HTML: A Crash Course

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- Courses developed and taught by Marty Hall
  - Java 6, Java 7, intermediate/beginning servlets/JSP, advanced servlets/JSP, Struts, JSF, Ajax, GWT, custom mix of topics
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Topics in This Section

• Differences between xhtml and HTML 4
• Differences between HTML 5 and HTML 4
• Basic structure of an xhtml document
• Hypertext links and URLs
• Block-level elements
• Inline elements
• Tables
• Forms
• CSS: thumbnail overview
• References
xhtml: Case

- In HTML 4, case does not matter for tag names, attribute names, and predefined attribute values
  - `<BODY>`, `<Body>`, and `<body>` are equivalent
  - `<H1 ALIGN="...">` is equivalent to `<H1 aLiGn="...">`
  - `<INPUT TYPE="TEXT">` is equivalent to `<INPUT TYPE="text">`

- In xhtml, use lower case for tag names, attribute names, and predefined values
  - `<body>`
  - `<h1 align="...">`
  - `<input type="text" />`

xhtml: Quotes

- In HTML 4, quotes are optional if attribute value contains only alphanumerical values
  - `<H1 ALIGN="LEFT">` or
  - `<H1 ALIGN=LEFT>`

- In xhtml, you must always use single or double quotes
  - `<h1 align="left">` or
  - `<h1 align='left'>`
xhtml: End Tags

- **HTML 4**
  - Some tags are containers
    - `<H1>...</H1>`, `<A HREF...>...</A>`
  - Some tags are standalone
    - `<BR>`, `<HR>`
  - Some tags have optional end tags
    - `<P>`, `<LI>`, `<TR>`, `<TD>`, `<TH>`
- **XHTML**
  - All tags are containers. End tags always required.
    - `<p>...</p>`, `<li>...</li>`
  - If there is no body content, start/end tags can be merged
    - `<br>` → `<br/>`
      - An IE bug prevents this for script tags. Use `<script>...</script>` always.
      - Some people use `<br />` (space before slash) for compatibility with very old browsers. But these old browsers won't support XMLHttpRequest anyhow, so this is less important in Ajax apps.

xhtml: Boolean Attributes

- **In HTML 4**, you can use minimized notation for boolean attributes
  - `<option value="1" selected>...</option>`
  - `<dl compact>`
- **In xhtml**, you must write out the attribute values
  - `<option value="1" selected="selected">...</option>`
  - `<dl compact="compact">`
Ajax and Dynamic xhtml

• Dynamically inserted HTML should follow same rules as regular HTML
  – Case, quotes, end tags, and boolean attributes

• Wrong
  – `document.getElementById(resultRegion).innerHTML = '<H1 ALIGN="CENTER">Some<BR>Text</H1>'`;

• Right
  – `document.getElementById(resultRegion).innerHTML = '<h1 align="center">Some<br/>Text</h1>'`;

General Format of xhtml Documents

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xhtml Template

• Minimal format
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head><title>Some Title</title></head>
<body>

• Common format
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
<meta http-equiv="content-type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8" />
<title>Some Title</title></head>
<body>

Internet Explorer Bug

• The xhtml specification recommends an XML declaration at the top
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">

• IE runs in "quirks" mode if DOCTYPE is not first line of document
– So always omit XML declaration
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
Legal DTDs

- **Transitional (non-stylesheet formatting like `<font>` and `<i>` allowed)**
  - `<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">`

- **Strict (no non-stylesheet formatting)**
  - `<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">`

- **Frame (for top-level page that uses frames)**
  - `<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Frameset//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-frameset.dtd">`
  - Note that the pages that are the frame cells do not use this DTD. Only the top-level page that sets up the overall layout.

