Forms

HTML Forms

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WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

RECRUITMENT ▼

Full name

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Email address *

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Message *

I want a job as HTML5 game developer @ Guerrilla Games

SEND MESSAGE »

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Why forms?

Forms enable user interaction with a website by allowing users to send data.

What types of interaction can you think of, that are realized through forms?

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Basic form structure

```html
<form action="process.php" method="POST">


    <label for="name">Name:</label>
    <input type="text" id="name" name="name" placeholder="Your name" required>


    <label for="message">Message:</label>
    <textarea id="message" name="message" rows="4" cols="50" placeholder="Your message">
    </textarea>


    <input type="submit" value="Submit">

</form>
```

Basic form structure

```html
<form action="process.php" method="POST">
    <!-- 'action' attribute specifies the URL to process the form data -->
    <!-- 'method' attribute specifies how data is sent; 'POST' is common -->
    <label for="name">Name:</label>
    <input type="text" id="name" name="name" placeholder="Your name" required>
    <!-- 'label' associates with 'input' id using 'for' attribute, 'name' for server
    access,'required' enforces input -->
    <label for="message">Message:</label>
    <textarea id="message" name="message" rows="4" cols="50" placeholder="Your message">
    </textarea>
    <!-- 'textarea' for multi-line text input; 'rows' and 'cols' set dimensions -->
    <input type="submit" value="Submit">
    <!-- 'input' with 'type="submit"' creates a submit button -->
</form>
```

HTML input fields

These are common input fields that have existed for a long time in HTML:

- text
- password
- radio
- checkbox
- file
- hidden

```html
<!-- Text Input -->
<input type="text">

<!-- Password Input -->
<input type="password">

<!-- Radio Buttons (Single Choice) -->
<input type="radio" name="gender" value="male">
<input type="radio" name="gender" value="female">

<!-- Checkboxes (Multiple Choice) -->
<input type="checkbox" name="interest" value="sports">
<input type="checkbox" name="interest" value="music">

<!-- File Upload -->
<input type="file">

<!-- Hidden Input -->
<input type="hidden" name="csrf_token" value="a1b2c3d4">
```

HTML5 input fields

HTML 5 added new input fields:

- email
- number
- date
- color
- range
- search
- tel
- url

```html
<!-- Email Input -->
<input type="email">

<!-- Number Input -->
<input type="number" min="0" max="100" step="1">

<!-- Date Input -->
<input type="date">

<!-- Color Picker -->
<input type="color">

<!-- Range Input (Slider) -->
<input type="range" min="0" max="100" step="1">

<!-- Search Input -->
<input type="search">

<!-- Telephone Input -->
<input type="tel">

<!-- URL Input -->
<input type="url">
```
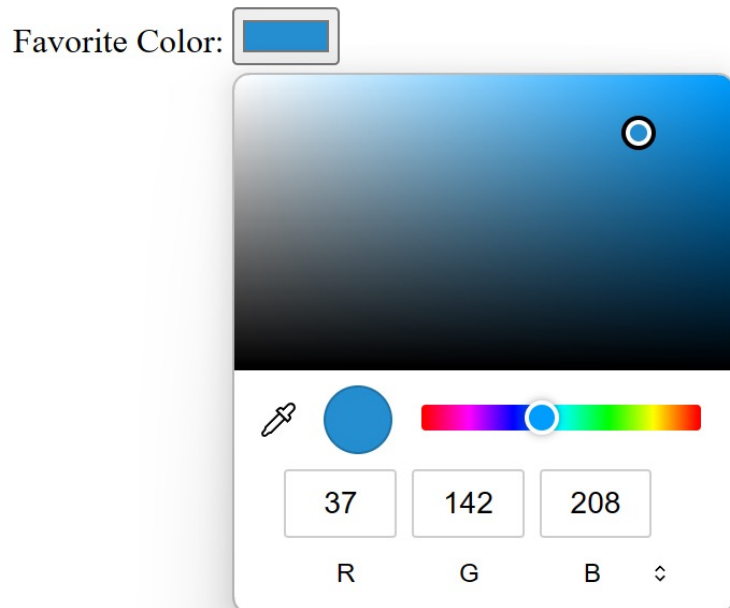
HTML5 input fields

