



ADVHTML

Advanced HTML is the next step to design a highly effective Web page with tables and frames.

Tables...

HTML tables can display all sorts of information, making a lot of information easier for the user to read. Tables are so flexible that they can be used to format your pages to look as if they've been prepared with a desktop publishing program. Because of the Web's limitations, information you would not normally associate with a table or spreadsheet works very well in tables.

Tables that do not work well on the Web are those that are extremely large or those that contain paragraph after paragraph of text. This is because Internet users are confined to the viewing size of their monitors. A table that extends beyond the physical limit of the screen can be difficult to actually use because the headings will easily fall out of view. Tables also limit the ability of the browser to reformat text to fit the window.

Data Cells and Heading Cells...

There are two main table elements: the data cell and the heading cell. The tag that defines a data cell is `<TD>`, and it can be matched up with a complementary `<TABLE>`, but it doesn't have to be. The only major difference between data cells and header cells is that text in header cells is boldface.

Table Rows...

The `<TR>` and `</TR>` tags are the table row tags, and they tell the browser that the cells defined after the `<TR>` and up to the next `</TR>` tag are all the cells in a single row.

Frames...

One of the most exciting additions to HTML recently has been the frames specification. Frames are another way to create a unique interface for your Web site. Dividing the page into different parts, each of which can be updated separately, creates a number of different interface elements you can offer. Even a simple use of the frame specification lets you add interface graphics or a corporate logo to a site, while the rest of your page scrolls beneath it.

Probably most unique among the HTML-style tags so far is the `<FRAMESET>` tag. This container is required for frames-style pages, and it also replaces the `<BODY>` tag completely on these pages. When you use frames, you are committed to using them completely. You cannot just add frames to part of your page.

The `<FRAMESET>` tag accepts two attributes: `ROWS` and `COLS`. Both attributes accept numerical values, percentages, or a combination of both. The value `*` can be used to suggest that a particular row or column should take up the rest of the page. The number of rows or column is suggested by the number of values you give the attribute. Each `<FRAMESET>` statement works with one attribute or the other. That means you can only create a frameset with either rows or columns.

The `<FRAME>` tag is used within the `<FRAMESET>` container to determine what actually appears in a particular frame.

HTML Quick Reference...

Forms

<code><FORM>...</FORM></code>	<p>A variable or place holder for some other value.</p> <p>ACTION="..." The URL of the script to process this form input.</p> <p>METHOD="..." How the form input will be sent to the script on the server side. Possible values are GET and POST.</p> <p>ENCTYPE="..." Only one value:</p> <p>APPLICATION/X-WWW-FORM-URLENCODED</p>
<code><INPUT></code>	<p>An input widget for a form.</p> <p>TYPE="..." The type for this input widget. Possible values are CHECKBOX, HIDDEN, RADIO, RESET, SUBMIT TEXT, or IMAGE.</p>
<code><TEXTAREA>...</TEXTAREA></code>	<p>Indicates a multiline text entry widget.</p> <p>NAME="..." The name to be passed to the gateway script as part of the name/value pair.</p> <p>ROWS="..." The number of rows this text area displays.</p> <p>COLS="..." The number of columns (characters) this text area displays.</p>
<code><SELECT>...</SELECT></code>	<p>Creates a menu or scrolling list of items.</p> <p>NAME="..." The name to be passed to the CGI script as part of the name/value pair.</p> <p>SIZE="..." The number of elements to display.</p> <p>MULTIPLE Allows multiple selections from the list.</p>
<code><OPTION></code>	<p>Indicates an item withing a <code><SELECT></code> widget.</p> <p>SELECTED with this attribute included, the <code><OPTION></code> will be selected by default in the list.</p> <p>VALUE="..." The value to submit if this <code><OPTION></code> is selected when the form is submitted.</p>

Tables

<code><TABLE>...</TABLE></code>	<p>Creates a table.</p> <p>BORDER="..." Indicates whether the table should be drawn with or without a border.</p>
<code><TR>...</TR></code>	<p>A table row.</p> <p>ALIGN="..." The horizontal alignment of the contents of the cells within this row. Possible values LEFT, RIGHT, and CENTER.</p> <p>VALIGN="..." The vertical alignment of the cells within this row. Possible values TOP, BOTTOM, MIDDLE, and BASELINE (Netscape only).</p>
<code><TH>...</TH></code>	<p>A table heading cell.</p> <p>ALIGN="..." The horizontal alignment of the contents of the cell.</p> <p>VALIGN="..." The vertical alignment of the contents of the cell.</p> <p>ROWSPAN="..." The number of rows this cell will span.</p> <p>COLSPAN="..." The number of columns this cell will span.</p> <p>NOWRAP Do not automatically wrap the contents of the cell.</p>
<code><TD>...</TD></code>	<p>Defines a table data cell.</p> <p>ALIGN="..." The horizontal alignment of the contents of the cell.</p> <p>VALIGN="..." The vertical alignment of the contents of the cell.</p> <p>ROWSPAN="..." The number of rows this cell will span.</p> <p>COLSPAN="..." The number of columns this cell will span.</p> <p>NOWRAP Do not automatically wrap the contents of the cell.</p>

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