

HTML - Attributes

We have seen few HTML tags and their usage like heading tags **<h1>**, **<h2>**, paragraph tag **<p>** and other tags. We used them so far in their simplest form, but most of the HTML tags can also have attributes, which are extra bits of information.

An attribute is used to define the characteristics of an HTML element and is placed inside the element's opening tag. All attributes are made up of two parts – a **name** and a **value**

- The **name** is the property you want to set. For example, the paragraph **<p>** element in the example carries an attribute whose name is **align**, which you can use to indicate the alignment of paragraph on the page.
- The **value** is what you want the value of the property to be set and always put within quotations. The below example shows three possible values of align attribute: **left**, **center** and **right**.

Attribute names and attribute values are case-insensitive. However, the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) recommends lowercase attributes/attribute values in their HTML 4 recommendation.

HTML - السمات

لقد رأينا عددًا قليلاً من علامات HTML واستخدامها مثل علامات العنوان **<h1>** و **<h2>** وعلامة الفقرة **<p>** والعلامات الأخرى. استخدمناها حتى الآن في أبسط أشكالها ، ولكن يمكن أن تحتوي معظم علامات HTML أيضًا على سمات ، وهي أجزاء إضافية من المعلومات.

تُستخدم السمة لتحديد خصائص عنصر HTML ويتم وضعها داخل علامة فتح العنصر. تتكون جميع السمات من جزأين - اسم وقيمة . الاسم هو الخاصية التي تريد تعيينها. على سبيل المثال ، يحمل عنصر الفقرة **<p>** في المثال سمة تمت محاذاة اسمها ، والتي يمكنك استخدامها للإشارة إلى محاذاة الفقرة على الصفحة.

• القيمة هي ما تريد تعيين قيمة الخاصية ووضعها دائمًا ضمن عروض فارزة عليا. يوضح المثال أدناه ثلاث قيم محتملة لسمة المحاذاة: اليسار والوسط واليمين.

أسماء السمات وقيم السمات غير حساسة لحالة الأحرف. ومع ذلك ، يوصي اتحاد شبكة الويب العالمية (W3C) بأحرف صغيرة سمات / قيم سمات في توصيات HTML 4 الخاصة بهم.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Align Attribute Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p align = "left">This is left aligned</p>
    <p align = "center">This is center aligned</p>
    <p align = "right">This is right aligned</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Core Attributes

The four core attributes that can be used on the majority of HTML elements (although not all) are –

- Id
- Title
- Class
- Style

The Id Attribute

The **id** attribute of an HTML tag can be used to uniquely identify any element within an HTML page. There are two primary reasons that you might want to use an id attribute on an element –

- If an element carries an id attribute as a unique identifier, it is possible to identify just that element and its content.
- If you have two elements of the same name within a Web page (or style sheet), you can use the id attribute to distinguish between elements that have the same name.

We will discuss style sheet in separate tutorial. For now, let's use the id attribute to distinguish between two paragraph elements as shown below.

Example

```
<p id = "html">This para explains what is HTML</p>
<p id = "css">This para explains what is Cascading Style Sheet</p>
```

The title Attribute

The **title** attribute gives a suggested title for the element. The syntax for the **title** attribute is similar as explained for **id** attribute –

The behavior of this attribute will depend upon the element that carries it, although it is often displayed as a tooltip when cursor comes over the element or while the element is loading.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>The title Attribute Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <h3 title = "Hello HTML!">Titled Heading Tag Example</h3>
  </body>

</html>
```

Now try to bring your cursor over "Titled Heading Tag Example" and you will see that whatever title you used in your code is coming out as a tooltip of the cursor.

The class Attribute

The **class** attribute is used to associate an element with a style sheet, and specifies the class of element. You will learn more about the use of the class attribute when you will learn Cascading Style Sheet (CSS). So for now you can avoid it.

The value of the attribute may also be a space-separated list of class names. For example –

```
class = "className1 className2 className3"
```

The style Attribute

The style attribute allows you to specify Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) rules within the element.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>The style Attribute</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p style = "font-family:arial; color:#FF0000;">Some text...</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

At this point of time, we are not learning CSS, so just let's proceed without bothering much about CSS. Here, you need to understand what are HTML attributes and how they can be used while formatting content.

Internationalization Attributes

There are three internationalization attributes, which are available for most (although not all) XHTML elements.

- dir
- lang
- xml:lang

The dir Attribute

The **dir** attribute allows you to indicate to the browser about the direction in which the text should flow. The dir attribute can take one of two values, as you can see in the table that follows –

Value	Meaning
ltr	Left to right (the default value)
rtl	Right to left (for languages such as Hebrew or Arabic that are read right to left)

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html dir = "rtl">

  <head>
    <title>Display Directions</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    This is how IE 5 renders right-to-left directed text.
  </body>

</html>
```

When *dir* attribute is used within the `<html>` tag, it determines how text will be presented within the entire document. When used within another tag, it controls the text's direction for just the content of that tag.

