

Theory: Lists

🕒 9 minutes 0 / 5 problems solved

Skip this topic

Start practicing

914 users solved this topic. Latest completion was 1 day ago.

Lists are a big part of HTML. We often use them in real life and see them on web pages a lot. A list is a sequence of connected items: it can be a list of products, invited guests, vehicle details and so on. Instructions on how to do or make something usually come in the form of a list, too. In other words, lists are a typical part of our life, yet there's still a lot you can learn about them in the HTML context. In HTML, there are **3 types of lists**. Your choice of a specific type depends on what sort of information you're working with and how you want it to be presented.

§1. Ordered list

This type of list consists of items arrayed in numerical order. If one or more of these items gets deleted, others will be reset automatically. To create an ordered list, use a paired tag ``. Start every item with `` and close with ``.

Let's take a look at an example. The following code:

```
1 <ol>
2   <li>Facebook</li>
3   <li>Twitter</li>
4   <li>Instagram</li>
5   <li>Snapchat</li>
6 </ol>
```

Turns into a list like this:

1. Facebook
2. Twitter
3. Instagram
4. Snapchat

There are also several attributes that can be applied to ordered lists.

- **Type** is an especially important attribute for ordered lists because it determines numeration.

- 1 — default, decimal numeration (1, 2, 3, 4...)
- A — by alphabetical order, capital letters (A, B, C, D...).
- a — by alphabetical order, lowercase letters (a, b, c, d...).
- I — by Roman numerals (I, II, III, IV).

Example:

```
1 <ol type="a"></ol>
2 a. First
3 b. Second
4 c. Third
```

- Starting value: assign the number of a starting value.

For example, if we want to assign number 5 to some item, we have to write `<li value="5">`, and the numeration will continue according to that.

- Reversed sets the list in an inverse order.

See the following example:

```
1 <ol reversed></ol>
2 10, 9, 8...
```

You can combine these attributes, for example, write something like this:

Current topic:

[Lists](#) Stage 3 ...

Topic depends on:

✗ [HTML page structure](#) Stage 1 ...

Topic is required for:

[List style](#) ...

[Pseudo-classes](#) Stage 3 ...

Table of contents:

- 1 Lists
- §1. Ordered list
- §2. Unordered List
- §3. Definition List
- Feedback & Comments

```
1 <ol type="A" start="3" reversed></ol>
2 C. First
3 B. Second
4 A. Third
```

The `start` attribute sets the number from which the list will start.

§2. Unordered List

This type of list is different in that it doesn't use numbers or letters, yet there are markers: discs (it is the default value), circles, squares or none (nothing).

Let's look at a simple example:

```
1 <ul type="circle"></ul>
```

To create an unordered list, use a paired tag ``. Start every item with `` and close with ``:

```
1 <ul>
2   <li>Facebook</li>
3   <li>Twitter</li>
4   <li>Instagram</li>
5   <li>Snapchat</li>
6 </ul>
```

Here is the resulting list:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- Snapchat

§3. Definition List

When it is necessary to give many definitions to one object, opt for a definition list.

It is made with a paired tag `<dl></dl>`. Use `<dt></dt>` for the main object and `<dd></dd>` for definition. Remember that the order is the term first and then the explanation.

Tag name `<dl>` means description list, `<dt>` — description term and `<dd>` — description definition.

Note that lists can also be **nested**. An obvious example of that would be a book's contents page with chapters (1.) and subchapters (1.1 and then 1.1.1 or 1.2) nested within. It's just like a list inside a list!

Take a careful look at this code:

```
1 <dl>
2   <dt>Recipe:</dt>
3   <dd>Omelette</dd>
4   <dt>Ingredients:</dt>
5   <dd>Eggs</dd>
6   <dd>Milk</dd>
7   <dd>Salt</dd>
8 </dl>
```

The result is:

Recipe:
Omelet
Ingredients:
Eggs
Milk
Salt

So there are 3 types of lists. Lists make information much more comprehensible that is why it's a good idea to get thoroughly acquainted with them and use them in your code.

 Report a typo

91 users liked this theory. 1 didn't like it. What about you?



Start practicing

[Comments \(1\)](#)

[Hints \(0\)](#)

[Useful links \(0\)](#)

[Show discussion](#)