

## HTML <input> Tag - Form Input Fields

#input# for form input fields. #input# 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 <input> Tag in HTML 5

```
<label>Current language:</label> <select form="#ex1form"> <option value="en"
selected="selected">English</option> </select>
```

The <input> tag is used to create an interactive control in an [HTML form](#). For example, <input type="text"> creates a single-line text input field. For multiple lines of text input, use the [<textarea> tag](#) instead.

```
<form id="ex1form"> <fieldset> <legend>Login credentials</legend> <label
for="ex1user">Username:</label> <input id="ex1user" name="username"
required="required" autofocus="autofocus" size="30" maxlength="15" placeholder="Your
username"></input>
<label for="ex1pass">Password: </label> <input id="ex1pass" name="password"
required="required" type="password" size="30" maxlength="15" placeholder="Your
password"></input> </fieldset> <fieldset> <legend>Contact information</legend>
<label for="ex1addr">Email address:</label> <input id="ex1addr" name="emailaddr"
required="required" type="email" size="60" maxlength="80" placeholder="Your e-mail
address"></input>
<label for="ex1site">Web address: </label> <input id="ex1site" name="siteurl"
required="required" type="url" size="60" maxlength="80" placeholder="Your
web site URL"></input> </fieldset> <label for="ex1date">Date:</label> <input
id="ex1date" name="date" type="date"></input> <label for="ex1age1">Age:</
label> <input id="ex1age1" type="range" min="18" max="99" value="25"
onchange="document.getElementById('ex1age2').value = this.value"></input> <input
id="ex1age2" size="3" value="25" onchange="if (this.value < 18) this.value = 18; if
(this.value > 99) this.value = 99; document.getElementById('ex1age1').value = this.value"></
input> </form>
```

This is an actual working demo of the [<input> example code](#) below.

Since `autofocus` automatically positions the cursor to the input field, the `placeholder` text for the Username field will not appear unless you tab to the masked password field or click elsewhere. If your browser does not support the HTML 5 `placeholder` attribute, none of the placeholders will appear.

Note: The first browser where placeholder text in form input fields actually works is Chrome. It may not work yet in other browsers.

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## <input/> Tag Syntax

```

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

```

### Rules for coding HTML input 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 **input** element where [phrasing content](#) is expected, usually inside a [form element](#).
2. The **input** element consists of a standalone <input/> 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 input is for a form that can be submitted but is *outside* that [form element](#), include a [form attribute](#) referencing the form the input is to be associated with.
4. Include any other [attributes on the <input> tag](#) as appropriate.
5. Since the **input** element is a [void element](#), it should always be coded as a self-closing tag terminated with the delimiter string `</>`.

### <input/> Content Model

#### Contents of the input element

Content: *Empty*. All properties are coded using [attributes](#).

Since the `<input/>` tag is a [void element](#), it is not allowed to have any content, even [HTML comments](#) and therefore should always be coded as a self-closing [standalone tag](#), ending with the delimiters `</>` rather than just `>` (`<input .../>`).

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### <input> Tag Attributes

#### Attributes of the <input> tag

<a href="#">global attributes</a>	In addition to the personal attributes of the <input> tag below, any of the <a href="#">common HTML attributes</a> can also be coded.
<a href="#">accept</a>	
<a href="#">alt</a>	
<a href="#">autocomplete</a>	

<code>autofocus="autofocus"</code>	Sets the value of the <input autofocus> <a href="#">boolean attribute</a> to <code>true</code> . Omitting it sets to <code>false</code> .
<code>checked="checked"</code>	Sets the value of the <input checked> <a href="#">boolean attribute</a> to <code>true</code> . Omitting it sets to <code>false</code> .
<code>disabled="disabled"</code>	Sets the value of the <input disabled> <a href="#">boolean attribute</a> to <code>true</code> . Omitting it sets to <code>false</code> .
<code>form</code>	
<code>formaction</code>	<p>a <a href="#">URI reference</a> (or IRI reference depending on the <a href="#">encoding</a>) for the destination that is to process the submitted data</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>formaction</code> attribute resolves to 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 "#" if the response from the form submission has placemarks</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 current document. A URI with a "#" but no fragment identifier points to the top of the response document.</p>

