HTML <optgroup> Tag

#optgroup# groups options in a select list. #optgroup# description, syntax, usage, attributes and examples. HTML-5.com is a great guide for web developers. TV Series & Actors and Actresses. Follow TV Series and HTML 5 on Google+.

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The HTML <optgroup> Tag for Option Groups

Use <optgroup> to group <option> tags in HTML 5

The <optgroup> tag is used to create a group of options in a drop-down box in a <select> list. In most browsers, the option group is displayed as a hierarchy, with the form options under the optgroup label. The option group label will *not* be able to be selected, but the options under it will be.

The **optgroup** element is often used in HTML forms. It can also be used in a data list to create a list of suggestions for autocompletion in a combobox.

<form> <label>Language:</label> <select name="language"> <option>Select a language ...</option> <optgroup label="Programming Languages"> <option>C++ / C#</option> <option>Java</option> <option>Objective-C</option> </optgroup> <optgroup label="Client-side scripting Languages"> <option>JavaScript</option> </optgroup> <optgroup label="Server-side scripting Languages"> <option>Perl</option> <option>PHP</option> <option>Ruby on Rails</option> </optgroup> <optgroup label="Mobile Platforms"> <option>Android</option> <option>iOS (iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch)</option> </optgroup> <optgroup label="Document Markup Languages"> <option>HTML</option> <option>SGML</option> </optgroup> </select> </form>

This is an actual working example of the <optgroup> tag example code below.

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<optgroup> Tag Syntax

Rules for coding HTML `optgroup` elements

```
<a mode="pre" href="../body-tag/index.html#syntax"><body></a>
    <a mode="pre" href="../html-tag-list.html#flow-content-model">... flow content expected ...
    <<a mode="pre" href="../form-tag/index.html#syntax">form</a>   method="POST" action="<i mode
        <a mode="pre" href="../../definitions/index.html#flow-content">... flow content ...</a>
        <a mode="pre" href="../select-tag/index.html#syntax"><select></a>
            ...
            <b mode="pre"><optgroup label="..."></b>
                <a mode="pre" href="../option-tag/index.html#syntax"><option>...</option></a>
                ...
            <b mode="pre"></optgroup></b>
            ...
        </select>
        <a mode="pre" href="../../definitions/index.html#flow-content">... flow content ...</a>
    </form>
        ...
```

```
    </body>
```

Rules for coding the HTML optgroup element

Make sure you understand the difference between a tag and element and are familiar with the definitions of namespace and other HTML terms.

1. Inside a **select** element, include an **optgroup** element for each group of options in the select list.
2. Begin the **optgroup** element with a starting <optgroup> tag. The element name uses lower case letters and should be in the HTML namespace, which it will pick up automatically from the `xmlns` attribute on the <html> tag.
3. Inside the <optgroup> starting tag, include a label attribute with the label for the option group.
4. Inside the **optgroup** element, between the starting `<optgroup>` tag and the ending `</optgroup>` tag, code the options of the select list.
5. End the **optgroup** element with a matching `</optgroup>` closing tag.

optgroup Content Model

The content of the **optgroup** element consists of a list of options, each created with an <option> tag.

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<optgroup> Tag Attributes

Attributes of the <optgroup> tag

global attributes	In addition to the personal attributes of the <optgroup> tag below, any of the common HTML attributes can also be coded.
`disabled="disabled"`	Sets the value of the <optgroup disabled> boolean attribute to `true`. Omitting it sets to `false`.
`label`	

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<optgroup> Tag Examples

Examples of the `optgroup` tag in HTML 5

Example of <optgroup>s

```
<form method="POST" action="development-language.cgi">
   <label>Language:</label>
   <select name="language">
      <option>Select a language ...</option>
      <optgroup label="Programming Languages">
         <option>C++ / C#</option>
         <option>Java</option>
         <option>Objective-C</option>
      </optgroup>
      <optgroup label="Client-side scripting Languages">
         <option>JavaScript</option>
      </optgroup>
```

```
        <optgroup label="Server-side scripting Languages">
            <option>Perl</option>
            <option>PHP</option>
            <option>Ruby on Rails</option>
        </optgroup>
        <optgroup label="Mobile Platforms">
            <option>Android</option>
            <option>iOS (iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch)</option>
        </optgroup>
        <optgroup label="Document Markup Languages">
            <option>HTML</option>
            <option>SGML</option>
        </optgroup>
    </select>
 </form>
```

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Changes in HTML 5 - <optgroup> Tag

What's new in HTML 5

Differences between HTML 5 and earlier versions of HTML

The [2000-2010 Recommendations from the W3C HTML Working Group](#) defined the [HTML namespace](#) for the **optgroup** element type name along with the names of all [HTML element types](#). In older (pre-2000) [versions of HTML](#), element type names were not associated with a namespace.

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THE END