---

The head and body elements

- **head**
  - Must contain title
  - May contain the following
    - `meta`, `script`, `style`, `base`

- **body**
  - Contains main part of the page
    - The part that you directly see in browser window
  - Attributes
    - `bgcolor`, `background`, `text`, `link`, `vlink`, `alink`
      - E.g.: `<body bgcolor="blue">`
      - Style sheets often used instead
    - `onload`, `onunload`, `onfocus`, `onblur`
      - For JavaScript event handling
Overview

• **DOCTYPE and minimal document format**
  – Emphasis on simplicity
  – Works in old browsers
    • Uses conventions that browsers have already been using
  – Does not strictly require the rules of XML
    • But XML rules (close tags, lowercase, quotes) normally followed

• **New input elements**
  – `<input type="number"/>`, `<input type="range"/>`, `<input type="date"/>` etc.
    • Reverts to normal textfield in old browsers

• **Canvas and new JavaScript APIs**
  – Gradually being introduced to new browsers
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
<meta charset="utf-8"/>
<link href="css/some-stylesheet.css" rel="stylesheet"/>
<script src="scripts/some-script.js"></script>
</head>
<body>
...
</body>
</html>

Note the simple DOCTYPE, simplified meta tag, and omission of "type" in both the style sheet and script references. All of those work in old, pre-HTML5 browsers.
Hypertext Links

• **Usage**
  – Links can contain images and other inline elements (i.e., `<a href="..."> ... </a>`)  
• **Link to Absolute URL**
  – Use a complete URL beginning with http://
    – Java is discussed in

• **Link to Relative URL**
  – Use a filename or relative path to filename
    – If no slash, interpreted wrt location of current file
    – Java is discussed in
    – `<a href="chapter2.html">Chapter 2</a>.

• **Link to Section**
  – Use a section name (see below) preceded by #
    – Images are discussed in
    – `<a href="#section2">Section 2</a>.

• **Link to Section in URL**
  – Use absolute or relative URL, then #, then section name
    – Images are discussed in
    – `<a href="chapter1.html#section2">Section 2 of Chapter 1</a>.

• **Naming a Section**
  – Use `<a name="...">` and do not include the pound sign
    – `<h2><a name="section2">Images</a></h2>`

Hypertext Links (Continued)
Interpreting Relative URLs

- **URLs starting with http:// (absolute URLs)**
  - Interpreted independently of the URL of current page

- **URLs starting with .**
  - Interpreted with respect to the directory of current file
    - Really with respect to the rightmost / in the URL, since URLs don't necessarily refer to real folders or files

- **URLs starting with ..**
  - Interpreted with respect to the parent directory of current file
    - Again, based on the URL the browser sees, not necessarily the real location of the resource

- **URLs starting with /**
  - Interpreted with respect to the hostname of the URL

- **Notes**
  - In addition to <a href...>, these URLs can apply to img, form, script, style, and many other elements

Interpreting Relative URLs (Examples)

- Assume URL of current page is http://somehost.com/a/b/c/d/e/f.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;a href=&quot;/g.html&quot;&gt;...&lt;/a&gt;</td>
<td><a href="http://somehost.com/a/b/c/d/e/g.html">http://somehost.com/a/b/c/d/e/g.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;a href=&quot;/h.html&quot;&gt;...&lt;/a&gt;</td>
<td><a href="http://somehost.com/a/b/c/d/h.html">http://somehost.com/a/b/c/d/h.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;a href=&quot;/i.html&quot;&gt;...&lt;/a&gt;</td>
<td><a href="http://somehost.com/i.html">http://somehost.com/i.html</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Block-Level Elements
(Paragraph-Like Elements)

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Block-Level Elements

• **Headings**
  - h1 ... h6
  - align attribute

• **Basic Text Sections**
  - p
  - pre

• **Tables**
  - Covered later in this lecture

• **Forms**
  - Covered in later lecture

• **Lists**
  - ol
    - li
  - ul
    - li
  - dl
    - dt
    - dd

• **Misc.**
  - hr
  - div
  - center
Shared Attributes

• id
  – A unique identifier, usually used so that JavaScript can reference the tag later.
    • <div id="placeholder-for-ajax"></div>
    • <input type="text" id="firstNameField" name="..."/>

