

Introduction

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is the standard language used to create webpages. It provides the structure of a webpage using elements called **tags**. HTML is easy to learn for beginners and forms the foundation of web development.

1. Basic Structure of an HTML Document

Every HTML document follows this structure:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Page Title</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <!-- Content goes here -->
  </body>
</html>
```

- `<!DOCTYPE html>` : Declares the document type.
- `<html>` : Root element of the webpage.
- `<head>` : Contains meta-information, title, and links to CSS/JS.
- `<title>` : The page title shown in the browser tab.
- `<body>` : Contains all the visible content of the webpage.

2. Common HTML Tags

a) Headings

- `<h1>` to `<h6>` : Define headings, `<h1>` is the largest, `<h6>` the smallest.

```
<h1>Main Heading</h1>
<h2>Subheading</h2>
```

b) Paragraphs

- `<p>` : Defines a paragraph.

```
<p>This is a paragraph.</p>
```

c) Links

- `<a>` : Creates hyperlinks.

```
<a href="https://www.example.com">Visit Example</a>
```

d) Images

- `<img>` : Displays images.

```

```

e) Lists

- **Ordered List** (`<ol>`) and **Unordered List** (`<ul>`)
- `<li>` : List item.

```
<ul>  
  <li>Item 1</li>  
  <li>Item 2</li>  
</ul>
```

f) Header, Footer, and Sections

- `<header>` : Top section of the page.
- `<footer>` : Bottom section.
- `<section>` : Defines a section.
- `<nav>` : Navigation links.

```
<header>  
  <h1>My Website</h1>  
</header>  
<footer>  
  <p>Copyright 2026</p>  
</footer>
```

g) Divisions and Spans

- `<div>` : Block-level container.
- `<span>` : Inline container.

```
<div class="container">Content here</div>
<span>Text here</span>
```

h) Forms and Inputs

- `<form>` : Creates a form.
- `<input>` : Input fields.

```
<form>
  <input type="text" name="username">
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
```

3. Tips for Beginners

- Always close your tags properly.
- Indent nested tags for readability.
- Use semantic tags (`<header>`, `<footer>`, `<section>`) for better structure.
- Test your HTML in a browser to see results instantly.

Conclusion

HTML is the backbone of all webpages. Understanding its structure and common tags allows beginners to create simple, well-structured websites and prepares them for learning CSS and JavaScript for styling and interactivity.