

# Hands On: Making Use of More Controls

In this lesson, we will study some more form controls.

## WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- Using data lists
- **EXERCISE 4-5:** Using data lists
  - Step 1:
  - Step 2:
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  - Step 6:

There are several controls you can use to provide a rich user experience. In this section, you will learn a few of them.

## Using data lists #

HTML5 defines a new tag, `<datalist>`, that can be used to provide input suggestions to ordinary text boxes. On its own, a data list is invisible, but you can bind it to text controls. The next exercise demonstrates how to do this.

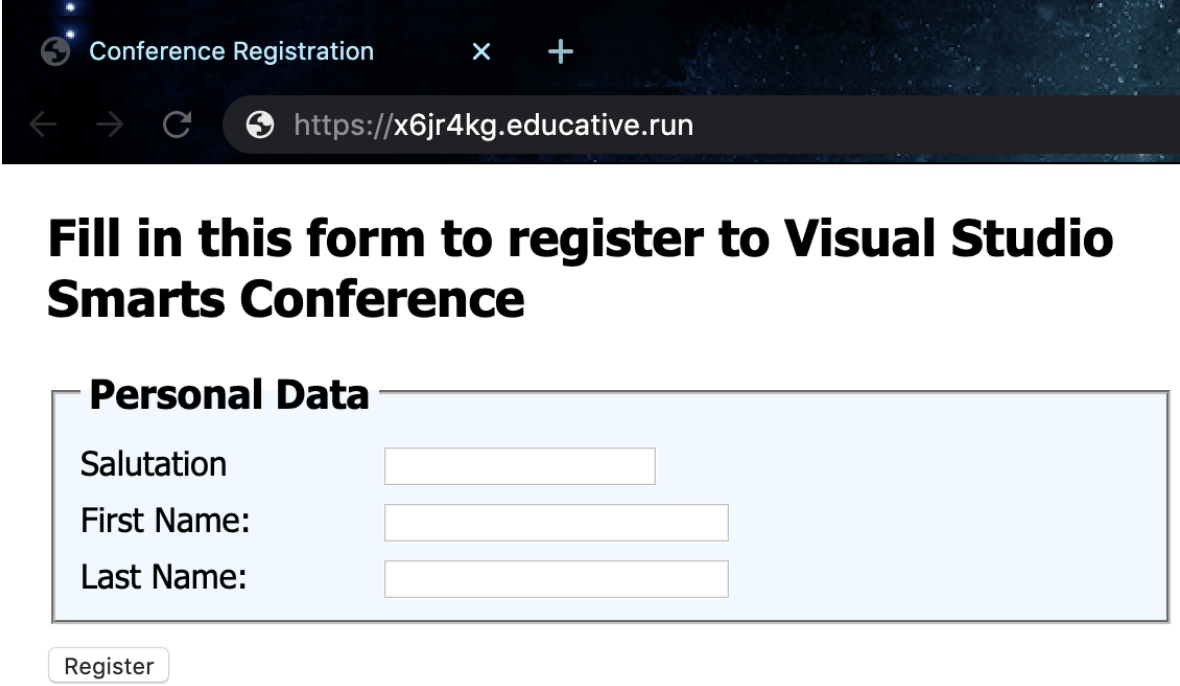
## EXERCISE 4-5: Using data lists #

In this exercise, you will start with a prepared project that can be found in the Exercise-04-05-Begin folder in the live code editor below:

```
/*! 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
```

The project contains a simplified version of the conference registration page.

The project contains a simplified version of the conference registration page, as shown below. This uses a textbox for the Salutation field instead of a dropdown list.