• class
  – A stylesheet class name
  – <p class="warning">...</p>

• style
  – An inline style
  – <p style="color: red; font-size: 18px;">Warning!</p>

• JavaScript event handlers
  – onclick, onchange, ondblclick, onmousedown, onmouseup, onmouseover, onmousemove, onkeypress, onkeydown, onkeyup
  – Discussed in later section on JavaScript

Headings

• Heading Types
  – <h1 ...> ... </h1>
  – <h2 ...> ... </h2>
  – <h3 ...> ... </h3>
  – <h4 ...> ... </h4>
  – <h5 ...> ... </h5>
  – <h6 ...> ... </h6>

• Attributes: align
  – Values: left (default), right, center

• Nesting tags
  – Headings and other block-level elements can contain inline (text-level) elements, but not vice versa
Headings: Example

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head><title>Headings</title></head>
<body bgcolor="#fdf5e6">
<p>Samples of the six heading types:</p>
<h1>Level-1 (h1)</h1>
<h2 align="center">Level-2 (h2)</h2>
<h3><i>Level-3 (h3) in italics</i></h3>
<h4 align="right">Level-4 (h4)</h4>
<h5>Level-5 (h5)</h5>
<h6>Level-6 (h6)</h6>
</body></html>

Headings: Result

Samples of the six heading types:

Level-1 (h1)

Level-2 (h2)

Level-3 (h3) in italics

Level-4 (h4)

Level-5 (h5)

Level-6 (h6)
p – The Basic Paragraph

- **Attributes: align**
  - left (default), right, center. Same as headings.
  - Whitespace ignored (use `<br/>` for line break)
    - Consecutive `<p>`'s do not yield multiple blank lines
      - But multiple `<br>`'s do
  - xhtml: End tags required

```html
<body>
  <p>Paragraph 1</p>
  <p>Paragraph 2</p>
  <p>Paragraph 3</p>
</body>

**HTML 4:**

```html
<BODY>
  Paragraph 1
  Paragraph 2
  Paragraph 3
</BODY>
```

pre: Preformatted Paragraphs

- **Characteristics**
  - Line wrapping disabled
  - Whitespace no longer ignored
  - Fixed-width font used

- **Problem: Special Characters**

```html
<pre>
  if (a<b) {
    doThis();
  } else {
    doThat();
  }
</pre>
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired Character</th>
<th>Text Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;</code></td>
<td><code>&amp;lt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&gt;</code></td>
<td><code>&amp;gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&amp;</code></td>
<td><code>&amp;amp;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&quot;</code></td>
<td><code>&amp;quot;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-breaking space</td>
<td><code>&amp;nbsp;</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**div**

- **Purpose**
  - A container for enclosing other block-level elements
- **Attributes**
  - align, style, class, id
- **Usage**
  - Apply alignment or styles to multiple elements
  - Make a placeholder where Ajax results will be placed
    - Differs from span in that span can only enclose inline elements, whereas div can enclose both block and inline
- **The center tag**
  - `<div align="center">...</div>` is equivalent to `<center>...</center>
    - div is allowed in both xhtml transitional and strict
    - center is allowed only in xhtml transitional

---

### div and span: Example (Code)

```html
<body bgcolor="#fdf5e6">
<p>Some text before the div</p>
<div style="border: inset; background-color: #cccccc; align="center">
<h2>Using div and span</h2>
<p>A list inside the div:</p>
<ol>
  <li>List Item One</li>
  <li><span style="background-color: yellow;">List Item Two (inside span)</span></li>
  <li>List Item Three</li>
</ol>
</div>
<p>Some text after the div</p>
</body>
```
• **OL Element**
  - `<ol>
    <li>...</li>
    <li>...</li>
    ...
  </ol>
  - Attributes: type, start, compact

