

Introduction to HTML

Introduction to HTML – Quick Reference Notes

1. What Is HTML?

- **HTML** = HyperText Markup Language
 - The standard language for creating web pages and web applications.
 - Describes the **structure** of a document, not its presentation (handled by CSS) or behavior (handled by JavaScript).
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2. Core Concepts

Concept	Description	Example
Element	Basic building block, written with opening and closing tags.	<code><p>Paragraph text</p></code>
Tag	The markup that defines an element.	<code><h1></code> , <code></h1></code>
Attribute	Provides additional information about an element.	<code></code>
Nested Elements	Elements placed inside other elements to create hierarchy.	<code>Item</code>
Doctype	Declaration that tells the browser which HTML version is used.	<code><!DOCTYPE html></code>

3. Basic Document Skeleton

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <title>Page Title</title>
  <!-- Optional: link CSS, meta tags, scripts -->
</head>
<body>
  <!-- Page content goes here -->
```

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</body>
</html>

- **<!DOCTYPE html>** – HTML5 doctype (most common today).
 - **<html>** – Root element; lang attribute specifies language.
 - **<head>** – Metadata: character set, title, links to CSS, scripts, etc.
 - **<body>** – Visible content of the page.
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4. Frequently Used Elements

Category	Elements	Typical Use
Headings	<h1> – <h6>	Section titles; <h1> is the most important.
Paragraph	<p>	Blocks of text.
Links		Hyperlinks; target="_blank" opens in a new tab.
Images		Inline graphics; alt provides accessibility text.
Lists	(unordered), (ordered),	Grouped items.
Tables	<table>, <tr>, <th>, <td>	Tabular data.
Forms	<form>, <input>, <label>, <textarea>, <button>	User input.
Semantic Containers	<header>, <nav>, <main>, <section>, <article>, <aside>, <footer>	Define page layout and improve accessibility/SEO.

5. Attributes – Quick Guide

Attribute	Purpose	Example
id	Unique identifier; used for CSS/JS targeting.	<div id="hero">
class	One or more class names; reusable styling hooks.	<p class="intro highlight">
src	Source URL for media (images, video, script).	
href	Destination URL for links.	

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Attribute	Purpose	Example
alt	Text alternative for images (accessibility).	<code></code>
title	Tooltip text shown on hover	