

1. Main Root & Metadata (8 Tags) Defines the document environment.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<!DOCTYPE>	Document type declaration.	N/A	<!DOCTYPE html> (First line of file)
<html>	Root element.	lang, xmlns	<html lang="en">...</html>
<head>	Metadata container.	Global	<head><title>X</title></head>
<title>	Browser tab title.	Global	<title>My Page</title>
<base>	Base URL for relative links.	href, target	<base href="/images/">
<link>	External resource connection.	rel, href	<link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
<meta>	Page metadata.	name, content	<meta charset="UTF-8">
<style>	Internal CSS.	media	<style>body {color: red;}</style>

2. Content Sectioning (14 Tags) Defines the document outline.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<body>	Main visible content.	Global	<body><h1>Hi</h1></body>
<article>	Independent content.	Global	<article>Blog Post...</article>
<section>	Thematic grouping.	Global	<section><h2>News</h2>...</section>
<nav>	Navigation links.	Global	<nav><a href="/">Home</a></nav>
<aside>	Indirect content (sidebar).	Global	<aside>Ads...</aside>
<h1>-<h6>	Headings (1=Main, 6=Least).	Global	<h1>Title</h1>
<header>	Intro or nav aids.	Global	<header></header>
<footer>	Footer information.	Global	<footer>© 2026</footer>
<main>	Dominant content.	Global	<main>Unique content...</main>
<address>	Contact info.	Global	<address>mail@example.com</address>
<hgroup>	Heading group.	Global	<hgroup><h1>T</h1><p>S</p></hgroup>
<search>	Search section container.	Global	<search><form>...</form></search>

3. Text Content (15 Tags) Organizes blocks of text.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<p>	Paragraph.	Global	<p>Text here.</p>
<hr>	Thematic break (line).	Global	<p>A</p><hr><p>B</p>
<pre>	Preformatted text.	Global	<pre> code </pre>
<blockquote>	Extended quote.	cite	<blockquote cite="url">Quote</blockquote>
<ol>	Ordered list (1, 2, 3).	start, type	<ol><li>Step 1</li></ol>
<ul>	Unordered list (bullets).	Global	<ul><li>Item</li></ul>
<li>	List item.	value	<li>Milk</li>
<dl>	Description list.	Global	<dl><dt>Term</dt><dd>Def</dd></dl>
<dt>	Term name.	Global	<dt>HTML</dt>

<dd>	Term description.	Global	<dd>Markup Language</dd>
<figure>	Self-contained content.	Global	<figure><img...></figure>
<figcaption>	Caption for figure.	Global	<figcaption>Fig 1.1</figcaption>
<div>	Generic block container.	Global	<div class="box">Content</div>
<menu>	Toolbar/Context menu.	Global	<menu><li><button>Undo</button></li></menu>

#### 4. Inline Text Semantics (31 Tags) Styles specific words or spans.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<a>	Hyperlink.	href, target	<a href="x.html">Link</a>
<em>	Stress emphasis (italic).	Global	<em>Important</em>
<strong>	Strong importance (bold).	Global	<strong>Warning</strong>
<small>	Legal/Small print.	Global	<small>® Copy</small>
<s>	Strikethrough (wrong).	Global	<s>Old Price</s>
<cite>	Title of work.	Global	<cite>Moby Dick</cite>
<q>	Inline quote.	cite	<q>Quote</q>
<dfn>	Definition instance.	Global	<dfn>HTML</dfn> is...
<abbr>	Abbreviation.	title	<abbr title="World Wide Web">WWW</abbr>
<ruby>	Ruby annotation wrapper.	Global	<ruby>漢<rt>kan</rt></ruby>
<rt>	Ruby pronunciation.	Global	(See above)
<rp>	Ruby fallback parens.	Global	<rp>(</rp><rt>x</rt><rp>)</rp>
<data>	Machine-readable val.	value	<data value="1">One</data>
<time>	Date/Time.	datetime	<time datetime="2026-01-01">New Year</time>
<code>	Code fragment.	Global	<code>var x = 1;</code>
<var>	Variable name.	Global	<var>y</var> = mx + b
<samp>	Sample output.	Global	<samp>Error 404</samp>
<kbd>	Keyboard input.	Global	<kbd>Ctrl</kbd>+<kbd>C</kbd>
<sub>	Subscript.	Global	H<sub>2</sub>O
<sup>	Superscript.	Global	x<sup>2</sup>
<i>	Idiomatic (italic).	Global	<i>Latin</i>
<b>	Attention (bold).	Global	<b>Note:</b>
<u>	Annotation (underline).	Global	<u>Spelling</u>
<mark>	Highlighted text.	Global	<mark>Search Term</mark>
<bdi>	Bi-directional isolate.	Global	<bdi>User123</bdi>
<bdo>	Bi-directional override.	dir	<bdo dir="rtl">Text</bdo>
<span>	Generic inline span.	Global	<span class="red">Text</span>
 	Line break.	Global	Line 1 Line 2
<wbr>	Word break opportunity.	Global	Super<wbr>cali...
<rb>	Ruby base (rare).	Global	<ruby><rb>Base</rb><rt>Text</rt></ruby>
<rtc>	Ruby text container (rare).	Global	<ruby>...<rtc><rt>...</rtc></rtc></ruby>

