

How it Works: Making Use of More Controls

In this lesson, we will understand the workings of the previous exercise.

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING



- HOW IT WORKS
- Complete live demo at your service!

HOW IT WORKS

In the first step, you added the `<datalist>` element to the form definition. It uses a number of `<option>` tags to define suggestions that can be offered by textboxes. The value attribute of each option defined the text that was to be posted to the backend. The first and the second `<option>` items define text values that can be used by the browser when rendering the item.

The two images above (for Edge and Chrome, respectively) demonstrated that browsers use different styles to display a data list item.

In **step two**, you assigned the list through its identifier, `suggestionlist`, to the salutation textbox.

index.html


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



In **step four** you experienced how the list of suggestions is filtered as you typed.

Finally, in **step five**, you could see that selecting `"Mr."` set the `textbox` value to `"mrval"`, because the value attribute of the `"Mr."` option was defined as `"mrval"`. Although the Salutation field had an associated data list, it allowed

typing any free text, not only the predefined suggestions. This is how “Prof.” was set in **step six**.

 **NOTE:** You can put the `<datalist>` tag anywhere on the page, technically. Nonetheless, it is a good practice to put it in the form, close to a text box it is attached to.

Complete live demo at your service!

The complete implementation of the exercise from the previous lesson is given below for you to play around and experiment with.

```
/*! 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
```

Achievement unlocked! 

Congratulations! You’ve learned to use data lists in an html web form.



Good job! Give yourself a round of applause!

In the *next lesson*, we’ll learn how to deal with hidden fields in a form.

Stay tuned! :)