



HTML Forms

Entering User Data from a Web Page



Course Code:CIS121

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HTML Forms

- ◆ Forms are the primary method for gathering data from site visitors
- ◆ Create a form block with

```
<form></form>
```

The "method" attribute tells how the form data should be sent – via GET or POST request

- ◆ Example:

```
<form name="myForm" method="post"  
action="path/to/some-script.php">  
...  
</form>
```

The "action" attribute tells where the form data should be sent

Form Fields

- ◆ Single-line text input fields:

```
<input type="text" name="FirstName" value="This  
is a text field" />
```

- ◆ Multi-line textarea fields:

```
<textarea name="Comments">This is a multi-line  
text field</textarea>
```

- ◆ Hidden fields contain data not shown to the user:

```
<input type="hidden" name="Account" value="This  
is a hidden text field" />
```

- ◆ Often used by JavaScript code

Fieldsets

- ◆ Fieldsets are used to enclose a group of related form fields:

```
<form method="post" action="form.aspx">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Client Details</legend>
    <input type="text" id="Name" />
    <input type="text" id="Phone" />
  </fieldset>
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Order Details</legend>
    <input type="text" id="Quantity" />
    <textarea cols="40" rows="10"
              id="Remarks"></textarea>
  </fieldset>
</form>
```

- ◆ The **<legend>** is the fieldset's title.

Form Input Controls

- ◆ **Checkboxes:**

```
<input type="checkbox" name="fruit"  
value="apple" />
```

- ◆ **Radio buttons:**

```
<input type="radio" name="title" value="Mr." />
```

- ◆ **Radio buttons can be grouped, allowing only one to be selected from a group:**

```
<input type="radio" name="city" value="Lom" />  
<input type="radio" name="city" value="Ruse" />
```

Other Form Controls

- ◆ Dropdown menus:

```
<select name="gender">
  <option value="Value 1"
    selected="selected">Male</option>
  <option value="Value 2">Female</option>
  <option value="Value 3">Other</option>
</select>
```

- ◆ Submit button:

```
<input type="submit" name="submitBtn"
value="Apply Now" />
```

Other Form Controls (2)

- ◆ Reset button – brings the form to its initial state

```
<input type="reset" name="resetBtn"  
value="Reset the form" />
```

- ◆ Image button – acts like submit but image is displayed and click coordinates are sent

```
<input type="image" src="submit.gif"  
name="submitBtn" alt="Submit" />
```

- ◆ Ordinary button – used for Javascript, no default action

```
<input type="button" value="click me" />
```

Other Form Controls (3)

- ◆ Password input – a text field which masks the entered text with * signs

```
<input type="password" name="pass" />
```

- ◆ Multiple select field – displays the list of items in multiple lines, instead of one

```
<select name="products" multiple="multiple">
  <option value="Value 1"
    selected="selected">keyboard</option>
  <option value="Value 2">mouse</option>
  <option value="Value 3">speakers</option>
</select>
```

Other Form Controls (4)

- ◆ File input – a field used for uploading files

```
<input type="file" name="photo" />
```

- ◆ When used, it requires the form element to have a specific attribute:

```
<form enctype="multipart/form-data">  
...  
  <input type="file" name="photo" />  
...  

```

- ◆ Form labels are used to associate an explanatory text to a form field using the field's ID.

```
<label for="fn">First Name</label>
<input type="text" id="fn" />
```

- ◆ Clicking on a label focuses its associated field (checkboxes are toggled, radio buttons are checked)
- ◆ Labels are both a usability and accessibility feature and are required in order to pass accessibility validation.

OPTGROUP

```
<SELECT name="ComOS">

<OPTION selected label="none" value="none">None</OPTION>

<OPTGROUP label="PortMaster 3">

<OPTION label="3.7.1" value="pm3_3.7.1">PortMaster 3 with ComOS 3.7.1</OPTION>
<OPTION label="3.7" value="pm3_3.7">PortMaster 3 with ComOS 3.7</OPTION>

</OPTGROUP>

<OPTGROUP label="PortMaster 2">

<OPTION label="3.7" value="pm2_3.7">PortMaster 2 with ComOS 3.7</OPTION>
<OPTION label="3.5" value="pm2_3.5">PortMaster 2 with ComOS 3.5</OPTION>

</OPTGROUP>

<OPTGROUP label="IRX">

<OPTION label="3.7R" value="IRX_3.7R">IRX with ComOS 3.7R</OPTION>
<OPTION label="3.5R" value="IRX_3.5R">IRX with ComOS 3.5R</OPTION>

</OPTGROUP>

</SELECT>
```

HTML Forms – Example

form.html

```
<form method="post" action="apply-now.php">
  <input name="subject" type="hidden" value="Class" />
  <fieldset><legend>Academic information</legend>
    <label for="degree">Degree</label>
    <select name="degree" id="degree">
      <option value="BA">Bachelor of Art</option>
      <option value="BS">Bachelor of Science</option>
      <option value="MBA" selected="selected">Master of
        Business Administration</option>
    </select>
    <br />
    <label for="studentid">Student ID</label>
    <input type="password" name="studentid" />
  </fieldset>
  <fieldset><legend>Personal Details</legend>
    <label for="fname">First Name</label>
    <input type="text" name="fname" id="fname" />
    <br />
    <label for="lname">Last Name</label>
    <input type="text" name="lname" id="lname" />
```

HTML Forms – Example (2)

form.html (continued)

```
<br />
Gender:
<input name="gender" type="radio" id="gm" value="m" />
<label for="gm">Male</label>
<input name="gender" type="radio" id="gf" value="f" />
<label for="gf">Female</label>
<br />
<label for="email">Email</label>
<input type="text" name="email" id="email" />
</fieldset>
<p>
<textarea name="terms" cols="30" rows="4"
readonly="readonly">TERMS AND CONDITIONS...</textarea>
</p>
<p>
<input type="submit" name="submit" value="Send Form" />
<input type="reset" value="Clear Form" />
</p>
</form>
```

HTML Forms – Example (3)

form.html (continued)

HTML Forms Example - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Academic information

Degree Master of Business Administration

Student ID

Classes attended Geography
Mathematics
English

Personal Details

First Name

Last Name

Gender: Male Female

Email

TERMS AND CONDITIONS...

Send Form Clear Form

Done Fiddler: Disabled 0 errors / 0 warnings

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- ◆ The tabindex HTML attribute controls the order in which form fields and hyperlinks are focused when repeatedly pressing the TAB key
 - ◆ tabindex="0" (zero) - "natural" order
 - ◆ If X > Y, then elements with tabindex="X" are iterated before elements with tabindex="Y"
 - ◆ Elements with negative tabindex are skipped, however, this is not defined in the standard

```
<input type="text" tabindex="10" />
```