Conference Registration

https://x6jr4kg.educative.run

## Fill in this form to register to Visual Studio Smarts Conference

**Personal Data**

Salutation

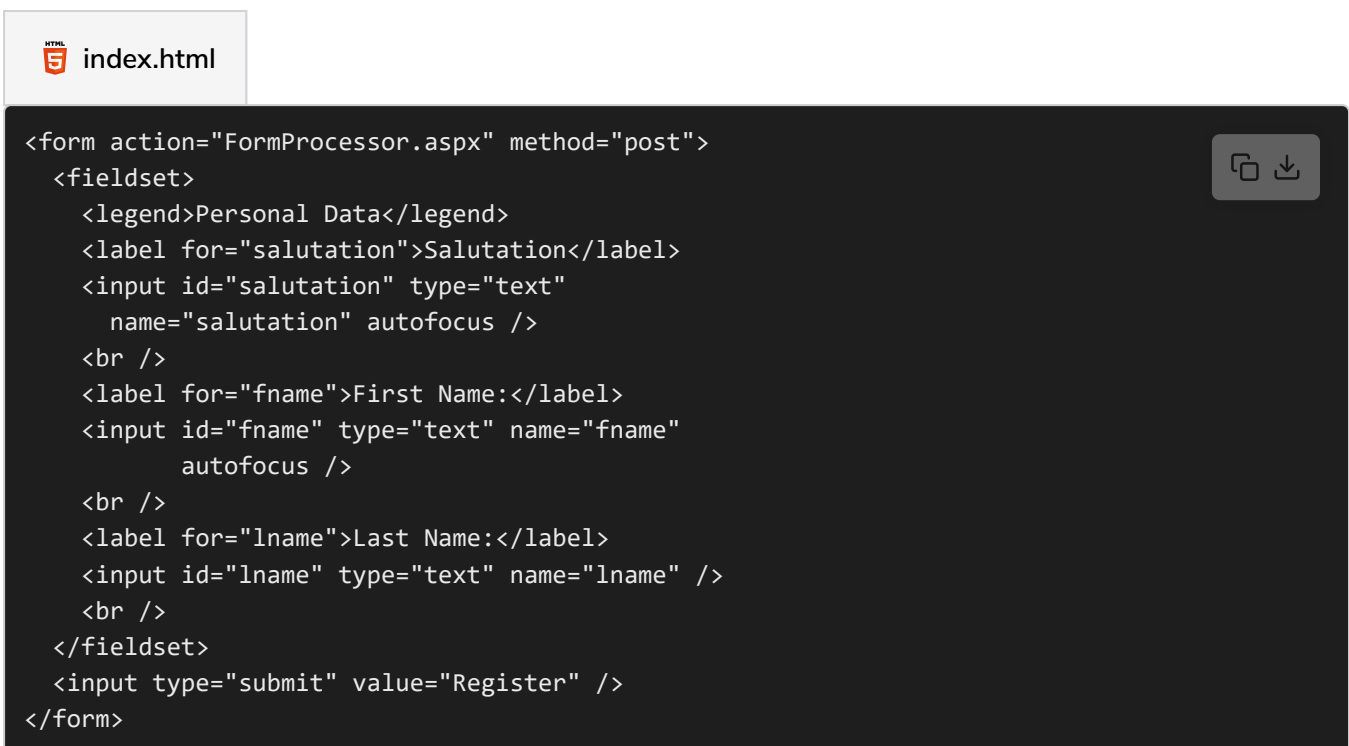
First Name:

Last Name:

Register

Simplified registration form.

This form is represented by the following markup:



```
<form action="FormProcessor.aspx" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Personal Data</legend>
    <label for="salutation">Salutation</label>
    <input id="salutation" type="text"
      name="salutation" autofocus />
    <br />
    <label for="fname">First Name:</label>
    <input id="fname" type="text" name="fname"
      autofocus />
    <br />
    <label for="lname">Last Name:</label>
    <input id="lname" type="text" name="lname" />
    <br />
  </fieldset>
  <input type="submit" value="Register" />
</form>
```

To create a data list, follow these steps:

## Step 1: #

Open **index.html** in the live code editor provided above, and insert the highlighted markup:

HTML index.html

```
<form action="FormProcessor.aspx" method="post">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Personal Data</legend>
    <datalist id="salutationlist">
      <option value="mrval">Mr.</option>
      <option value="mrsval">Mrs.</option>
      <option value="Ms." />
      <option value="Dr." />
    </datalist>
    <label for="salutation">Salutation</label>
    <input id="salutation" type="text"
      name="salutation" autofocus />
    <br />
    <label for="fname">First Name:</label>
    <input id="fname" type="text" name="fname" />
    <br />
    <label for="lname">Last Name:</label>
    <input id="lname" type="text" name="lname" />
    <br />
  </fieldset>
  <input type="submit" value="Register" />
</form>
```

## Step 2: #

You have added a data list, but to bind it to the salutation textbox, you must insert the list attribute, as this markup snippet highlights:

HTML index.html

```
<input id="salutation" type="text"
  list="salutationlist"
  name="salutation" autofocus />
```

## Step 3: #

Run the app. When the form opens, the Salutation field receives the focus. Depending on your browser, the list may be opened automatically (Internet Explorer/Edge) or a dropdown arrow can be displayed (Chrome). Both cases are shown below:

## Fill in this form to register to Visual Studio Smarts Conference

### Personal Data

Salutation

First Name:

Last Name:

Register

The data list in action (Edge)

## Fill in this form to register to Visual Studio Smarts Conference

### Personal Data

Salutation

First Name:

Last Name:

Register

The data list in action (Chrome)

### Step 4: #

As you type, for example type “m”, and then “r”, the content of the list is filtered to “Mr.” and “Mrs.”, as shown below:

## Fill in this form to register to Visual Studio Smarts Conference

### Personal Data

Salutation	<input type="text" value="mr"/>
First Name:	<input type="text" value="Mr."/>
Last Name:	<input type="text" value="Mrs."/>

Register

The filtered data list (Edge)

## Fill in this form to register to Visual Studio Smarts Conference

### Personal Data

Salutation	<input type="text" value="mr"/>
First Name:	<input type="text" value="mrval"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text" value="mrsval"/>

Register

The filtered data list (Chrome)

### Step 5: #

Click the Register button, and the contents of the form are posted to the server. If you select the “Mr.” item, the corresponding value, “mrval” is posted, as shown below:

# Form Data

Property	Value
salutation	mrval
fname	
lname	

The form data posted to the server

## Step 6: #

Click the Back button of the browser, and type “Prof.” into the Salutation field, then click Register. Now, the form is posted with the “Prof.” value in salutation.

In the *next lesson*, we’ll learn the workings of the above exercise.

Stay tuned! :)