

HTML title Attribute

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[HTML title Attribute](#)

The title attribute in HTML

The title attribute provides a description or other information for an HTML element, such as:

- a description of the target resource for a [hypertext link](#)
- the term being defined in a [dfn element](#)
- a description of an image referenced in an [tag](#)
- a comment about a [quotation](#) or [citation](#)
- the name of an [alternative style sheet](#)
- a description of the time represented by a [time element](#)

Many web browsers take the text in the title attribute and display it in a pop-up tool tip when the mouse is held over content with a title.

For most HTML elements, the value of the title [property](#) is inherited from the parent element or the closest ancestor with a title unless the title attribute is coded on the element. A value of an empty string (`title=" "`) indicates there is no title for the element. Line breaks in the `title` attribute are preserved. Therefore, the title should not be split across multiple lines.

Examples

```
<a href="http://www.ExampleOnly.com/todos/take-out-trash.html" title="Take
→ out the trash">
  
</a>
```

When the [a element](#) and [img element](#) represent the same resource or event, the title attribute should be put on the outermost element, which in this case is the [hypertext link](#) created by the [<a> tag](#). Since there is no title attribute on the [tag](#), the value of the title property of the [img element](#) will be inherited from the title property of the [a element](#).

```
<a href="http://www.ExampleOnly.com/todos/take-out-trash.html" title="Take
→ out the trash">
   Take out
→ the trash</a>
```

In this case, the [a element](#) represents a different resource (a task in a "To Do" list) than the [image element](#) (the status of the task). Therefore the title property of the [img element](#) should *not* be inherited from the [<a> tag](#), which requires coding the title attribute on the

[tag](#). The value of the title property is an empty string since the [](#) attribute provides the description of the image.

Other examples of the title attribute

- [<a title>](#)
- [<abbr title>](#)
- [<area title>](#)
- [<command title>](#)
- [<dfn title>](#)
- [<link title>](#)
- [<script title>](#)
- [<style title>](#)
- [<time title>](#)

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THE END