

# Going Global: Global Attributes


In this lesson, we will deal with setting and using global attributes in HTML DOM.

## WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- Global attributes
- HTML5 global attributes

The HTML DOM defines global attributes that you can assign to every document node and it also specifies events that the browser fires either as a result of a user interaction or as a page lifecycle event.

You already saw the ID attribute as one example of global attributes. HTML5 adds a number of new global attributes and events to the markup.

 **NOTE:** In this section you will learn many new attributes that can be attached to HTML elements. However, you will not see them in action. The aim of this section is to get you acquainted with these attributes and events, and not to learn the nitty-gritty details of them.

## Global attributes #

HTML attributes extend the meaning and context of elements. Many attributes, called global attributes, can be used on any HTML elements, and they define comprehensive meaning. The table below summarizes these global attributes:

## HTML5 global attributes #

Attribute	Description
accesskey	This attribute specifies a shortcut key to activate or focus an element. You can provide a single character as the value of the attribute. When using the page, press down the Alt key or the Alt+Shift keys with the shortcut key to activate or focus the element.
class	Specifies one or more class names for an element. Multiple class names must be separated with space characters.
contenteditable	This attribute specifies whether the content of an element is editable or not (its value can be set to true or false). When the attribute is not set on an element, the element will inherit it from its parent.
contextmenu	This attribute specifies a context menu for an element. The context menu appears when a user right-clicks on the element. The value of the attribute is the id of the <menu> element to open. As of this writing, no major browser supports the <menu> elements and the contextmenu attribute.
dir	Specifies the text direction of the element's content. Its value can be ltr (left-to-right), rtl (right-to-left), or auto (let the browser figure out the text direction, based on the content).
draggable	Specifies whether the element can be dragged or not. The attribute's value can be true, false, or auto (uses the default behavior of the browser)
dropzone	This attribute specifies whether the dragged data is copied, moved, or linked, when it is dropped on an element. As of this writing, no major browser supports this attribute.
hidden	When this attribute is present, it specifies that an element is not yet, or is no longer, relevant. Browsers do not display elements that have the hidden attribute specified.
id	Specifies the unique identifier for an HTML element; the value must be unique in the HTML document.
lang	Specifies the language of the element's content. The value of the attribute uses ISO 639-1 language codes. For more details, see <a href="http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/language_codes.htm">http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/language_codes.htm</a>
spellcheck	This attribute specifies whether the element is to have its spelling and grammar checked or not. The following can be spellchecked: text values in input elements (not password), text in <textarea> elements, and text in editable elements.
style	Specifies an inline style for an element. The value of style attribute will override any style set globally, e.g. styles specified in the <style> tag or in an external style sheet.
tabindex	This attribute specifies the tab order of an element (when the "tab" button is used for navigating).
title	Specifies extra information about an element. The information is most often shown as a tooltip text when the mouse moves over the element.
translate	This attribute specifies whether the content of an element should be translated or not. Its value can be yes or no. As of this writing, no major browser supports this attribute.

In the *next lesson*, we will handle global events.

See you there! :)