The browser decides how the user can input these values. For example, the color input type displays a nice color picker:
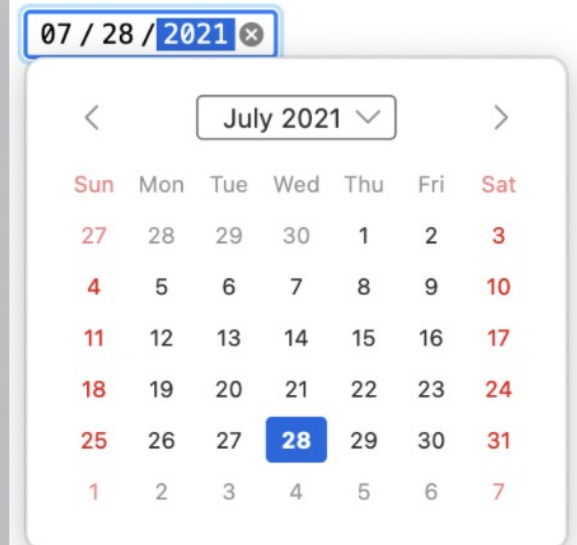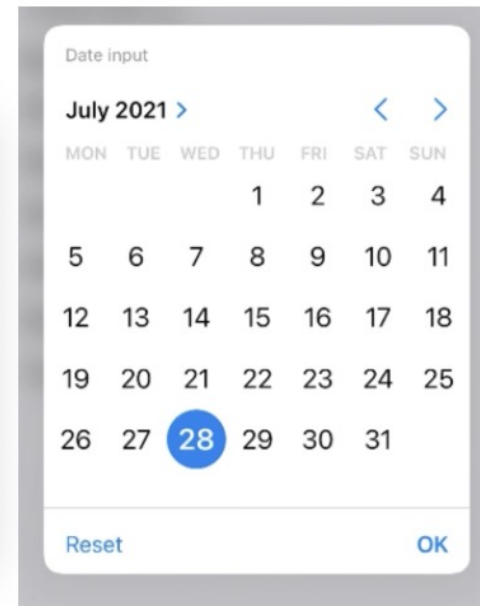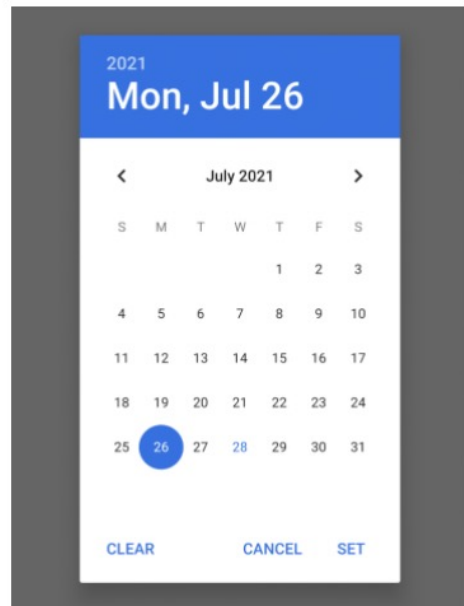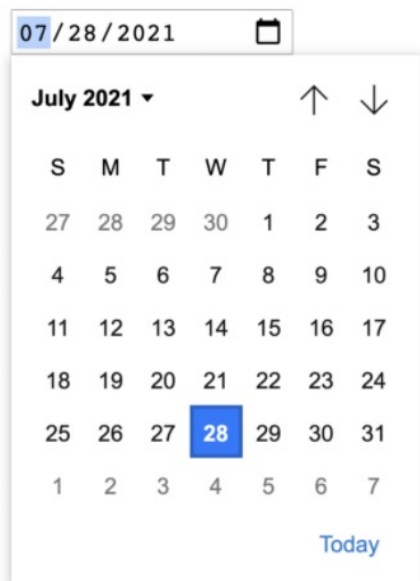
Favorite Color:

```
<!-- Color Picker -->
<label for="favcolor">Favorite Color:</label>
<input type="color" name="favcolor" id="favcolor">
```

HTML5 input fields

In this example of a date field, notice how it looks different in various browsers

```html
<!-- Date Input -->
<input type="date" name="birthdate" id="birthdate">
```

In-class assignment

Please write a HTML form that posts the following data:

- name

- email

- message

To the URL: https://coolinhollanddemo.azurewebsites.net/

Hints:

- All input elements need to be inside a form element, the **form** needs the correct **method** and **action** attribute values.

- The input elements need the correct **name=**"inputname" attribute values

- An input of type **"submit"** posts the form

If you did it right, the response will tell you so.

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GET & POST requests

The form 'method' can be GET or POST, but what's the difference?

The HTTP protocol describes several types of requests:

- GET, POST, PUT, DELETE and so on.

- **GET**: to 'get' a webpage, a GET message has a URL and an empty body. When combined with a form, the data will be put in the URL.

- **POST**: to 'post' data, a POST message has a URL and contains data in the body of the message.

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GET & POST requests

- **GET**: to 'get' a webpage, a GET message has a URL and an empty body. When combined with a form, the data will be put in the URL.

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

www.mywebsite.com/vote.php?console=psx4&company=sega

- **POST**: to 'post' data, a POST message has a URL and contains data in the body of the message (not visible to the user).

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

POST /vote.php HTTP/1.1
Host: mywebsite.com
console=psx4
company=sega

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