

Web Basics – HTML5

Lesson 7. New Form Elements



Lesson Objectives



In this lesson you will learn about:

- Understand the new HTML form elements such as
 - date
 - number
 - range
 - email
 - search
 - datalist
- Understand audio, video, article tags



7.1 : New HTML form elements

Introduction to HTML5 Enhanced Form Elements

A Form is one of the most basic and essential feature of any web site

HTML5 brings to the table several new input types, a total of 13

HTML5 introduces these data types via the
`<input type="_NEW_TYPE_HERE_" />` format

One of the key design decisions in HTML5 is backward compatibility

It provides automatic validity of the fields as per the format

The browser inspects the input type and if it finds that it is of a specific type

Introduction to HTML Enhanced Form Elements:

A Form is one of the most basic and essential features of any web site. The form elements available in HTML so far include the textbox, checkbox, radio, button, drop-down list, password and file picker. While these have sufficed so far, there is a clear

need for newer form elements. The question is not just of newer form elements, but the ability to inject behaviour into existing form elements so that usability and validity,

which is a cornerstone of any good UI, is given highest consideration.

One of the key design decisions in HTML5 is backward compatibility. What this means is that if the new input types are not supported, then by default it falls back to **`<input type="text" />`**, so it will be rendered as a plain text box, which the user can then fill data in.

Advantages of new input types:

- a) You get automatic validity of the fields as per the format. This means that the form is not going to get submitted if the value entered is not as per the default validation of that type
- b) The browser inspects the input type and if it finds that it is of a specific type, then it does something quite clear to aid the input of that data. For e.g. On the Smart Phones, which do not have a physical keyboard but instead a virtual keyboard, the keyboard that will be shown up will only contain keys that will aid the user in filling out the data.

7.1 : New HTML form elements

Placeholder



Place Holder - A placeholder is a textbox that hold a text in lighter shade when there is no value and not focused

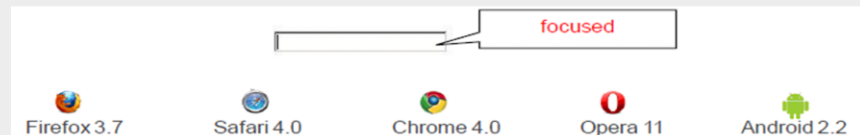
Syntax is -

```
<input id="first_name" placeholder="This is a placeholder">
```



This is how place holder looks like on supporting browser

Once the textbox gets focus, the text goes off and you shall input your own text

**Place Holder:**

The first improvement HTML5 brings to web forms is the ability to set placeholder text in an input field. Placeholder text is displayed inside the input field as long as the

field is empty and not focused. As soon as you click on (or tab to) the input field, the placeholder text disappears.

Here's how you can include placeholder text in your own web forms:

```
<form>
  <input name="name" placeholder="Enter your name">
  <input type="submit" value="Search">
</form>
```

Browsers that don't support placeholder attribute will simply ignore it. But if you want to make it work in other browsers, you can use some **JavaScript** to create the same behavior. There is an excellent **jQuery plugin** called HTML5 Placeholder Plugin that will go through all input fields with placeholders attached to them and make them work in all browsers.

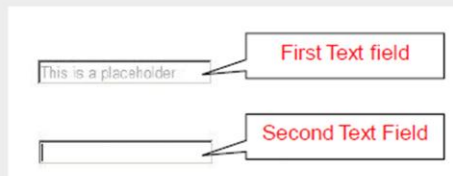
7.1 : New HTML form elements

Auto Focus

Auto Focus - Autofocus is a Boolean attribute of form field that make browser set focus on it when a page is loaded

Syntax is -

```
<input id ="Text2" type="text" autofocus/>
```



Auto Focus

This attribute when applied to any form element, will result in the field receiving focus.

