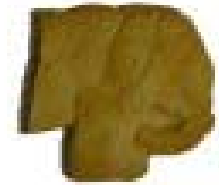




CSS for Forms





Forms are Easier Now

- Laying out forms in tables is hard
 - Lots of mark-up
 - The tables do not contribute to the meaning of the page
 - Hard to maintain
- Laying out forms with CSS is not easy
 - ... but the HTML is a lot easier
 - ... and the CSS gets done once



Proper HTML

- You already know about INPUT, SELECT and TEXTAREA
- What is new is the association of the element label -- the words that describe the element -- with the element itself



Proper HTML

the ID attribute

- Forms are made up of LABEL/form element pairs
- Use ID to associate the LABEL with the form element (INPUT, SELECT or TEXTAREA)



Proper HTML

the LABEL tag

- Example:

- `<input name="firstname" type="text" id="firstname">`

- To associate a LABEL tag:

- `<label for="firstname">First Name</label>`



Proper HTML

ID attribute rules

- Using the ID Attribute
 - ID is used to identify any page element (not just form elements)
 - Value must be unique on the page
 - In forms, the ID is used along with the LABEL tag to associate captions with form elements



Proper HTML

the ID attribute and radio buttons

- Using LABEL and ID with radio buttons
 - The value of the NAME attribute will be the same for each element
 - The value of the ID attribute will be different



Proper HTML

Example

- Example:

```
<div>Are you insane?</div>
```

```
<div>
```

```
  <label for="saneYes">Yes</label>
```

```
  <input type="radio" name="sane"
        id="saneYes" value="Yes">
```

```
  <label for="saneNo">No</label>
```

```
  <input type="radio" name="sane"
        id="saneNo" value="No">
```

```
</div>
```



Proper HTML

Checkboxes

- Checkboxes work the same way as radio buttons



Proper HTML

the FIELDSET tag

- Organizing the information
 - Use FIELDSET
 - Caption the FIELDSET with the LEGEND element



Proper HTML

the FIELDSET tag

```
<fieldset>
```

```
  <legend>Personal Data</legend>
```

```
    .
```

```
    .
```

```
    .
```

```
</fieldset>
```

State Person Form Test

*** - denotes a required field**

Personal Data	
First Name *	<input type="text" value="Michael"/>
Middle Initial	<input type="text" value="B"/>
Last Name *	<input type="text" value="Short"/>
Address *	<input type="text" value="123 Main St"/>
City *	<input type="text" value="Albany"/>
State *	<input type="text" value="NY"/>
Postal Code *	<input type="text" value="12345"/>
Email	<input type="text" value="mbs1@cs.state.ny.us"/>
Evening Telephone	<input type="text" value="5185551212"/>
Daytime Telephone	<input type="text" value="5184575105"/>

Submit

Cancel



Compare Tables and DIVs

```
<table>
<tr>
  <td>First Name:</td> <td><input type="text" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
  <td>Middle Initial:</td> <td><input type="text" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
  <td>Last Name:</td> <td><input type="text" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
  <td></td> <td><input type="submit" value="Submit" /></td>
</tr>
</table>
```

```
<div class="formpair">
  First Name: <input type="text" />
</div>
<div class="formpair">
  Middle Initial: <input type="text" />
</div>
<div class="formpair">
  Last Name: <input type="text" />
</div>
<div>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit" />
</div>
```



Form HTML

```
<fieldset>
<legend>Full Name</legend>
<div class="container">
  <label for="fname" accesskey="F">First Name*:</label>
  <input type="text" name="firstname" id="fname">
</div>
<div class="container">
  <label for="mi" accesskey="I">Middle Initial:</label>
  <input type="text" size="5" name="middle" id="mi">
</div>
<div class="container">
  <label for="lname" accesskey="L">Last Name*:</label>
  <input type="text" name="lastname" id="lname">
</div>
</fieldset>
```



CSS for forms

```
.container {  
    margin-bottom: 5px;  
    clear: both;}  
.container label {  
    text-align : right;  
    width: 23%;  
    padding-right : 4%;  
    float : left;    }  
.container input { text-align: left; }
```



CSS for forms

```
.buttonpair {  
    margin-bottom: 5px;  
    clear: both;}  
.buttonpair label { text-align : left; }  
.buttonpair input {  
    margin-left: 21%;  
    padding-right : 4px;  
    float : left;    }
```