## 5. Image & Multimedia (7 Tags) Visual and audio content.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<img>	Image embed.	src, alt	
<audio>	Audio player.	src, controls	<audio src="s.mp3" controls>
<video>	Video player.	src, poster	<video src="v.mp4" controls>
<track>	Subtitles/Captions.	kind, src	<track kind="subtitles" src="s.vtt">
<map>	Image map wrapper.	name	<map name="workmap">...</map>
<area>	Clickable map area.	coords, href	<area shape="rect" coords="34,44,270,350">
<picture>	Responsive image.	Global	<picture><source...><img...></picture>

## 6. Embedded Content (6 Tags) External resources.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<iframe>	Nested web page.	src, width	<iframe src="https://example.com">
<embed>	Plugin integration.	src, type	<embed src="file.swf">
<object>	External resource.	data, type	<object data="doc.pdf"></object>
<param>	Object parameter.	name, value	<param name="autoplay" value="true">
<source>	Media resource.	src, type	<source src="song.mp3" type="audio/mpeg">
<portal>	Seamless navigation (Exp).	src	<portal src="page2.html">

## 7. Scripting (4 Tags) Code execution.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<script>	JavaScript code.	src, defer	<script src="app.js"></script>
<noscript>	No-JS fallback.	Global	<noscript>Enable JS</noscript>
<canvas>	JS graphics drawing.	width, height	<canvas id="game"></canvas>
<template>	Hidden HTML cloner.	id	<template id="row"><tr>...</tr></template>

## 8. Table Content (10 Tags) Tabular data.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<table>	Table wrapper.	Global	<table>...</table>
<caption>	Table title.	Global	<caption>Sales</caption>
<colgroup>	Column grouping.	span	<colgroup><col span="2"></colgroup>
<col>	Column attribute.	span	<col style="background:red">
<thead>	Header block.	Global	<thead>...</thead>

<tbody>	Body block.	Global	<tbody>...</tbody>
<tfoot>	Footer block.	Global	<tfoot>...</tfoot>
<tr>	Table row.	Global	<tr>...</tr>
<td>	Data cell.	colspan	<td>Data</td>
<th>	Header cell.	scope	<th>Name</th>

### 9. Forms & Input (15 Tags) User interaction.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<form>	Input container.	action, method	<form action="/login">...</form>
<label>	Input caption.	for	<label for="user">Name</label>
<input>	Data field.	type, value	<input type="text" name="user">
<button>	Clickable button.	type	<button>Submit</button>
<select>	Dropdown menu.	name	<select><option>A</option></select>
<datalist>	Autocomplete list.	id	<datalist id="list"><option>A</option>
<optgroup>	Dropdown group.	label	<optgroup label="A">...</optgroup>
<option>	Dropdown item.	value	<option value="1">One</option>
<textarea>	Multiline text.	rows, cols	<textarea>Comments...</textarea>
<output>	Calculation result.	for	<output name="x">0</output>
<progress>	Completion bar.	value, max	<progress value="70" max="100">
<meter>	Gauge/Scalar.	value, min	<meter value="0.6">60%</meter>
<fieldset>	Form group.	disabled	<fieldset><legend>Info</legend>...</fieldset>
<legend>	Fieldset caption.	Global	(See above)
<selectedcontent>	Custom select UI (Exp).	Global	<selectedcontent>...</selectedcontent>

### 10. Interactive & Web Components (7 Tags) Dynamic widgets.

Tag	Description	Attributes	Use Case & Example
<details>	Toggle widget.	open	<details><summary>Hi</summary>...</details>
<summary>	Details label.	Global	(See above)
<dialog>	Modal/Popup.	open	<dialog open>Hello</dialog>
<slot>	Shadow DOM placeholder.	name	<slot name="icon"></slot>
<fencedframe>	Privacy frame (Exp).	src	<fencedframe src="ads.html">
<model>	3D Content (Exp).	src	<model src="chair.glb">
<del> / <ins>	Delete/Insert edit.	cite	<del>Old</del> <ins>New</ins>

## 11. Obsolete & Deprecated Tags (~28 Tags)

 **DO NOT USE THESE.**

They are replaced by CSS or modern tags.

Tag	Use This Instead	Description of Obsolete Function
<acronym>	<abbr>	Defined an acronym.
<applet>	<embed>	Embedded Java applets.
<basefont>	CSS	Set default font for document.
<bgsound>	<audio>	Background music (IE only).
<big>	CSS	Increased font size.
<blink>	CSS Animation	Flashing text.
<center>	CSS text-align	Centered content.
<command>	<button>/<menu>	Defined a command button.
<content>	<slot>	Shadow DOM insertion point.
<dir>	<ul>	Directory list.
<font>	CSS	Font face, color, and size.
<frame>	<iframe>	Sub-window.
<frameset>	CSS Flex/Grid	Container for frames.
<image>	<img>	Old synonym for img.
<isindex>	<input>	Single line prompt.
<keygen>	Web Crypto API	Key-pair generator.
<listing>	<pre>	Code listing.
<marquee>	CSS Animation	Scrolling text.
<menuitem>	<button>	Menu command.
<multicol>	CSS Columns	Multi-column layout.
<nextid>	(None)	Guid generation (NeXT browser).
<nobr>	CSS white-space	Prevented line breaks.
<noembed>	(Fallback content)	Fallback for embed.
<noframes>	(None)	Fallback for frames.
<plaintext>	<pre>	Rendered rest of file as text.
<shadow>	<slot>	Shadow DOM root.
<spacer>	CSS margin	Whitespace spacer.
<strike>	<s> / <del>	Strikethrough text.
<tt>	<code> / CSS	Teletype text.
<xmp>	<pre>	Preformatted text (obsolete).