# HTML id Attribute

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## The `id` attribute in HTML

The `id` attribute is a unique identifier for an element in an HTML document.

### Rules for coding an `id` attribute

• The `id` attribute is one of the global attributes that may be included on any HTML element.

• The value of the `id` attribute cannot be an empty string and is not permitted to have any spaces within it.

• The same `id` attribute value *cannot* be used for any other `id` in the same HTML document. It *must* be unique.

• For backward compatibility, most browsers will treat the deprecated `<a name>` attribute on elements where it is not supposed to be coded as if it were an `id` attribute. Since the value of the `id` attribute must be unique, the same value should never be used for any other `id` or `name` attribute within the same document.

### Rules for referencing a fragment identifier

When an `id` value is referenced in a URL attribute such as <a href>, it must be URL encoded along with the rest of the URL. Use percent escape codes as explained in the URL-encoding tutorial for any special characters in the URL, including the fragment identifier. For example, when the fragment identifier contains a hash character (`#`), which is common for podcast episodes in feeds or HTML transformed from a feed by a style sheet it must be encoded as `%23`.

Here is an example HTML link that references a fragment identifier with a `#` character percent-encoded character as `%23` in the link.

```
<a href="<a mode="pre" href="http://www.HTML-5.com/attributes/id-attribute.html#%2355">http://
```

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## *THE END*