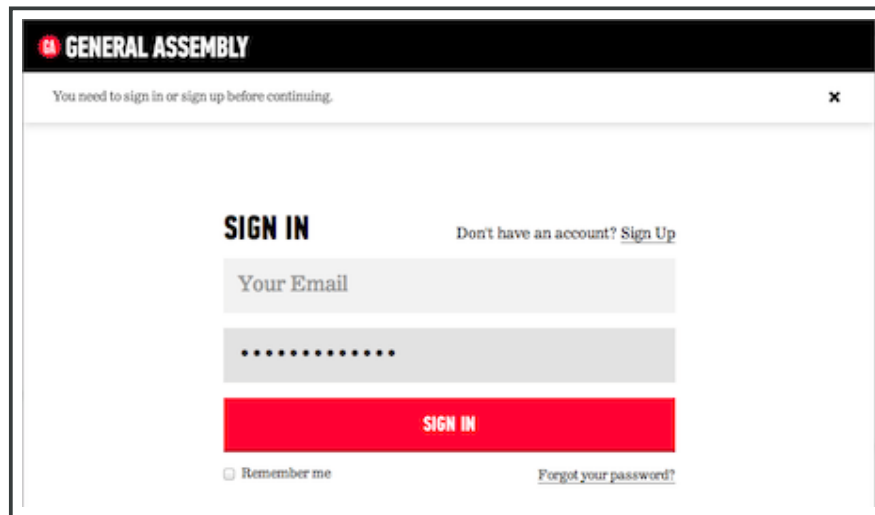
Your Password

SIGN IN

☐ Remember me [Forgot your password?](#)

PASSWORD

Hides characters as typed



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

You need to sign in or sign up before continuing. ✕

SIGN IN Don't have an account? [Sign Up](#)

Your Email

.....

SIGN IN

☐ Remember me [Forgot your password?](#)

BUTTONS

Special buttons

```
<input type="submit" value="Go!">  
<input type="reset" value="Reset">
```

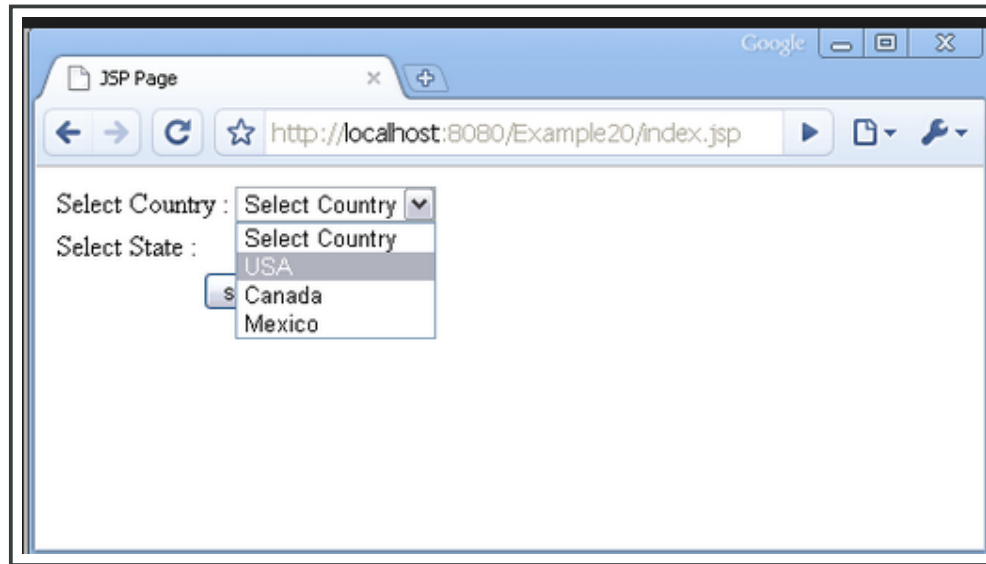
Creates a **file** upload element

```
<input type="file">
```

Creates clickable **button**

```
<input type="button">  
<button><button>
```


SELECT AND OPTION



SELECT AND OPTION

A **select** dropdown is filled with many **options**

```
<select id="country" name="country">
  <option value="AF">Afghanistan</option>
  <option value="AX">Åland Islands</option>
  <option value="AL">Albania</option>
  <option value="DZ">Algeria</option>
  <option value="AS">American Samoa</option>
  ...
</select>
```

SELECT AND OPTION GROUPS

We can group common options together for better UX.

```
<select>
  <optgroup>
    <option value="US">United States</option>
    <option value="UK">United Kingdom</option>
  </optgroup>
  <optgroup>
    <option value="AF">Afghanistan</option>
    <option value="AX">Åland Islands</option>
    <option value="AL">Albania</option>
    <option value="DZ">Algeria</option>
    ...
  </optgroup>
</select>
```

LABELS

Each **<input>** should have a corresponding **<label>** tag to let the user know what needs to be filled in.

The label and its input are linked with a **for** attribute on the label that matches the input **id**

```
<label for="first-name">First Name</label>  
<input type="text" id="first-name">
```

HTML5 FORMS REFERENCE GUIDE

<http://www.wufoo.com/html5/>

WHAT IF OUR USERS GIVE US THE WRONG KIND OF DATA?

Or doesn't fill in the fields we want them to?

VALIDATION

We can check if all the required fields have been filled out with the correct kind of information by using validation.

- HTML5 validation is available for free!
- We can style the validation states with `:valid` and `:invalid` pseudo classes
- Validation is also possible with JavaScript or on the server

FORM PROBLEMS

FORM SOLUTIONS

What if I actually want someone to be able to send me the form info?

FORM SOLUTIONS

There are a handful of third-party solutions that allow you to put a working form on a static website.

- Wufoo
- Kontactr
- Google Forms

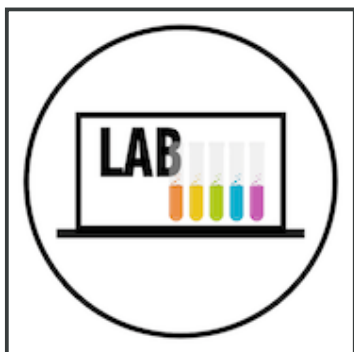
FORM SOLUTIONS

But the best I've found to date is formsfree.io

FORMSPREE

With Formspree, you build your form in HTML as usual but then set specific attributes to have formspree handle sending your data on to you.

It's a great way to add a working form to a static website.



GA APPLICATION FORM

