

## HTML <q> Tag for Short Quotes

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### The <q> Tag in HTML 5

#### Use the <q> tag for inline quoted text

The <q> tag should be used for text within a paragraph that is a quotation from another source or to set off a literal phrase from the normal flow of a paragraph. The content inside the **q** element, which is one of the [phrase elements in HTML](#), will normally be displayed within a pair of double quotation marks.

This paragraph follows the <q cite="unknown">practice what you preach</q> principle. The double quotation marks around the quotation in the previous sentence are created by the browser interpreting the <q> tag rather than by actual double quotation marks in the HTML code.

See the [<q> tag example code](#) below.

The value of the [cite attribute](#) is a URL or other URI reference and is *not* displayed in most browsers. The [<cite> tag](#) can be used to cite the title of the source of the quotation.

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### <q> Quote Tag Syntax

#### Rules for coding HTML **q** elements

```
<a mode="pre" href="../body-tag/index.html#syntax"><body></a>
...
  <a mode="pre" href="../html-tag-list.html#phrasing-content-model">... phrasing content
  <b mode="pre"><q cite="<var>URL-of-source</var>"></b><a mode="pre" href="../definitions/
  ...
</body>
```

#### Rules for coding HTML **q** elements

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

1. Code the **q** element for an inline quotation where [phrasing content](#) is expected.
2. Begin the **q** element with a starting <q> 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. If the source of the quotation is available online, include the optional [cite attribute](#) with the [URL](#) of the source of the quotation.

4. Include any [HTML global attributes on the <q> tag](#) as appropriate.
5. Inside the **q** element, between the starting `<q>` tag and the ending `</q>` tag, code the inner HTML [phrasing content](#) with the text of the quotation. *Do not* include any quotation marks, either inside the **q** element or outside it.
6. End the **q** [element](#) with a matching `</q>` closing tag.

### Content Model

The content of the **q** element can include [HTML comments](#), [text content](#) and only those [HTML tags that can be used in phrasing content](#).

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## <q> Tag Attributes

### Attributes of the <q> tag

<a href="#">global attributes</a>	In addition to the personal attributes of the <code>&lt;q&gt;</code> tag below, any of the <a href="#">common HTML attributes</a> can also be coded.
<code>cite</code>	<p>a <a href="#">URI reference</a> (or IRI reference depending on the <a href="#">encoding</a>) that resolves to a <a href="#">URI</a> for the resource containing the source of the quotation</p> <p>Use <a href="#">percent escape codes</a> as explained in the <a href="#">URL Encoding Tutorial</a> for any special characters in the <a href="#">URI reference</a>.</p> <p>If the value of the <code>cite</code> attribute is an <a href="#">HTTP URI</a>, it may contain any of the following components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. protocol scheme, typically <code>http:</code> or else <code>https:</code></li> <li>2. username, followed by an "@"</li> <li>3. host name or <a href="#">IP</a> address</li> <li>4. port number, which defaults to 80 for the <code>http</code> scheme and 443 for the <code>https</code> scheme</li> <li>5. absolute or relative path</li> <li>6. search query, indicated by "?"</li> <li>7. fragment identifier, indicated by "#"</li> </ol> <p>If the protocol scheme, username, host name/IP address and port number are omitted the default is the current host - the same server as the base of the current document. If the path starts with a slash <code>/...</code>, it is an absolute path from the document root directory (<a href="#">AKA</a> "<code>&lt;dfn&gt;web root&lt;/dfn&gt;</code>") on the server. A relative path will be resolved relative to the base of the</p>

current document. A URI with a "#" but no fragment identifier points to the top of the document.

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## <q> Quote Tag Examples

### Examples of the `q` tag in HTML 5

#### Examples of the <q> tag

```
<p>This paragraph follows the <q>practice what you preach</q> principle. The  
→ double quotation  
marks around the quotation in the previous sentence are created by the  
→ browser interpreting  
the &lt;q&gt; tag rather than by actual double quotation marks in the HTML  
→ code.</p>
```

The `&lt;` and `&gt;` [character entities](#) on the last line escapes that instance of the `<q>` tag so that it appears literally in that sentence rather than as the HTML code for a start tag with no matching end tag.

The [cite attribute](#) provides a link to the source of the quotation. The HTML 5 specification says that `<q>User agents should allow users to follow such citation links</q>` using the URL in the [cite attribute](#). At this point, however, none of the browsers actually do..

```
<p>Per <a href="http://www.HTML-5.com/css/css-styles/#html-color-picker">  
  <cite>HTML Color Picker</cite></a>,  
  <q cite="http://www.HTML-5.com/css/css-styles/#html-color-picker">In a browser  
  that does not yet support the HTML <input type="range"/> for a slider bar  
→ control,  
  [HTML slider bar] controls will appear as text input fields.</q></p>
```

Note that the content of the [cite element](#) is the title of the source of the quotation, while the value of the `<q cite>` attribute is a URL or other URI reference. In this case, an `<a href>` tag is used to create a link to the source of the quotation. The same URL is used in the `<a href>` attribute, the target of the link which will be visible, and the `<q cite>` attribute, which will not be displayed.

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## Changes in HTML 5 - <q> 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 `q` 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**