



# HTML Entities

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Reserved characters in HTML must be replaced with character entities.

## HTML Entities

Some characters are reserved in HTML.

If you use the less than (<) or greater than (>) signs in your text, the browser might mix them with tags.

Character entities are used to display reserved characters in HTML.

A character entity looks like this:

```
&entity_name;
```

OR

```
&#entity_number;
```

To display a less than sign (<) we must write: **&lt;** or **&#60;**;

**Advantage of using an entity name:** An entity name is easy to remember.

**Disadvantage of using an entity name:** Browsers may not support all entity names, but the support for entity numbers is good.

# Non-breaking Space

A commonly used entity in HTML is the non-breaking space: **&nbsp;**

A non-breaking space is a space that will not break into a new line.

Two words separated by a non-breaking space will stick together (not break into a new line). This is handy when breaking the words might be disruptive.

Examples:

- § 10
- 10 km/h
- 10 PM

Another common use of the non-breaking space is to prevent browsers from truncating spaces in HTML pages.

If you write 10 spaces in your text, the browser will remove 9 of them. To add real spaces to your text, you can use the **&nbsp;** character entity.

**Tip:** The non-breaking hyphen (&#8209;) is used to define a hyphen character (-) that does not break into a new line.

## Some Useful HTML Character Entities

Result	Description	Entity Name	Entity Number	Try it
	non-breaking space	&nbsp;	&#160;	Try it »
<	less than	&lt;	&#60;	Try it »
>	greater than	&gt;	&#62;	Try it »
&	ampersand	&amp;	&#38;	Try it »

"	double quotation mark	&quot;	&#34;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
'	single quotation mark (apostrophe)	&apos;	&#39;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
¢	cent	&cent;	&#162;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
£	pound	&pound;	&#163;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
¥	yen	&yen;	&#165;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
€	euro	&euro;	&#8364;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
©	copyright	&copy;	&#169;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
®	registered trademark	&reg;	&#174;	<a href="#">Try it »</a>

**Note:** Entity names are case sensitive.

## Combining Diacritical Marks

A diacritical mark is a "glyph" added to a letter.

Some diacritical marks, like grave ( ` ) and acute ( ´ ) are called accents.

Diacritical marks can appear both above and below a letter, inside a letter, and between two letters.

Diacritical marks can be used in combination with alphanumeric characters to produce a character that is not present in the character set (encoding) used in the page.

Here are some examples:

Mark	Character	Construct	Result	Try it
`	a	a&#768;	à	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
´	a	a&#769;	á	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
^	a	a&#770;	â	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
~	a	a&#771;	ã	

				<a href="#">Try it »</a>
`	o	O&#768;	ò	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
´	o	O&#769;	ó	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
^	o	O&#770;	ô	<a href="#">Try it »</a>
~	o	O&#771;	õ	<a href="#">Try it »</a>

You will see more HTML symbols in the next chapter of this tutorial.

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