• **List items: li**
  - Attributes: (When inside ol) value, type

```html
<p>A sample list:</p>
<ol>
  <li>List Item One</li>
  <li>List Item Two</li>
  <li>List Item Three</li>
</ol>
```

A sample list:
1. List Item One
2. List Item Two
3. List Item Three
<h2>Block-Level Elements in xhtml</h2>

- <ul type=""I"">
  - Headings
  - Basic Text Sections
  - Lists
    - <ol type=""A"">
      - <li>Ordered
        - <ol type=""1"">
          - The ol tag
            - <li type=""a"">
              - start
            - compact
          - The li tag
        - Unordered
          - <ol type=""1"">
            - The ul tag
            - The li tag
          - Definition
            - <ol type=""1"">
              - The dl tag
              - The dt tag
            - Miscellaneous
      - Miscellaneous
    </ol>
  </li>
</ul>

<ol type=""I">
  <li>Headings
  <li>Basic Text Sections
  <li>Lists
    <ol type=""A">
      <li>Ordered
        <ol type=""1">
          <li>The ol tag
            <li type=""a">
              <li>start
            - compact
          - The li tag
        - Unordered
          <ol type=""1">
            - The ul tag
            - The li tag
          - Definition
            <ol type=""1">
              - The dl tag
              - The dt tag
            - Miscellaneous
      - Miscellaneous
    </ol>
  </li>
</ol>

A sample list:

- List Item One
- List Item Two
- List Item Three
Custom Bullets

The ul tag

- type
  - circle
  - square
- compact

The li tag

- type
  - disc
  - circle
  - square
- value

Inline (Text-Level) Elements
(Font-Like Elements)

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Inline Elements

• Physical Character Styles
  – b, i, tt, u, sub, sup, small, big, strike, s, blink
  – font
    • size
    • color
    • face
  – basefont
  – size

• Logical Character Styles
  – em, strong, code, samp, kbd, dfn, var, cite

Inline Elements (Continued)

• Hypertext Links
  – a
    • href, name, target, ...
    • See earlier section on URLs and links

• Images
  – img
    • src (required), alt, align, width, height, hspace, vspace,
      border, usemap, ismap

• Misc. Inline Elements
  – span (arbitrary style wrapped around text)
  – br (explicit line break)
  – area (client-side image map)
  – applet (Java)
  – ...

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Physical Character Styles:

Example

```html
<body bgcolor="#fdf5e6">
<h2>Physical Character Styles</h2>
<b>Bold</b><br/>
<i>Italic</i><br/>
<pre><tt>Teletype (Monospaced)</tt></pre><br/>
<u>Underlined</u><br/>
Subscripts: f<sub>0</sub> + f<sub>1</sub><br/>
Superscripts: x<sup>2</sup> + y<sup>2</sup><br/>
<big>Smaller</big><br/>
<b>Bigger</b><br/>
<strike>Strike Through</strike><br/>
<b>Bold Italic</b><br/>
<pre><tt>Big Monospaced</tt></pre><br/>
<i>Small Italic</i><br/>
<font color="gray">Gray</font><br/>
<del>Delete</del><br/>
<ins>Insert</ins><br/>
</body>
```

Physical Character Styles:

Result

![Physical Character Styles - Microsoft Internet Explorer](image)
Logical Character Styles: Example (Code)

...  
\(<h2>Logical Character Styles</h2>\)  
\(<em>Emphasized</em><br/>  
\(<strong>Strongly Emphasized</strong><br/>  
\(<code>Code</code><br/>  
\(<samp>Sample Output</samp><br/>  
\(<kbd>Keyboard Text</kbd><br/>  
\(<dfn>Definition</dfn><br/>  
\(<var>Variable</var><br/>  
\(<cite>Citation</cite><br/>  
\(<em><code>Emphasized Code</code></em><br/>  
\(<font color="gray"><cite>Gray Citation</cite></font><br/>  
\(<acronym title="Java Development Kit">JDK Acronym</acronym>\)
...