formenctype="application/x-www-form-urlencoded"	
formenctype="multipart/form-data"	
formenctype="text/plain"	
formmethod="GET"	
formmethod="POST"	
formmethod="PUT"	
formmethod="DELETE"	
formnovalidate	
formtarget	
height	
list	An <input> tag with a <code>list</code> attribute that references the <code>id</code> attribute of a <a href="#">&lt;datalist&gt; tag</a> is used for creating an HTML combo box.
max	
maxlength	
min	
multiple="multiple"	Sets the value of the <input multiple> <a href="#">boolean attribute</a> to <code>true</code> . Omitting it sets to <code>false</code> .
name	The name that will be sent with a GET or POST request, which allows the server to access the value of the input field. For a group of radio buttons, all <b>input</b> elements in the same radio button group should have the same value for their name attribute. For other <input type>s, the value of the name attribute should be unique.
pattern	
placeholder	
readonly="readonly"	Sets the value of the <input readonly> <a href="#">boolean attribute</a> to <code>true</code> . Omitting it sets to <code>false</code> .
required="required"	Sets the value of the <input required> <a href="#">boolean attribute</a> to <code>true</code> . Omitting it sets to <code>false</code> .
size	
src	a <a href="#">URI reference</a> that resolves to the <a href="#">URL</a> of a two-dimensional image resource

	<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>src</code> attribute resolves to an <a href="#">HTTP URL</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> </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> "&lt;dfn&gt;web root&lt;/dfn&gt;") on the server. A relative path will be resolved relative to the base of the current document.</p>
step	
<p><a href="#">type="button"</a>  <a href="#">type="checkbox"</a>  <a href="#">type="color"</a>  <a href="#">type="date"</a>  <a href="#">type="datetime"</a>  <a href="#">type="datetime-local"</a>  <a href="#">type="email"</a>  <a href="#">type="file"</a>  <a href="#">type="hidden"</a>  <a href="#">type="image"</a>  <a href="#">type="month"</a>  <a href="#">type="number"</a>  <a href="#">type="password"</a>  <a href="#">type="radio"</a>  <a href="#">type="range"</a>  <a href="#">type="reset"</a>  <a href="#">type="search"</a>  <a href="#">type="submit"</a>  <a href="#">type="tel"</a>  <a href="#">type="text"</a></p>	<p>The <code>type</code> attribute is an <a href="#">enumerated attribute</a>.</p> <p><b>button</b>  indicates that a button should be displayed</p> <p><b>checkbox</b>  indicates that a two-state check box should be displayed</p> <p><b>color</b>  indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a color, possibly using a color picker</p> <p><b>date</b>  indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a</p>

`type="time"`

`type="url"`

`type="week"`

month, day and year, possibly using a date picker

#### **datetime**

indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a month, day, year and time, possibly using a date picker

#### **datetime-local**

indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a month, day, year, time and time zone, possibly using a date picker

#### **email**

indicates that the value entered in the input field should be validated as an e-mail address

#### **file**

indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a file name, possibly using a "Browse" button that pops up a "File Open" dialog

#### **hidden**

indicates that the input field should not be displayed, but its value is to be transmitted along with other input data when the form is submitted

#### **image**

indicates that an image button should be displayed

#### **month**

indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a month and year, possibly using a date picker

#### **number**

indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a number, possibly using a spinner or slider control; if the `min` attribute and `step` attribute are both integers, then

the value should be restricted to an integer value

**password**

indicates that the value entered into the input field should be masked to protect it from being seen by others

**radio**

indicates that a radio button should be displayed; if more than one radio button in the form has the same value for the `name` attribute, only one button with the same name can be selected at any one time

**range**

indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a value within a specific range, possibly using a spinner or slider control  
For a good example of `<input type="range">`, see the [HTML Color Picker](#).

