

Text Control

This spec complies with cycle1_ui_elements_notes.doc as of 2007-05-11 01:15:44

Because this UI element is a legacy primitive from the earliest days of the web, every browser manufacturer has approached this control with different assumptions and thus every browser tends to render this element in its own idiosyncratic manner.

Chasing pixel perfect identical renderings from different platforms is a fool's errand. Thus, the display of this element may differ from this specification. This specification strives to define the ideal rendering of this element.

Element Specification

Text Control in a Form

Please Note:

- Except where noted, the appearance, layout and behavior of the text control in forms conforms to the generic specification of UI Controls in Forms found in the Forms specification.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Cycle One" with a subtitle "April 2007". There are "Save" and "Cancel" buttons in the top right. A blue bar below the title says "Click save to view errors." On the left, a red label "Text Controls" points to several text input fields. A red oval highlights the first two fields: "Text required:" (a standard text input) and "Non-editable text: Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nullam et dui vel" (a disabled text input). Below these are "Text control disabled: With online tools that work with the application" (another disabled text input) and "Multi-line text: improve quality, ensure compliance, and" (a multi-line text area).

Appearance and Styling

- The appearance and styling of text controls in forms conforms to the generic specification of *UI Controls in Forms* found in the *Forms* specification.

Layout



Text Control

Despite the numbers presented below, ...

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----|
| • height | 22px | |
| • spacing (around text) | top, bottom | 5px |
| | left | 3px |
| | right | 0px |

... the layout of this element cannot be specified at this time. An explanation follows ...

The height of 22px is a hard requirement.

The border width of 1px all around is a hard requirement.

The remaining 20px are allocated a number of different ways depending on circumstance. Examples follow:

- | | | |
|---|--------|---------------|
| • For text data in Firefox | a = 6 | |
| | b = 11 | (expected) |
| | c = 4 | height = 23px |
| • For text data in IE7 | a = 6 | |
| | b = 10 | |
| | c = 6 | height = 24px |
| • For date data in Firefox | a = 6 | |
| | b = 8 | |
| | c = 6 | height = 22px |
| • Allegedly, Safari does it own thing, setting the overall height to 18px which is just wrong all around. | | |

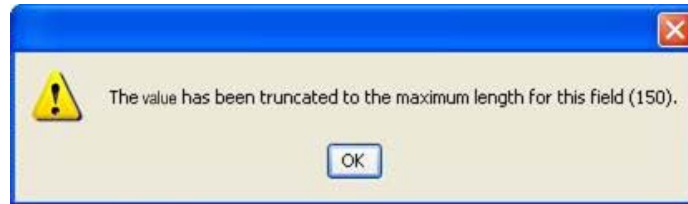
Behavior

All platform specific (OS / Browser) behaviors are accepted as compliant with this specification.

Editable Text Control (Open for Edit)

Data Truncation

- Text is displayed left justified in text controls.
- As the user types beyond the length of the text control, the text scrolls to the left and off the left end of the control to keep the insertion point visible.
- After editing, the display of the text varies by browser. Unlike tables, text controls in forms do NOT indicate truncation by ellipsis (...).
- The maximum number of characters in each field is configurable by the administrator. If the data entered exceeds the maximum allowable characters the user will be informed via a pop up dialog ...



... and the text value will be truncated.

Need a real screenshot. Message in pop-up should be rephrased, possibly to match the doctored pic above.

UI Specification Issues

The base behavior of Text Controls differs by platform (OS / Browser combination). These variations are accepted as compliant with this specification.

Internationalization Issues

No known international issues.

Other Issues

No known issues.

Change History

March 23, 2007	Vern McGeorge	First draft (as part of text.doc)
March 29, 2007	Vern McGeorge	Second draft (as excised from text.doc)
April 10, 2007	Vern McGeorge	Reconstructed from file system corruption
April 11, 2007	Vern McGeorge	Ready for second review (behavior, appearance and layout) pending 10 red flags.
April 17, 2007	Vern McGeorge	Published for second review.
April 30, 2007	Vern McGeorge	Stripped down to leverage form.doc and table.doc.
May 4, 2007	Vern McGeorge	Published for Azita's use.
June 27, 2007	Vern McGeorge	Published for reference only to support review of Top Pane spec.