Logical Character Styles: Example (Result)

![Logical Character Styles](image-url)
**img: Embedding Images**

- **Example**
  
  ```html
  <img src="Rover.gif" alt="My Dog"
       width="400" height="300"/>
  ```

- **Attributes:**
  - `src` (required)
  - `alt` (technically required)
  - `align` (see `<br clear="all"/>`)
  - `width`, `height`
  - `hspace`, `vspace`
  - `border`
  - `usemap`, `ismap`

---

**Image Alignment: Example (Code)**

```html
<table border="1">
  <tr><th>Alignment</th><th>Result</th></tr>
  <tr><th><code>left</code></th><td><img src="ajax.jpg" align="left"
        alt="Ajax" width="50" height="87"/>
  This positions the image at the left side, with text flowing around it on the right.</td></tr>
  <tr><th><code>right</code></th><td><img src="ajax.jpg" align="right"
        alt="Ajax" width="50" height="87"/>
  This positions the image at the right side, with text flowing around it on the left.</td></tr>
  <tr><th><code>top</code></th><td><img src="ajax.jpg" align="top"
        alt="Ajax" width="50" height="87"/>
  Here, the image runs into the paragraph and the line containing the image is aligned with the image top.</td></tr>
  ...
</table>
```
Image Alignment: Example (Result)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alignment</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>left</td>
<td>This positions the image at the left side, with text flowing around it on the right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right</td>
<td>This positions the image at the right side, with text flowing around it on the left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>top</td>
<td>Here, the image runs into the paragraph and the line containing the image is aligned with the image top.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bottom</td>
<td>Here, the image runs into the paragraph and the line containing the image is aligned with the image bottom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>middle</td>
<td>Here, the image runs into the paragraph and the line containing the image is aligned with the image center.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Basic Template

```html
<table border="1">
  <caption>Table Caption</caption>
  <tr><th>Heading1</th> <th>Heading2</th></tr>
  <tr><td>Row1 Col1 Data</td><td>Row1 Col2 Data</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Row2 Col1 Data</td><td>Row2 Col2 Data</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Row3 Col1 Data</td><td>Row3 Col2 Data</td></tr>
</table>
```

Many developers omit "caption" and use normal HTML markup to make captions.

Borders are usually on for real tabular data, but tables are used even more widely for multi-column text, usually with borders off.

**table Element Attributes**

- **align**
  - The horizontal alignment of the table as a whole (left, right, center).
    Default is left.
  - Text flows around the table for left and right alignments

- **border**
  - The width in pixels of the border around the table (default: 0)
  - This is in addition to the border around each cell (the cellspacing).

- **bgcolor**
  - The background color of the table (e.g., "yellow" or "#rrggbb").
    Also legal for tr, td, and th.
  - Tables are widely used to make colored sidebars or columns of text, but stylesheets are often a better way to specify the colors.

- **background**
  - The background image for the table. Will be tiled to fit table size.
    Also legal for td and th (but not tr).
• **width, height**
  - This specifies the width or height of the table, either in pixels (<table width="250">) or, for width only, as a percentage of the current browser window width (<table width="75%">)

• **cellspacing**
  - The space in pixels between adjacent cells. Drawn as a 3D line if border is nonzero, otherwise empty space in the background color is used
  - The default is usually about 3

• **cellpadding**
  - The empty space, in pixels, between the cell’s border and the table element
  - The default is usually about 1

• **rules**
  - Specifies which inner dividing lines are drawn
  - All are drawn if this attribute is omitted
  - Legal values are none, rows, cols, and all

