

Input field, Drop down lists and Forms

To assign data into a website we use different type of field as input fields, drop down lists, forms etc.

The following example is used on html in order to create an input field to assign the name:

Firstname:<input type="text" name="fname" value="Please insert your name">

To create drop down list we use the <select> element on HTML as following:

```
<select name="cars" id="CAR">
  <option value="volvo">Volvo</option>
  <option value="saab">Saab</option>
  <option value="fiat">Fiat</option>
  <option value="audi">Audi</option>
</select>
```

To create a form which may contain all the above elements we use the <form> element of HTML:

```
<form>
.
form elements
.
</form>
```

An example of the following is:

```
<form>
First name:<br>
<input type="text" name="firstname"><br>
Last name:<br>
<input type="text" name="lastname">
</form>
```

The radio button is created by using the <input type="radio"> element. The following example describes its use:

```
<form>
<input type="radio" name="gender" value="male" checked> Male<br>
<input type="radio" name="gender" value="female"> Female<br>
<input type="radio" name="gender" value="other"> Other
</form>
```

`<input type="submit">` defines a button for **submitting** the form data to a **form-handler**. The form-handler is typically a server page with a script for processing input data.

```
<form>
  First name:<br>
  <input type="text" name="firstname" value="Mickey"><br>
  Last name:<br>
  <input type="text" name="lastname" value="Mouse"><br><br>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
```

The method of a form may be GET or POST. Both of these methods are used to retrieve data from the form. The default method when submitting form data is GET. However, when GET is used, the submitted form data will be **visible in the page address field**. **GET must NOT be used when sending sensitive information!** GET is best suited for short, non-sensitive, amounts of data, because it has **size limitations too**. Always use POST if the form data contains sensitive or personal information. The POST method does not display the submitted form data in the page address field. POST has no size limitations, and can be used to send large amounts of data.

```
<form method="get">
  First name: <input type="text" name="fname"><br>
  Last name: <input type="text" name="lname"><br>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
```

```
<form method="post">
  First name: <input type="text" name="fname"><br>
  Last name: <input type="text" name="lname"><br>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
```

