

HTML <time> Tag - Dates and Times

#time# to display a date or time. #time# 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 <time> Tag in HTML 5

The <time> tag is used to display a time, Gregorian date, or date and time. The **time** element is one of the [phrase elements in HTML](#).

Date:

```
<time xsi:type="xsd:date" datetime="2011-03-08" title="Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday), 2011" style="cursor: help">March 8, 2011</time> is the latest in the year Mardi Gras falls until <time xsi:type="xsd:date" datetime="2011-03-09" title="Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday), 2038" style="cursor: help">March, 2038</time>
```

Date and time:

```
<time xsi:type="xsd:dateTime" datetime="2010-12-31T23:59:59-04:00" title="One second before midnight, New Years Eve, 2010" style="cursor: help">12/31/2010 11:59:59 PM EST</time>
```

Time only:

```
<time xsi:type="xsd:time" datetime="12:00:00-05:00" title="Noon Eastern time" style="cursor: help">12:00 PM ET</time>
```

These are actual working examples of the [<time> tag example code](#) below. Hold the cursor over one of the dates or times to see it in action.

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<time> Tag Syntax

```
<a mode="pre" href="../body-tag/index.html#syntax"><body></a>
...
<a mode="pre" href="../html-tag-list.html#phrasing-content-model">... phrasing content
<a mode="pre" href="../../definitions/index.html#phrasing-content">... phrasing content
...
</body>
```

Rules for coding the HTML **time** 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. Code the **time** element where [phrasing content](#) is expected.

2. Begin the **time** element with a starting `<time>` 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. Include a `datetime` attribute with the date and/or time in `yyyy-mm-ddThr:mi:ss.fracTZ`, `yyyy-mm-dd` or `hr:mi:ss.fracTZ` format.
4. If the **time** element is the publication date of the document or of an [article element](#) that contains it, include a `pubdate="pubdate"` attribute to indicate that.
5. Include any other [attributes of the <time> tag](#) as appropriate.
6. Inside the **time** element, between the starting `<time>` tag and the ending `</time>` tag, code the inner HTML [phrasing content](#) with the text version of the time.
7. End the **time element** with a matching `</time>` closing tag.

Content Model

The content of the **time** element can include [HTML comments](#), [text content](#) and only those [HTML tags that can be used in phrasing content](#). It should be the default display format of the date and/or time in the [datetime attribute](#).

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<time> Tag Attributes

Attributes of the <time> tag

global attributes	In addition to the local attributes of the <code><time></code> tag below, any of the common HTML attributes can also be coded.
<code>datetime</code>	machine-readable date and/or time formatted as <code>datetime="yyyy-mm-ddThr:mi:ss.fracTZ"</code> for date and time, <code>datetime="yyyy-mm-dd"</code> for date only or <code>datetime="hr:mi:ss.fracTZ"</code> for time only The time zone (TZ) can be specified as an offset such as <code>-05:00</code> for U.S. Eastern Standard Time. For UTC, either <code>+00:00</code> or simply <code>Z</code> ("Zulu" time) can be used. Do not use <code>-00:00</code> , which in RFC 3339 indicates that the local offset is unknown.
<code>pubdate="pubdate"</code>	

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<time> Tag Examples

Examples of the `time` tag in HTML 5

Date Only

```
<time xsi:type="xsd:date" datetime="2011-03-08"
title="Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday), 2011">March 8, 2011</time>
is the latest in the year Mardi Gras falls until
<time xsi:type="xsd:date"
```

```
datetime="2011-03-09"  
title="Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday), 2038"  
style="cursor: help">March, 2038</time>
```

Date and Time

```
<time xsi:type="xsd:dateTime"  
datetime="2010-12-31T23:59:59-04:00"  
title="One second before midnight, New Years Eve, 2010"  
style="cursor: help">12/31/2010 11:59:59 PM EST</time>
```

Time Only

```
<time xsi:type="xsd:time"  
datetime="12:00:00-05:00"  
title="Noon Eastern time"  
style="cursor: help">12:00 PM ET</time>
```

When the cursor hovers over the text for the time element, the [cursor: help style](#) changes the cursor to a question mark to indicate that more information is available. After a brief pause, the text in the [title attribute](#) is displayed in a pop-up tool tip. See the [<time> tag demos](#) above.

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Changes in HTML 5 - <time> Tag

What's new in HTML 5

The <time> tag is one of the new elements in HTML 5.

Differences between HTML 5 and earlier versions of HTML

The <time> tag did not exist in older versions of HTML.

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

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