Defining a Simple Table in HTML

In this lesson, we will learn about the simple table markup in HTML.

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING

- Simple table markup
- Listing 3-10: Defining a simple `table` markup

The old school sample you saw in Exercise 3-9 used a few attributes (dimensions) to define a very basic style for the table defined in the markup. In contrast to that, **HTML5 explicitly separates the content of a table from its style.**

The tags defining the structure of your table focus on the content and layout, and you must use separate styling rules to establish the visual properties of the tabular data. **HTML5 allows you to use simple cell semantics, or compound table semantics.**

In the simpler case, your table is built from cells organized in rows and columns. It best fits for presenting simple tabular data, such as a contact table where rows describe a single contact with columns for a contact name, mobile phone, and email.

The **compound tables** have the power to describe complex reports with headers, tabular details, footers, and help to define UI that accommodates browsing table data. For example, allowing you to scroll through table details while freezing the header and footer of the table.

Simple table markup

Let's have a quick overview of the simple table markup or cell semantic.

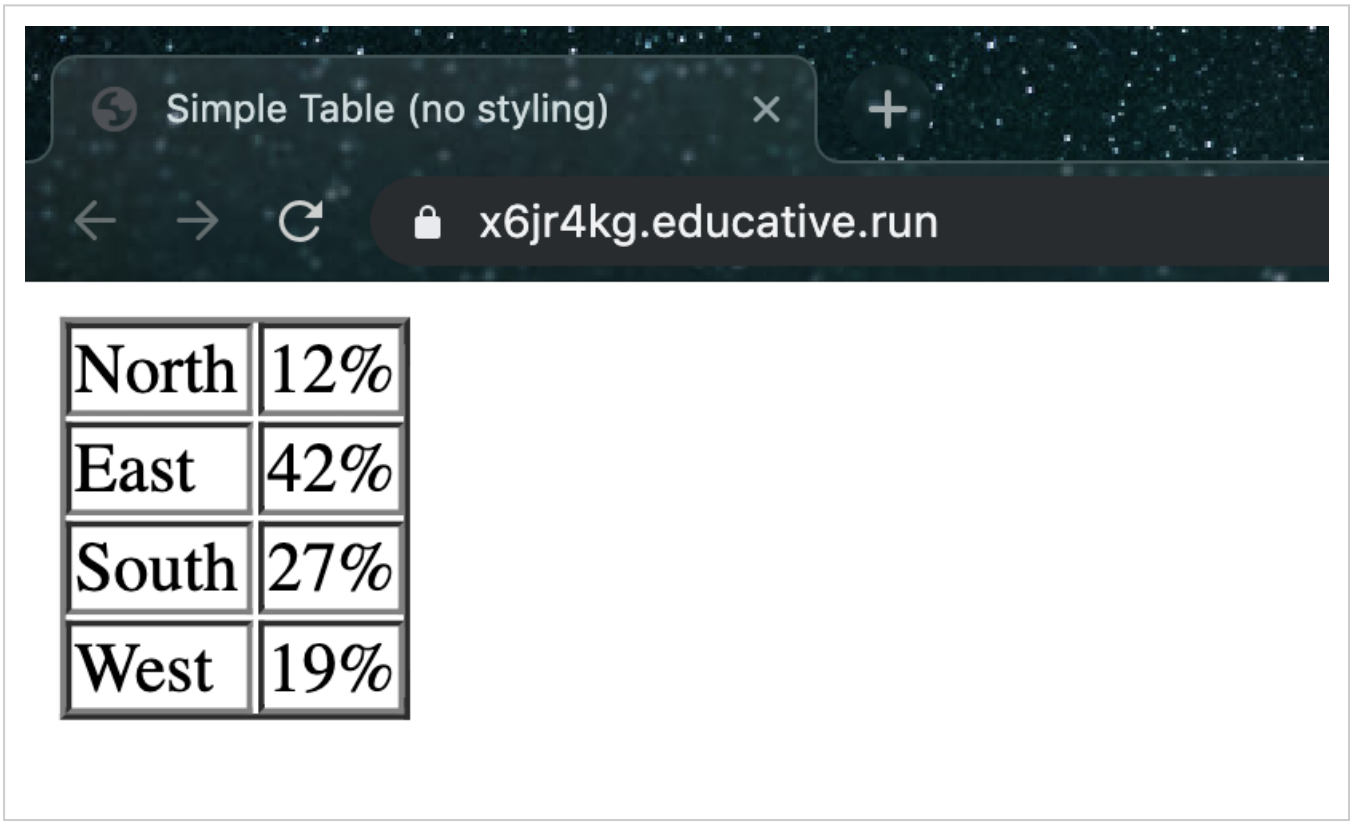
A table definition is managed by the `<table>` tag that encloses other elements defining the table content. The content is built from table rows where zero, one, or more `<tr>` tags are nested in `<table>`, and rows are built from cells (details) that contain zero, one, or more `<td>` tags with cell content. Listing 3-10 demonstrates the markup.

Listing 3-10: Defining a simple `table` markup

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Simple Table (no styling)</title>
</head>
<body>
  <table border="1">
    <tr>
      <td>North</td>
      <td>12%</td>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td>East</td>
      <td>42%</td>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td>South</td>
      <td>27%</td>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td>West</td>
      <td>19%</td>
    </tr>
  </table>
</body>
</html>
```

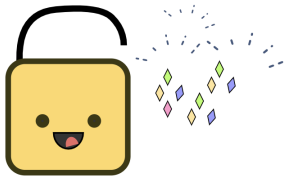
As the markup above shows, this table has four rows with two cells in each. The `<table>` tag has only one attribute in HTML5, border. Its value of “1” specifies that the table should have a drawn border.

This table is displayed in your browser as shown in the image below:



A simple table rendered in Internet Explorer

Achievement unlocked!



Congratulations! You’ve learned how to define table markup!

Amazing work!

Give yourself a round of applause! :)

In the *next lesson*, we’ll meet spanning rows and columns.

See you there!