

HTML <kbd> Tag for Keyboard Input

Description, syntax, usage, attributes and examples of the HTML <kbd> tag 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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[HTML <kbd> Tag for Keyboard Input](#)

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The <kbd> Tag in HTML

The <kbd> tag is used to render input from keyboard entry. The **kbd** element is one of the [phrase elements in HTML](#). Most browsers will display the keyboard input using a monospaced font such as Courier as in the mathematical expression in this example:

To computer one terabyte, enter <kbd>1024*1024*1024*1024</kbd> in the calculator app. Without <kbd>: To computer one terabyte, enter 1024*1024*1024*1024 in the calculator app.

To distinguish a digit zero from the letter "O" some browsers (most notably Opera) use a font that has a zero with a slash through it. The same effect can be achieved in other browsers by applying a specific [font-family style](#) to **kbd** elements:

To computer one terabyte, enter <kbd style="font-family: Monaco, Consolas, monospace">1024*1024*1024*1024</kbd> in the calculator app.

Note that since the **kbd** element is a phrase element, its content appears inline with other [phrasing content](#) in the same paragraph or block. To display input that consists of multiple lines, such as one might enter by pressing the Return key at the end of each line, you need to separate lines of output, which can be accomplished in a number of different ways:

- add [`
 tags`](#) for line breaks
- add a [`"white-space: pre"` style](#) or [`"white-space: pre-wrap"` style](#) to the <kbd> tag or one of its ancestors
- put the **kbd** tag inside a [`pre element`](#)

Since the content of a [`pre element`](#) can include various [phrase elements](#), the last approach makes it easy to display both input and [sample output](#):

Example of using the <kbd> tag to display keyboard input along with sample output:

```
<figure style="margin: 0 0.2em; border: 0; white-space: pre"><kbd>select 1024 *  
1024 * 1024 * 1024 as " 1 Terabyte";</kbd><samp> ----- 1 Terabyte -----  
1099511627776</samp></figure>
```

In the example above, a [`font-weight: bold`](#) style is applied to the keyboard input so you can tell the difference between input and output.

These are actual working examples of the [`<kbd> tag example code`](#) below.

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<kbd> Tag Syntax

Rules for coding HTML **kbd** 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 expected ...
...
</body>
```

Rules for coding HTML **kbd** 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 **kbd** element to indicate keyboard input where [phrasing content](#) is expected.
2. Begin the **kbd** element with a starting **<kbd>** 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 any [HTML global attributes on the <kbd> tag](#) as appropriate.
4. Inside the **kbd** element, between the starting **<kbd>** tag and the ending **</kbd>** tag, code the inner HTML [phrasing content](#).
5. End the **kbd** [element](#) with a matching **</kbd>** closing tag.

Content Model

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

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<kbd> Tag Attributes

Attributes of the <kbd> tag

global attributes	The only attributes that can be coded on the <kbd> tag are the common HTML attributes .
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<kbd> Tag Examples

Examples of the **kbd** tag in HTML 5

Examples of using the <kbd> tag to display keyboard input

```
<p>To computer one terabyte, enter <b mode="pre"><kbd></b> 1024*1024*1024*1024<b mode="pre"></kbd>
```

```
<a mode="pre" href="#">.../figure-tag/><div></a>
<><a mode="pre" href="#">.../style-tag/>style</a> <a mode="pre" href="#">.../style-tag/index.html#scoped-a>
  kbd {
    <a mode="pre" href="#">.../css/css-styles/css-style-properties/index.html#font-family-property>
      <a mode="pre" href="#">.../css/css-styles/css-style-properties/index.html#font-weight-property>
    </style>
  <p>To computer one terabyte, enter <b mode="pre"><kbd></b> 1024*1024*1024*1024<b mode="pre"></kbd>
  </div>
```

```
<p>Example of using the &lt;kbd&gt; tag to display keyboard input along with
```

```
→ sample output:</p>
<a mode="pre" href="#">.../figure-tag/><figure></a>
<<a mode="pre" href="#">.../style-tag/>style</a>    <a mode="pre" href="#">.../style-tag/index.html#sc
  kbd { <a mode="pre" href="#">.../css/css-styles/css-style-properties/index.html#font-weight-
    kbd, samp { <a mode="pre" href="#">.../css/css-styles/css-style-properties/index.html#font-f
  </style>
<a mode="pre" href="#">.../pre-tag/><pre></a><b mode="pre"><kbd></b>  select 1024 * 1024 * 1024 *
-----
1 Terabyte
-----
1099511627776</samp></pre>
</figure>
```

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Changes in HTML 5 - <kbd> 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 **kbd** 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