BRAINSTER

Workshop 16: PHP - Forms

Brainster Web Development Academy

Exercise - part 1

Create an HTML form with inputs like on the image on the right.

All fields marked with red asterisk are required. If a user submits the form leaving some of the required input fields empty, an error message below the input should be printed in the following format: “The NameOfTheField is required” (second image on the right). You need to implement a backend (PHP) logic for this, simply adding a `required` html attribute is not enough.

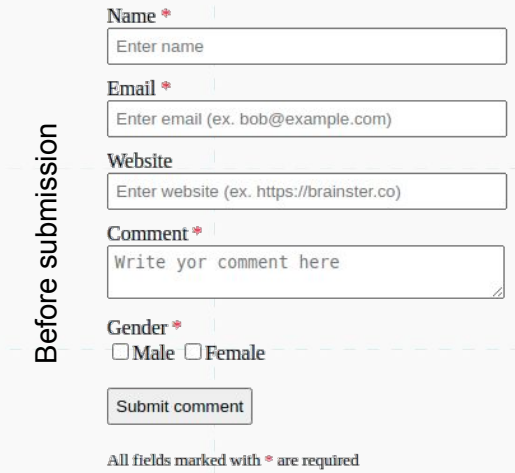
The fields for email and website url should have validation for the input format too. If the validation fails, print an error message next to the input: “Invalid NameOfTheField format”.

Preserve the old values after unsuccessful form submission (notice the email and the comment values on the right)

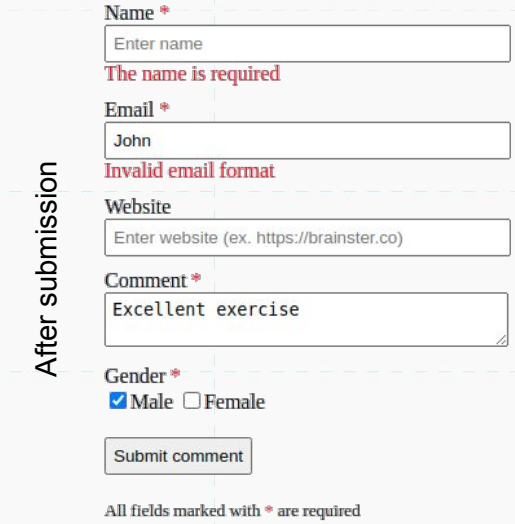
Hint for the validation:

- Remember how during classes the old value from the form inputs was preserved after unsuccessful form submission.
- To validate the email and the website format use the filter_var function. It works with different filters.

Before submission



After submission



Exercise - part 2

When the form is submitted and if it is successfully validated (all required fields are filled, and the email and website values are in correct format), store all the values in a users.txt file in a new row, separated with a horizontal line character '|'. In the users.txt file write the input values for Name, Email, Website, Comment and Gender consequently. The format of the users.txt file should be like this:

John|john@example.com|https://john.com|Excellent exercise|male
Jane|jane@example.com||Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet|female
Alice|alice@example.com|https://alice.com|Hello world|female

Notice how Jane as a user did not leave her website address (which is fine, since it is not a required field). However in order to make the format of the file consistent for future rather simple use, it is not omitted in the result (see the two vertical lines ||). This means when we *explode* the data afterwards, the comment will be represented with an empty array element, which is exactly what we need.

Exercise - part 3

Add an admin.php file, which will be intended for administrator users only (which we still can not implement at this point, don't worry about that). When the user navigates to the admin.php file, all the people that left comments will be printed in a table and below the table a simple statistics of male vs. female users will be printed.

The screenshot below shows how the output of this page should look like if the 3 users from the previous slide are our dataset.

Name	Email	Website	Comment	Gender
John	john@example.com	https://john.com	Excellent exercise	male
Jane	jane@example.com		Lorem ipsum	female
Alice	alice@example.com	https://alice.com	Hello world	female

Gender statistics:
Male commenters: 1
Female commenters: 2