For e.g. consider the example shown below:

```
<form>
  <label for="firstname">First Name</label>
  <input type="text" id="firstname" name="firstname" autofocus>
  <label for="lastname">Last Name</label>
  <input type="text" id="lastname" name="lastname">
  <input type="submit" label="Go">
</form>
```

We have added the attribute autofocus to the firstname input field. When the form loads, you will find that the focus is already set on that field, thereby making it easier for the user to start filling the form.

7.1 : New HTML form elements

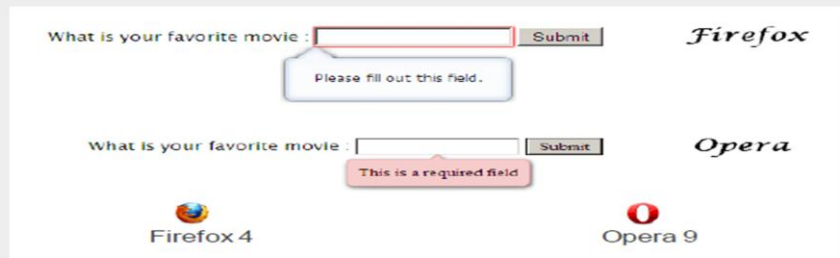
Required

Required - A field with "required" attribute must be filled in with value before submission of a form

Syntax is -

```
<input name="name" type="text" required />
```

The picture below shows us how Firefox and Opera prompt user to fill in value if a "Required field" is left blank upon submission

**Required:**

If the **required** attribute is present, then the field must contain a value when the form

is submitted. This informs the (*HTML5-aware*) web browser that the field is to be considered mandatory. Different browsers may mark the input box in some way (Firefox 4 Beta adds a red box-shadow by default), display a warning (Opera) or even prevent the form from being submitted if this field has no value. Hopefully these

behaviours will converge in future releases.

Here's an example of an input field for a required email address that ensures that the

field has a value and that the value is a valid email address.

Example:

```
<input type="email" id="email_addr" name="email_addr" required />
```

7.1 : New HTML form elements

Pattern



Pattern - A value filled in the field must be checked against the regular expression specified in pattern attribute.

Syntax is -

```
Pincode: <input type="text" name="pin_code" pattern="[0-8]{6}"
title="666666">
```

The picture below shows us how browser prompt user to fill in valid value if a "field with Pattern attribute" is filled with invalid value upon submission

**Required:**

If the **required** attribute is present, then the field must contain a value when the form

is submitted. This informs the (*HTML5-aware*) web browser that the field is to be considered mandatory. Different browsers may mark the input box in some way (Firefox 4 Beta adds a red box-shadow by default), display a warning (Opera) or even prevent the form from being submitted if this field has no value. Hopefully these

behaviours will converge in future releases.

Here's an example of an input field for a required email address that ensures that the field has a value and that the value is a valid email address.

Example:

```
<input type="email" id="email_addr" name="email_addr" required />
```

7.1 : New HTML form elements

Email



Email - This field is used to check whether the string entered by the user is valid email id or not.

Syntax is -

```
<input id="email" name="email" type="email" />
```

Browsers that don't support this field will treat this as a simple text field
This is how it looks like on form

Email:

nettutspus.com is not a legal email address

**Email:**

The email type is used for input fields that should contain an e-mail address. The value of the email field is automatically validated when the form is submitted.

Example

E-mail: <input type="email" name="user_email" />

Safari on the iPhone recognizes the email input type, and changes the on-screen keyboard to match it (adds @ and .com options).

7.1 : New HTML form elements

Data List



Data List - Datalist is seems like type-ahead auto suggest textbox as you can see in Google search box

Syntax is –

```
<input id="country_name"
name="country_name" type="text"
list="country" />
<datalist id="country">
<option value="Australia">
<option value="Austria">
<option value="Algeria">
<option value="Andorra">
<option value="Angola">
</datalist>
```

**Data List:**

The datalist element specifies a list of options for an input field. The list is created with option elements inside the datalist. To bind a datalist to an input field, let the list attribute of the input field refer to the id of the datalist:

Example

Webpage: `<input type="url" list="url_list" name="link" />`
`<datalist id="url_list">`
`<option label="W3Schools" value="http://www.w3schools.com" />`
`<option label="Google" value="http://www.google.com" />`
`<option label="Microsoft" value="http://www.microsoft.com" />`
`</datalist>`

7.1 : New HTML form elements

Search

Search - In HTML5, we can define a textbox as search box instead of a normal textbox

- Supported by Chrome 8 & Safari 5
- Syntax is

```
<input id="mysearch" type="search" />
```

**Search:**

Setting the type attribute of an **<input>** tag to **search** is mainly of cosmetic value. It doesn't automatically create a search field. As with all form elements, you still need to code the server-side logic yourself or use a third-party script. Most browsers simply display a search field as a normal text field. However, Safari and Chrome on Mac OS X automatically add rounded corners to match the operating system's standard look.

Apple.com uses **<input type="search">** for their site-search box, to help give their Site a "Mac-like" feel. But there's nothing Mac-specific about it. It's just markup, so each browser on each platform can choose to render it according to platform-specific

conventions. As with all the other new input types, browsers that don't recognize type="search" will treat it like type="text" .

Example:

```
<form>
  <input name="q" type="search">
  <input type="submit" value="Find">
</form>
```

7.1 : New HTML form elements

Number



Up and down button provided to increase and decrease the value.
Min and max parameters provided to limit the values.
Browser will treat it as simple textfield if it doesn't support this type.
Syntax is

Limiting the values for this field...

```
<input id="movie" type="number" value="0"/>
```

```
<input id="user_lic" type="number" min="5" max="30" step="5" value="" />
```



Number:

Asking for a number is trickier than asking for an email address or web address. First of all, numbers are more complicated than you might think. You don't often ask for "just a number." It's more likely that you'll ask for a number in a particular range. You may only want certain kinds of numbers within that range—maybe whole numbers but not fractions or decimals.

Example:

```
<input type="number" min="0" max="10" step="2" value="6">
```

Let's take that one attribute at a time.

1. `type="number"` means that this is a number field.
2. `min="0"` specifies the minimum acceptable value for this field.
3. `max="10"` is the maximum acceptable value.
4. `step="2"`, combined with the min value, defines the acceptable numbers in the range: 0, 2, 4, and so on, up to the maxvalue.
5. `value="6"` is the default value.

7.1 : New HTML form elements

Range

Also known as slider

Before HTML5, programmers used to write lines of code for range/slider

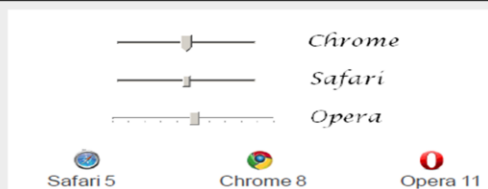
Easy to implement

Look and feel is different for different browser's

Browser will treat it as simple textfield if it doesn't support this type

Syntax

```
<input id="test" type="range"/>
```



Range:

Spinboxes are not the only way to represent numeric input. You've probably also seen "slider" controls.

You can now have slider controls in your web forms, too.

Example:

```
<input type="range" min="0" max="10" step="2" value="6">
```

All the available attributes are the same as `type="number"` — `min`, `max`, `step`, `value` — and they mean the same thing. The only difference is the user interface. Instead of a field for typing, browsers are expected to render `type="range"` as a slider control. Safari, Chrome, and Opera all do this. (Sadly, the iPhone renders it as a simple text box. It doesn't even optimize its on-screen keyboard for numeric input.) All other browsers simply treat the field as `type="text"`.

7.1 : +New HTML form elements

Date



Date

- Important and mostly used element
- Simple to implement
- Before HTML5, programmers used to write lines of javascript code for date picker
- Input type for date:- date, week, month, time, datetime (gives UTC time), datetime-local (local time)

Syntax is

```
<input id="meeting" type="date" value=""/>
```

**Date:**

HTML 4 did not include a date picker control. JavaScript frameworks have picked up the slack (Dojo, jQuery UI, YUI, Closure Library), but of course each of these solutions requires “buying into” the framework on which the date picker is built.

