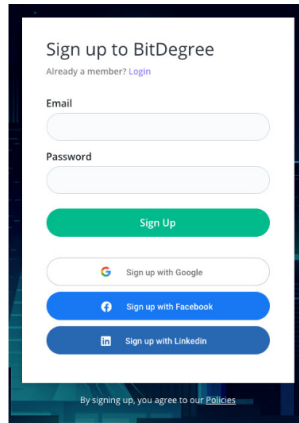


12.2 Introduction to Forms and Inputs

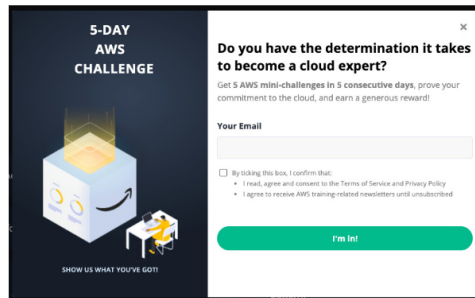
In the olden days, anytime you wanted to collect information from a person, you had to go to them with a sheet of paper in hand and ask them to fill out the printed document. Thankfully, with the advent of technology, forms of all types — surveys, registrations, and many more — can now be completed online.

With HTML, 'forms' are no longer constrained to surveys but offer a variety of formats and uses. HTML forms include different types of elements that enable you to collect data from visitors. Here are a few examples of HTML forms:

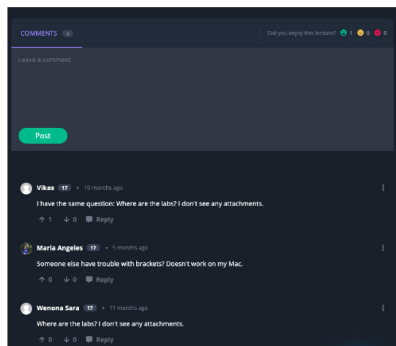
- Member registration form,

A screenshot of a web form titled "Sign up to BitDegree". It includes a link for "Already a member? Login". The form has two input fields: "Email" and "Password". Below these is a green "Sign Up" button. There are also three social login buttons: "Sign up with Google", "Sign up with Facebook", and "Sign up with LinkedIn". At the bottom, it says "By signing up, you agree to our Policies".

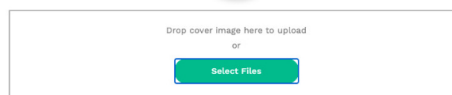
- Newsletter subscription,

A screenshot of a newsletter subscription form for the "5-DAY AWS CHALLENGE". It asks "Do you have the determination it takes to become a cloud expert?". Below this, it says "Get 5 AWS mini-challenges in 5 consecutive days, prove your commitment to the cloud, and earn a generous reward!". There is an input field for "Your Email". Below the field, there is a checkbox for "By ticking this box, I confirm that:" followed by two bullet points: "I read, agree and consent to the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy" and "I agree to receive AWS training-related newsletters until unsubscribed". A green "I'm In!" button is at the bottom.

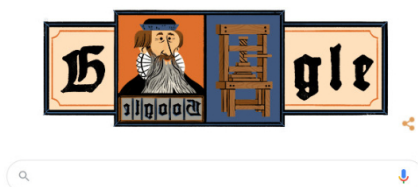
- Comment section,

A screenshot of a comment section. It shows a "COMMENTS" header with a "Leave a comment" input field and a "Post" button. Below are three comments from users: Vikas, Maria Angeles, and Wemona Sara. Each comment has a timestamp and a "Reply" button.

- Course assignment upload,

A screenshot of a file upload area. It says "Drop cover image here to upload" and "or". Below is a green "Select Files" button.

- Google search box!

A screenshot of a Google search box. It features the Google logo and a search input field with a magnifying glass icon on the left and a microphone icon on the right.

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12.1 Introduction to Forms
Video 00:55

12.2 Introduction to Forms and Inputs
Article

3 12.3 HTML Forms
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4 12.4 HTML Forms
Article

5 12.5 Basic Inputs
Article

6 12.6 Lesson 12 Checkpoint
Video 00:22

7 12.7 Assignment: Create a Registration Form!
Article

As you can see from the photos, there's a variety of form controls that can go into a form.

**Note: Form controls are basically user interface elements, which serve as a bridge between the server and the user. We treat inputs and form controls as synonyms.*

In the end, the HTML form, defined by the `<form>` tag, is only a blank canvas. The inputs you then put into your form are completely up to you.

There are two main types of inputs you can include into a form: keyboard-driven and mouse-driven.

Keyboard-driven inputs

Password

Text
Simple text

Text area
This is my multiline text

Mouse-driven inputs

Simple checkbox
☐

File upload
Choose file No file chosen

Submit button
Submit

| Keyboard-driven | Mouse-driven |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Password input | Checkbox |
| Single-line text input | File upload |
| Multiline text input (e.g. comments) | Submit button |
| URL bar | Drop-down list |

But let's not get ahead of ourselves — you'll have plenty of time to learn the full set in the next lesson. For now, let's get back to creating forms.

Go back

Next

12.2 Introduction to Forms and Inputs

/ by Indre Lukauskaite

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