• **frame**
  - Specifies which outer borders are drawn
  - All four are drawn if this attribute is omitted
  - Legal values are border or box (all), void (none), above (top), below (bottom), hsides (top and bottom, despite the somewhat confusing name), vsides (left and right), lhs (left), and rhs (right)
tr: Table Row

• **tr** is used to define each row in the table
  – Each row will then contain th and/or td entries

• **align**
  – The default horizontal alignment for table cells. Legal values: left, right, or center

• **valign**
  – The default vertical alignment for table cells. Legal values: top, bottom, or middle

• **bgcolor**
  – The row color. Overrides bgcolor of the table as a whole.
  – Tables with rows that alternate colors are widely used, but again stylesheets are often used instead

---

Table Cells: th and td

• **Where legal**
  – th (table header) and td (table data cell) can be used anywhere in the table (inside tr). In particular, there is no restriction that th is only at the top.

• **Difference between th and td**
  – th uses bold font and center alignment by default. td uses normal font and left alignment by default.
  – Otherwise they are the same.

• **Real headers (and footers)**
  – For real headers, you can enclose one or more of the topmost rows inside thead. This does not change appearance in browsers, but when printed, the header will be repeated if the printout spans multiple pages. Similarly, bottom rows can go inside tfoot.
Table Cells: th and td -- Attributes

• **align**
  – left, right, center, justify and char.
  – E.g., the following aligns entries on a decimal point
    • `<td align="char" char=".">`
• **valign**
  – top, bottom, middle
• **width, height**
  – Values in pixels only (no percentages officially allowed)
• **bgcolor, background**
  – Background color and image (tiled)
• **nowrap**
  – Disables word wrapping. Use with caution

Table Cells: th and td – Attributes (Continued)

• **colspan**
  – Defines a wide cell that straddles more than one column
• **rowspan**
  – Defines a tall cell that straddles more than one row

• **Example**
  ```html
  <table border="1">
    <tr><th colspan="2">Col 1&amp;2 Heading</th><th>Col3 Heading</th></tr>
    <tr><td>Row1 Col1 Data</td><td rowspan="2">Row1&amp;2 Col2 Data</td><td>Row1 Col3 Data</td></tr>
    <tr><td>Row2 Col1 Data</td><td>Row2 Col3 Data</td></tr>
  </table>
  ```
The form Tag

```html
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
    <title>A Sample Form Using GET</title>
</head>
<body bgcolor="#fdf5e6">
    <div align="center">
        <h2>A Sample Form Using GET</h2>
        <form action="http://localhost:8088/SomeProgram">
            First name:
            <input type="text" name="firstName" value="J. Random" />
            <br/>
            Last name:
            <input type="text" name="lastName" value="Hacker" />
            <p/>
            <input type="submit" />
            <!-- Press button to submit form -->
        </form>
    </div>
</body></html>
```
GET Form: Initial Result

A Sample Form Using GET

First name: J. Random
Last name: Hacker

Submit Query

GET Form: Submission Result
(Data Sent to EchoServer)

EchoServer Results

Here is the request line and request headers sent by your browser:

GET /SomeProg/?firstName=J.Random&lastName=Hacker HTTP/1.1
Host: localhost:8080
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.0; en-US; rv:1.9.0.1) Gecko/2008070208 Firefox/3.0.1
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.8
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.7
Keep-Alive: 850
Connection: keep-alive
Referer: http://localhost/xhtml/get-form.html
Sending POST Data

```html
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
<title>A Sample Form Using POST</title>
</head>
<body bgcolor="#fdf5e6">
<div align="center">
<h2>A Sample Form Using POST</h2>
<form action="http://localhost:8088/SomeProgram"
method="post">
  First name:
  <input type="text" name="firstName" value="J. Random"/>
  Last name:
  <input type="text" name="lastName" value="Hacker"/>
  <input type="submit"/>
</form>
</div>
</body></html>
```

The default method is GET. So, if a form says method="get" or it has no method at all, GET is used.

