

What are some common mistakes to avoid in HTML?

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The biggest mistake to avoid in HTML is not using semantic HTML. In other words, using tags that don't actually describe your content and just using divs and spans willy-nilly on your website. So, you want to think about making sure you use the right tag for the right problem that you're trying to solve.

Once you get past that, then there's a whole bunch of little things like glitchy little syntaxy things that are really easy to miss. What I always tell my students is to start by validating your HTML. And you can go to the HTML validator at the W3C, and it will help to identify issues and problems with your HTML. Really, really important when you're starting out. So, did you forget to close a tag that has a closing tag? Is there some sort of required attribute for that HTML tag that maybe you've forgotten, like alt tags on your images? And the validator will help you with all of that.

So, that would be the best piece of advice that I have for you: run your HTML, especially as you're getting started. You'll get a sense of what well-structured, well-formed HTML is. And while that will not help you with the semantic side of things, it will make you write syntactically correct HTML.