

INTRODUCTION TO HTML

What is HTML?

- HTML is a language for **describing web pages**
- HTML is a **markup** language
- A markup language is a set of **markup tags**
- The purpose of the tags are to **describe page content**
- The **HTML tags are** also called **HTML elements**
- Developers always should use tags appropriately to keep the markup clean and as semantic as possible (good for SEO, screen readers and to make other developers happy)

HTML anatomy

```
<html>  
  <head>  
    <title>HTML page example</title>  
  </head>  
  <body>  
    <h1>This a Heading</h1>  
    <p>This is a paragraph.</p>  
    <p>This is another paragraph.</p>  
  </body>  
</html>
```


The `<head>`

- Page title
- You can load external CSS and JS files;
- Place internal CSS or JavaScript code;
- Meta tags (for SEO, Facebook OG etc...)

The `<body>`

- All page content comes here;
- You can also add internal styles or JavaScript here, but not recommended;
- External JavaScript files should be loaded at the very bottom (to improve site performance)

HTML tags

- Tags are meant to describe functional elements on the page
- To keep the code semantic and easy to read, try to use tags appropriately
- Some elements have a 'strict' hierarchy, that gives meaning to them and their relationships (such as headings)

```
<h1>Main title</h1>
```

```
<h2>Subtitle</h2>
```

```
...
```

```
<p>Paragraph text</p>
```

```
...
```

```
<ul>
```

```
<li>List item 1</li>
```

```
<li>List item 2</li>
```

```
<li>List item 3</li>
```

```
</ul>
```


Let's look at some examples!

Inspect

The screenshot shows a web browser window with a document titled "02_basic_css_selectors.html". The document contains several heading levels and paragraphs. The "Inspect" tool is open at the bottom, showing the HTML structure and the computed style for the selected `h2` element.

Main heading (H1 - level 1 heading)

Subheading - (H2 - level 2 heading)

h2 1582px x 19px (H3 - level 3 heading)

Subheading - (H4 - level 4 heading)

Subheading - (H5 - level 5 heading)

Subheading - (H6 - level 6 heading)

Paragraph

This is a paragraph for some text content...

We set the color of all the paragraphs of this document to be blue

This paragraph is different to the others, because I added some inline styling to it...

This is still another paragraph. The above example shows how *inline* styling overrides *internal* styling; and how *internal* styling overrides *external* styling.

DevTools Inspect Panel:

- Elements:** `<!-- Smart developers always look at the source code :) If you're not sure about something in HTML, CSS or JS, look at the source code of websites, I've found it the best way to learn from other developers. You can also use Firebug in Firefox, or Dev tools in Chrome to inspect elements in the HTML document. -->`
`<!DOCTYPE html>`
`<html>`
`<head>...</head>`
`<body>`
`<div class="container">`
`<h1>Main heading (H1 - level 1 heading)</h1>`
`<h2>Subheading - (H2 - level 2 heading)</h2>`
`<h3>Subheading - (H3 - level 3 heading)</h3>`
`<h4>Subheading - (H4 - level 4 heading)</h4>`
`<h5>Subheading - (H5 - level 5 heading)</h5>`
`<h6>Subheading - (H6 - level 6 heading)</h6>`
`<hr>`
`<h2>Paragraph</h2>`
`<p>This is a paragraph for some text content...</p>`
`<p>We set the color of all the paragraphs of this document to be blue</p>`
`<p style="color: orange;">...</p>`
`<p style="font-weight: bold; margin-top: 2em; color: inherit; border: 2px solid #0099ff; padding: 1em;">...</p>`
`</div>`
`</body>`
`</html>`
- Styles:**
 - element.style {**
 - h2 {** `color: #86CC00;` `style.css:15`
 - h2 {** `display: block;` `font-size: 1.5em;` `-webkit-margin-before: 0.83em;` `-webkit-margin-after: 0.83em;` `-webkit-margin-start: 0px;` `-webkit-margin-end: 0px;` `font-weight: bold;` `user agent stylesheet`
 - Inherited from body, html {** `font-size: 1em; font-family: sans-serif;` `style.css:12`

References

HTML & CSS book (2012)
<http://htmlandcssbook.com/>



A comprehensive list of pretty much all the HTML elements

<http://meiert.com/en/indices/html-elements/>

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/>

HTML5 weekly (newsletter) <http://html5weekly.com/archive/21.html>

Always check the source code of websites, that's the best way to learn