POST Form: Initial Result
POST Form: Submission Result (Data Sent to EchoServer)

Here is the request line and request headers sent by your browser:

POST /SomeProgram HTTP/1.1
Host: localhost:8088
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.0; en-US; rv:1.9.0.1) Gecko/2008070208 Firefox/3.0.1
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,/!*r*=0.8
Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,*;q=0.7
Keep-Alive: 300
Connection: keep-alive
Referer: http://localhost/xhtml/post-form.html
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 35

firstName=J+Random&lastName=Hacker

Done

Text Controls

- **Textfields**
  - `<input type="text" name="…" .../>
    - value can give original value

- **Password Fields**
  - `<input type="password" name="…" .../>
    - Always use POST

- **Text Areas**
  - `<textarea name="..." rows="..." cols="...">
    ...
  </textarea>
    - Interpretation of regular HTML tags turned off between `<textarea...>` and `</textarea>`
Push Buttons

• Submit Buttons
  – `<input type="submit" .../>
  • Use name if you have multiple buttons
  • Use value to change button’s label

• JavaScript Buttons
  – `<input type="button"
    onclick="someJavaScriptFunction()" .../>
  • Widely used with Ajax

• Reset Buttons
  – `<input type="reset" .../>

• Fancy Buttons
  – `<button type="submit" ...>
    html
  </button>

Multiple Submit Buttons

• Button names
  – Submit buttons don’t normally need a name attribute, but
    if you have more than one button and want the server to
    identify which one was pressed, give them names
  • Used more with standard Web apps than with Ajax

Item:
<input type="text" name="Item" value="4 TeraByte iPod"/>
<br/>
<input type="submit" name="Add"
  value="Add Item to Cart"/>
<input type="submit" name="Delete"
  value="Delete Item from Cart"/>
Check Boxes

• Format
  – <input type="checkbox" name="…" />
    • Use checked="checked" to make it initially checked
    • Name/value pair sent only if checkbox is checked when form is submitted

• Example code

  <p>
  <input type="checkbox" name="noEmail" checked="checked"/>
  Check here if you do <i>not</i> want to get our email newsletter
  </p>

• Example result

  ✔ Check here if you do <i>not</i> want to get our email newsletter

Radio Buttons

• Format
  – <input type="radio" name="…" value="…" />
    • All radio buttons in a group should have same NAME
    • Only one button in a group can be pressed; pressing a different one causes previous one to pop out

• Example

  <dl>
    <dt>Credit Card:</dt>
    <dd><input type="radio" name="creditCard" value="visa"/>
    Visa</dd>
    <dd>…
    <dd><input type="radio" name="creditCard" value="java" checked="checked"/>
    Java Smart Card</dd>
    …
  </dl>
**Combo Boxes**

- **Format**
  - `select` gives name
  - `option` gives value

- **Example**
  Favorite language:
  `<select name="language">
    <option value="c">C</option>
    <option value="c++">C++</option>
    <option value="java" selected="selected">Java</option>
    <option value="javascript">JavaScript</option>
    <option value="perl">Perl</option>
    <option value="ruby">Ruby</option>
  </select>`

**List Boxes**

- **Format**
  - Similar to combo boxes, but specify `multiple`
  - Give `size` if you want to see all entries without scrollbars

- **Example**
  Languages you know:<br/>
  `<select name="language" multiple="multiple" size="6">
    <option value="c">C</option>
    <option value="c++">C++</option>
    <option value="java" selected="selected">Java</option>
    <option value="javascript">JavaScript</option>
    <option value="perl">Perl</option>
    <option value="ruby">Ruby</option>
  </select>`
Grouping Form Entries: label, fieldset, and legend

- **label**
  - If you use the label tag for prompts associated with fields, clicking on the label transfers focus to the input field
  - You can either use the "for" attribute or enclose the field within the label
    - `<label for="fname">First name:</label>
      <input type="text" name="userFirstName" id="fname"/>
    - `<label>First name:<input type="text" name="userFirstName" id="fname"/>

