# **Chapter 18: Forms**

Attribute	Description
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accept-charset Specifies the character encodings that are to be used for the form submission.

action Specifies where to send the form-data when a form is submitted.

autocomplete Specifies whether a form should have autocomplete on or off.

enctype Specifies how the form-data should be encoded when submitting it to the server (only for

method="post").

method Specifies the HTTP method to use when sending form-data (POST or GET).

name Specifies the name of a form.

novalidate Specifies that the form should not be validated when submitted.

target Specifies where to display the response that is received after submitting the form.

In order to group input elements and submit data, HTML uses a form element to encapsulate input and submission elements. These forms handle sending the data in the specified method to a page handled by a server or handler. This topic explains and demonstrates the usage of HTML forms in collecting and submitting input data.

### **Section 18.1: Submitting**

#### The Action Attribute

The action attribute defines the action to be performed when the form is submitted, which usually leads to a script that collects the information submitted and works with it. if you leave it blank, it will send it to the same file

```
<form action="action.php">
```

### **The Method Attribute**

The method attribute is used to define the HTTP method of the form which is either GET or POST.

```
<form action="action.php" method="get">
<form action="action.php" method="post">
```

The GET method is mostly used to *get* data, for example to receive a post by its ID or name, or to submit a search query. The GET method will append the form data to the URL specified in the action attribute.

```
www.example.com/action.php?firstname=Mickey&lastname=Mouse
```

The POST method is used when submitting data to a script. The POST method does not append the form data to the action URL but sends using the request body.

To submit the data from the form correctly, a name attribute name must be specified. As an example let's send the value of the field and set its name to *lastname*:

```
<input type="text" name="lastname" value="Mouse">
```

### **More attributes**

```
<form action="action.php" method="post" target="_blank" accept-charset="UTF-8"
enctype="application/x-www-form-urlencoded" autocomplete="off" novalidate>
<!-- form elements -->
```

## Section 18.2: Target attribute in form tag

The target attribute specifies a name or a keyword that indicates where to display the response that is received after submitting the form.

The target attribute defines a name of, or keyword for, a browsing context (e.g. tab, window, or inline frame).

From Tag with a target attribute:

```
<form target="_blank">
```

#### **Attribute Values**

Value	Description
_blank	The response is displayed in a new window or tab
_self	The response is displayed in the same frame (this is default)
_parent	The response is displayed in the parent frame
_top	The response is displayed in the full body of the window
framename The response is displayed in a named iframe	

Note: The target attribute was *deprecated* in **HTML 4.01**. The target attribute is *supported* in *HTML5*.

Frames and framesets are not supported in *HTML5*, so the \_parent, \_top and framename values are now mostly used with iframes.

### **Section 18.3: Uploading Files**

Images and files can be uploaded/submitted to server by setting enctype attribute of form tag to multipart/form-data. enctype specifies how form data would be encoded while submitting to the server.

### **Example**

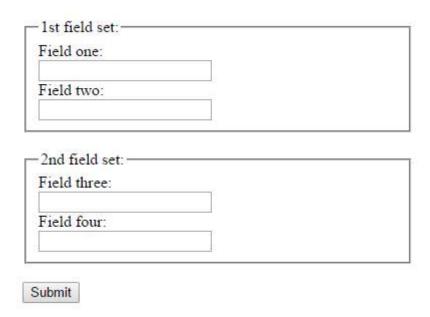
### Section 18.4: Grouping a few input fields

While designing a form, you might like to group a few input fields into a group to help organise the form layout. This can be done by using the tag. Here is an example for using it.

For each fieldset, you can set a legend for the set using the tag LEGEND TEXT

### **Example**

### Result



### **Browser Support**

Chrome, IE, Edge, FireFox, Safari and Opera's latest versions also supports the tag