Using Hidden Fields

In this lesson, we will learn how to make use of hidden fields in html.

You can set the type of an `<input>` element to "hidden", to provide a form field that is never shown to the user. Of course, you should set the value of such a field either to a static value in the markup or from a script.

In the upcoming exercise, you'll use a hidden field to allow sending a return URL data.

EXERCISE 4-6: Using hidden fields

```
/*! jQuery v3.4.1 | (c) JS Foundation and other contributors | jquery.org/license */
!function(e,t){"use strict";"object"==typeof module&&"object"==typeof module.exports?module.e
```

To use a hidden field in a web form, follow these steps:

Step 1:

Open index.html in the live code editor above, and add the following hidden field right before the submit button:

index.html

```
<input type="hidden" name="caller" value="index.html" />
```

Step 2:

Open the **formprocessor.html** file and add this snippet right after the closing `</table>` tag:

formprocessor.html

```
<br/>
<a id="back" href="#">Back to the caller</a>
```

Step 3:

Modify the second `<script>` element, as highlighted in this code snippet:

```
...
$(function () {
    var params = getFormParameters();
    for (var parName in params) {
      var row = $("<tr>")
        .append($("<td>").html(parName))
        .append($("<td>").html(params[parName]));
      $("tbody").append(row);
    }
    $("#back").attr("href", getFormParameters()["caller"])
  });
...
```

Step 4:

Start the app and click the Register button. You can see that not only the form data will be displayed, but also a link back to the previous page, as shown below:

Form Data

Property	Value
salutation	
fname	
lname	
caller	index.html

[Back to the caller](#)

The hidden field value and the return link is displayed

Step 5:

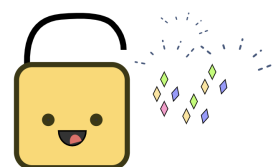Click the link under the table and you'll get back to the original form. Close the browser.

HOW IT WORKS

In the first step, you added a hidden field with the name-caller and value of "index.html" to the form. As you could see in the image above, this hidden value was sent with the form data.

The code you added to the formprocessr.html page in steps two and three rendered an HTML markup to display a link according to the value of the caller field. That is why clicking it in step five redirected you to the **index.html** page.

Achievement unlocked! 🎉

Congratulations! You've learned how to make use of hidden fields in HTML.

Good job! Give yourself a round of applause!

In the *next lesson*, we'll learn how to use `<optgroup>` in dropdown lists.

See you there.