- **fieldset and legend**
  - Grouping all or part of a form inside fieldset draws attention to it and separates it from the rest of the page
  - Using style sheets for the legend is particularly useful

Grouping Form Entries: Example

- **HTML**
  ```html
  <fieldset>
    <legend>ajax:updateField</legend>
    <form ...>
      <label for="f">Enter temperature in Fahrenheit:</label>
      <input type="text" id="f"/>
      <input type="button" id="convertButton" value="Convert"/>
      <hr width="500" align="left"/>
      <label for="c">Temperature in Celsius:</label>
      <input type="text" id="c"/>
      <label for="k">Temperature in Kelvin:</label>
      <input type="text" id="k"/>
    </form>
  </fieldset>
  ```

- **CSS**
  ```css
  legend {
    font-weight: bold;
    color: black;
    background-color: white;
    border: 1px solid #cccccc;
    padding: 4px 2px;
  }
  ```
Other Controls and Options

• File upload controls
  – `<input type="file" .../>`
  – Lets user select a file and send it to the server

• Server-side image maps
  – User clicks on an image and form gets submitted.
  – Form data gets sent as `name.x=x-pos&name.y=y-pos`

• Hidden fields
  – Preset `name` and `value` sent with form submission.

• Tab order control
  – `tabindex`
Loading an External Style Sheet (Most Reusable Approach)

- styles/my-styles.css
  ```css
  p { color: blue; }
  .note { font-weight: bold; background-color: red; }
  ```
- my-page.html
  ```html
  <head>
    <link href="styles/my-styles.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" />
    ...
  </head>
  <body>
    <p>Blue text</p>
    <p class="note">Blue bold text with red background</p>
  </body>
  ```

Embedding a style sheet

- Embedding an internal style sheet
  ```html
  <head>
    <style type="text/css">
      p { color: blue; }
      .note { font-weight: bold; background-color: red; }
    </style>
    ...
  </head>
  ```
- Listing CSS styles inline
  ```html
  <h1 style="color: red; background-color: blue">…</h1>
  ```
CSS Selectors

#some-id {
    Styles that apply to <h1 id="some-id">
}

p {
    Styles that apply to <p>
}

.note {
    Styles that apply to <div class="note">
}

p span {
    Styles that apply to <p>…<span>…</span>…</p>
}

h1, h2, td li {
    Styles that apply to <h1> and also to <h2> and also to <td>…<li>…</li>…</td>
}

A complete list of the CSS 1 and CSS 2 selectors can be found at http://www.w3.org/TR/CSS2/selector.html
References

• Books
  – *HTML, XHTML, and CSS, Sixth Edition*
    by Elizabeth Castro
  – *Head First HTML with CSS & XHTML*
    by Eric Freeman and Elisabeth Freeman

• Online References
  – xhtml specification: http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/
  – xhtml cheat sheet (pocket reference):
    http://floele.flyspray.org/htmlcheatsheet.pdf
  – xhtml tutorials: http://www.w3schools.com/xhtml/
  – Search on Google for "HTML tutorial[s]" and adapt syntax for xhtml (use validator to be sure)

Summary

• Template

```html
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
 "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head><title>Some Title</title></head>
<body>
...
</body></html>
```

• Differences from HTML 4
  – Use lowercase for tag names, attribute names, predefined attribute values (<h1 align="center">)
  – Always include end tags (<p></p> or <p/>)
  – Always use quotes around attribute values (<table border="1">)
  – Follow these rules for HTML inserted by Ajax
Questions?

Customized Java EE Training: http://courses.corejavas.com/
Servlets, JSP, JSF 2, PrimeFaces, Java 6 or 7, Ajax, jQuery, GWT, Spring, Hibernate, REST, Android.
Developed and taught by well-known author and developer. At public venues or onsite at your location.