HTML5 finally defines a way to include a native date picker control without having to script it yourself. In fact, it defines six input types: date, month, week, time, date + time, and date + time - timezone.

So far, support is... sparse.

7.2 : Understand audio, video, article tags

Audio



Audio - HTML5 is likely to put an end to audio plug-in such as Microsoft Windows Media player, Microsoft Silverlight , Apple QuickTime and the famous Adobe Flash

MIME type's - audio/mpeg, is optional but its always better to provide Only .mp3, .wav, and .ogg (vorbis) formats are supported till date
If quick time player is not available, then safari won't support this tag
Other properties like auto play, loop, preload area also available
Syntax is -

```
<audio controls>  
<source src="vincent.mp3" type="audio/mpeg"/>  
<source src="vincent.ogg" type="audio/ogg"/>  
</audio>
```

Audio & Video:

HTML5 is fairly intelligent about picking the right default for presenting the most optimum audio or video. Couple that with the absolute minimum coding that's needed to handle multimedia in HTML5 and you have a pretty good situation for developers.

The bad news is that because the people diligently working on the HTML5 specification tried to compromise between open formats and de facto standard formats and so on, support for native codecs in HTML5 is slightly lacking: there isn't any. It's up to the browser to support formats, and up to the developer to supply them. What's emerged from that are a few relatively new standards.

7.2 : Understand audio, video, article tags

Video



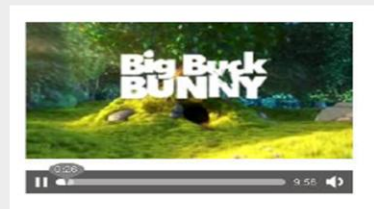
Video – HTML5 video tag is exactly similar to audio but with few extra attributes

Attributes

- Width : Width of video area
- Height : Height of video area
- Poster : Still Image file projected on screen before video gets displayed

Syntax is –

```
<video src="http://.....ogv" controls width="300"
height="250"></video>
```

Examples:Audio

```
<audio controls preload="metadata">
<source src="sample.mp3">
<source src="sample.ogg"> </audio>
```

Video

```
<video controls width="640" height="480" src="sample.mp4"
poster="sample.jpg">
</video>
```

Both the <video> and <audio> can take another important parameter, shown above, called preload (which was formerly implemented as autobuffer with slightly different syntax). The values for preload can be auto (download the media file to the browser in advance), none (do not preload the media), or metadata (just download enough metadata to discover the duration and other information of the media file). So with a little extra care in coding, you can make the user's experience much better.

7.2 : Understand audio, video, article tags

Article



Article

- Represents independent component on page
- Separates itself from other elements on page
- Can be used most effectively in forum posts, blogs, magazine or newspaper etc.

Syntax is

```
<article>
<header>
<h1>The Very First Rule of Life</h1>
<p>Published : <time pubdate="pubdate">2008-10-08</time></p>
</header>
<p>If there's a microphone anywhere near you, assume it's hot and
sending whatever you're saying to the world. Seriously.</p>
<p>...</p>
<footer>
<a href="?comments=1">Show comments...</a>
</footer>
</article>
```

Article:

The article element represents a component of a page that consists of a self-contained composition in a document, page, application, or site and that is intended to be independently distributable or reusable, e.g. in syndication. This could be a forum post, a magazine or newspaper article, a Web log entry, a user-submitted comment, an interactive widget or gadget, or any other independent item of content.

Demo



Demonstration on the use of new form elements



Lab



Lab 7



Summary



In this lesson, you have learnt about:

- HTML5 introduces new and enhanced form elements those who caters to every need of modern Web Designing
- It also introduces a new JavaScript library, Modernizr, that helps you detect HTML5 feature capabilities of your websites



Review Question



Question 1: A _____ is a textbox that hold a text in lighter shade when there is no value and not focused

Question 2: A _____ is a JavaScript library that helps you add HTML5 capabilities to your websites