The lang Attribute

The **lang** attribute allows you to indicate the main language used in a document, but this attribute was kept in HTML only for backwards compatibility with earlier versions of HTML. This attribute has been replaced by the **xml:lang** attribute in new XHTML documents.

The values of the *lang* attribute are ISO-639 standard two-character language codes. Check [HTML Language Codes: ISO 639](#) for a complete list of language codes.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang = "en">

  <head>
    <title>English Language Page</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    This page is using English Language
  </body>

</html>
```

The xml:lang Attribute

The *xml:lang* attribute is the XHTML replacement for the *lang* attribute. The value of the *xml:lang* attribute should be an ISO-639 country code as mentioned in previous section.

Generic Attributes

Here's a table of some other attributes that are readily usable with many of the HTML tags.

Attribute	Options	Function
Align	right, left, center	Horizontally aligns tags
Valign	top, middle, bottom	Vertically aligns tags within an HTML element.
Bgcolor	numeric, hexadecimal, RGB values	Places a background color behind an element
background	URL	Places a background image behind an element
Id	User Defined	Names an element for use with Cascading Style Sheets.
Class	User Defined	Classifies an element for use with Cascading Style Sheets.
Width	Numeric Value	Specifies the width of tables, images, or table cells.
Height	Numeric Value	Specifies the height of tables, images, or table cells.
Title	User Defined	"Pop-up" title of the elements.

We will see related examples as we will proceed to study other HTML tags. For a complete list of HTML Tags and related attributes please check reference to [HTML Tags List](#).

HTML - Formatting

If you use a word processor, you must be familiar with the ability to make text bold, italicized, or underlined; these are just three of the ten options available to indicate how text can appear in HTML and XHTML.

Bold Text

Anything that appears within **...** element, is displayed in bold as shown below –

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Bold Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses a <b>bold</b> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Italic Text

Anything that appears within `<i>...</i>` element is displayed in italicized as shown below –

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Italic Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses an <i>italicized</i> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Underlined Text

Anything that appears within `<u>...</u>` element, is displayed with underline as shown below –

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Underlined Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses an <u>underlined</u> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Strike Text

Anything that appears within `<strike>...</strike>` element is displayed with strikethrough, which is a thin line through the text as shown below –

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Strike Text Example</title>
  </head>
```

```
<body>
  <p>The following word uses a <strike>strikethrough</strike> typeface.</p>
</body>

</html>
```

Monospaced Font

The content of a `<tt>...</tt>` element is written in monospaced font. Most of the fonts are known as variable-width fonts because different letters are of different widths (for example, the letter 'm' is wider than the letter 'i'). In a monospaced font, however, each letter has the same width.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Monospaced Font Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses a <tt>monospaced</tt> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Superscript Text

The content of a `^{...}` element is written in superscript; the font size used is the same size as the characters surrounding it but is displayed half a character's height above the other characters.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Superscript Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses a <sup>superscript</sup> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Subscript Text

The content of a `_{...}` element is written in subscript; the font size used is the same as the characters surrounding it, but is displayed half a character's height beneath the other characters.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Subscript Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses a <sub>subscript</sub> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Inserted Text

Anything that appears within `<ins>...</ins>` element is displayed as inserted text.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Inserted Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>I want to drink <del>cola</del> <ins>wine</ins></p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Deleted Text

Anything that appears within `...` element, is displayed as deleted text.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Deleted Text Example</title>
  </head>
```



```
<body>
  <p>I want to drink <del>cola</del> <ins>wine</ins></p>
</body>

</html>
```

Larger Text

The content of the **<big>...</big>** element is displayed one font size larger than the rest of the text surrounding it as shown below –

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Larger Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses a <big>big</big> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Smaller Text

The content of the **<small>...</small>** element is displayed one font size smaller than the rest of the text surrounding it as shown below –

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Smaller Text Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>The following word uses a <small>small</small> typeface.</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

Grouping Content

The `<div>` and `` elements allow you to group together several elements to create sections or subsections of a page.

For example, you might want to put all of the footnotes on a page within a `<div>` element to indicate that all of the elements within that `<div>` element relate to the footnotes. You might then attach a style to this `<div>` element so that they appear using a special set of style rules.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Div Tag Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <div id = "menu" align = "middle" >
      <a href = "/index.htm">HOME</a> |
      <a href = "/about/contact_us.htm">CONTACT</a> |
      <a href = "/about/index.htm">ABOUT</a>
    </div>

    <div id = "content" align = "left" >
      <h5>Content Articles</h5>
      <p>Actual content goes here.....</p>
    </div>
  </body>

</html>
```

The `` element, on the other hand, can be used to group inline elements only. So, if you have a part of a sentence or paragraph which you want to group together, you could use the `` element as follows.

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

  <head>
    <title>Span Tag Example</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    <p>This is the example of <span style = "color:green">span tag</span>
      and the <span style = "color:red">div tag</span> alongwith CSS</p>
  </body>

</html>
```

These tags are commonly used with CSS to allow you to attach a style to a section of a page.