**reset**

indicates that a reset button should be displayed, which resets the input fields in the form to their default values

**search**

indicates that a search field should be displayed

**submit**

indicates that a submit button should be displayed, which typically submits the form

**tel**

indicates that the value entered in the input field should be validated as a telephone number

**text**

used for a free-form text input field, without any validation

	<p><b>time</b></p> <p>indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a time, possibly using a spinner control</p> <p><b>url</b></p> <p>indicates that the value entered in the input field should be validated as a URL</p> <p><b>week</b></p> <p>indicates that the input field should allow the user to enter or choose a year and week, possibly using a date picker</p>
value	
width	

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## <input> Tag Examples

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

#### Input field with placeholder text and autofocus on input field in HTML form

```

<p style="text-align: right">
  <label for="exllang">Current language:</label>
  <select id="exllang" form="#exlform">
    <option value="en" selected="selected">English</option>
    ...
  </select>
</p>
...
<form id="exlform">
  <style scoped="scoped">
    input::-webkit-input-placeholder, textarea::-webkit-input-placeholder
      { font-family: Verdana; color: #006633; font-style: italic }
    input:-moz-placeholder, textarea:-moz-placeholder
      { font-family: Verdana; color: #006633; font-style: italic }
  </style>
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Login credentials</legend>
    <label for="exluser">Username:</label>
    <input id="exluser" name="username" required="required"
  autofocus="autofocus"
    size="30" maxlength="15"
    placeholder="Your username"
  /><br/>
    <label for="exlpass">Password:&#160;</label>
    <input id="exlpass" name="password" required="required"
    type="password" size="30" maxlength="15"
    placeholder="Your password"
  />
  </fieldset>
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Contact information</legend>
    <label for="exladdr">Email address:</label>

```

```

<input id="exladdr" name="emailaddr" required="required"
  type="email" size="60" maxlength="80"
  placeholder="Your e-mail address"
/><br/>
<label for="exlsite">Web address:&#160;</label>
<input id="exlsite" name="siteurl" required="required"
  type="url" size="60" maxlength="80"
  placeholder="Your web site URL"
/>
</fieldset>
<label for="exldate">Date:</label>
<input id="exldate" name="date" type="date"/>
&#160;
<label for="exlage1">Age:</label>
<input id="exlage1" type="range" min="18" max="99" value="25"
  onchange="document.getElementById('exlage2').value = this.value"
/>
<input id="exlage2" size="3" value="25"
  onchange="if (this.value &lt; 18) this.value = 18;
  if (this.value &gt; 99) this.value = 99;
  document.getElementById('exlage1').value = this.value"
/>
</form>

```

Since the `Current language` field is outside the HTML form, it is associated with the form with a `form` attribute.

The "username" field is a `type="text"` input field by default.

WebKit (which is used by Chrome) ignores CSS styles which have a selector that it does not recognize, even if the other CSS selectors are valid. Therefore, the CSS style for the placeholder attributes must be duplicated for Chrome and Firefox because following CSS code does *not* work:

```

<style scoped="scoped">
  input::-webkit-input-placeholder, textarea::-webkit-input-placeholder,
  input:-moz-placeholder, textarea:-moz-placeholder
  { font-family: Verdana; color: #006633; font-style: italic }
</style>

```

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## Changes in HTML 5 - <input> Tag

### What's new in HTML 5

New input types:

- `<input type="color" .../>`
- `<input type="date" .../>`
- `<input type="datetime" .../>`
- `<input type="datetime-local" .../>`
- `<input type="email" .../>`
- `<input type="month" .../>`
- `<input type="number" .../>`
- `<input type="range" .../>`
- `<input type="search" .../>`

- `<input type="tel" .../>`
- `<input type="time" .../>`
- `<input type="url" .../>`
- `<input type="week" .../>`

A new set of attributes have been added which can be used to override various attributes on the [<form> tag](#).

<input> attribute	overrides <form>
<code>formaction</code>	<code>action</code>
<code>formenctype</code>	<code>enctype</code>
<code>formmethod</code>	<code>method</code>
<code>formnovalidate</code>	<code>novalidate</code>
<code>formtarget</code>	<code>target</code>

In addition, the [autocomplete="autocomplete"](#), [autofocus="autofocus"](#), [form](#), [list](#), [max](#), [min](#), [multiple="multiple"](#), [pattern](#), [placeholder](#), [required="required"](#) and [step](#) attributes have been added.

### Differences between HTML 5 and earlier versions of HTML

The following attributes should *not* be coded on the `<input>` tag because they either have been deprecated or were never officially supported:

- `align`
- `ismap` - use the [<img> tag](#) and its `ismap` attribute instead
- `usemap` - use the [<img> tag](#) and its `usemap` attribute instead
- `valign`

The [2000-2010 Recommendations from the W3C HTML Working Group](#) defined the [HTML namespace](#) for the **input** 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*