

Announcements

- ❖ No posting of code in the forum
- ❖ Check class announcements daily

HTML Forms

- ❖ Regarding the name property
 - ❖ The name property is used by servers to process the data
 - ❖ Most of the time we will set the name and id attributes to the same value
- ❖ Forms → Previous examples of forms just collected data for processing by a JavaScript program
- ❖ Forms → Means by which information passes from the user to a server
- ❖ Submit button
 - ❖ Sends form data to a server application.
 - ❖ It is this special functionality that other buttons don't have
- ❖ `<form tag>` → Two important attributes:
 - ❖ **action** → indicates where the form contents will be sent
 - ❖ **method** → defines how the contents will be sent

HTML Forms

- ❖ Method → Two alternatives
 - ❖ post
 - ❖ Contents sent using the HTTP POST method
 - ❖ Content is sent in the body of the message
 - ❖ get
 - ❖ Contents sent using the HTTP GET method
 - ❖ Contents included in the URL
- ❖ **Example:** formGet.html, getProcessing.php
- ❖ **Example:** formPost.html, postProcessing.php
- ❖ Important: You can only see the results if you have a web server running the .php files.
- ❖ Could you install a web server in your computer? Yes!
- ❖ Windows →
<http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp-windows.html>
- ❖ Mac →
<http://www.mamp.info/en/mamp.html>



GET vs. POST

❖ **Get**

- ❖ Information visible as it is displayed in the URL
- ❖ Limited in the amount of information it can send
- ❖ URLs associated with get can be bookmarked
- ❖ Intended for operations that will not change the server state

❖ **Post**

- ❖ Information is not presented in the URL
- ❖ No limits on amount of information it can send
- ❖ Because variables are not displayed in the URL it is not possible to bookmark the page
- ❖ Intended for operations that will change the server state
- ❖ Try reloading a form submitted using post. Why the warning?

Form Processing

- ❖ As we have seen, we need a server script/program to process the data we collect in a form and that is sent via submit
- ❖ If you know the script/program to use you can develop your own customized form to provide a service (e.g., Google search)
- ❖ Make sure you name your form elements after the variables required by the script/program
- ❖ Notice we are not using any JavaScript at the moment. We are focusing on what we can do with forms by relying on the server script/program for processing
- ❖ **Example:** SearchBox.html

Form Validation

- ❖ Forms → We can validate the data associated with a form by recognizing the submit event
- ❖ Keep in mind that JavaScript can be disabled therefore the server application must also validate the data
- ❖ **Example:**
formValidation.html, FormValidation.php

CheckBoxes

- ❖ Allow us to make a selection
- ❖ Defined by using `type="checkbox"`
- ❖ We can tell whether an entry is selected by using the "checked" property
 - ❖ `true` → entry has been selected
- ❖ Default selection by using `checked="checked"`
- ❖ **Example:** `Checkboxes.html`

Radio Buttons

- ❖ Exist in groups and only one can be checked in a group
- ❖ Defined by using `type="radio"`
- ❖ We defined the radio buttons to be in the same group by using the same name for all of them
- ❖ Note: Do not use the same value for name and id
- ❖ Default selection by using `checked="checked"`
- ❖ We access the elements using arrays
- ❖ `document.getElementsByName` → returns array
- ❖ **Example:** `RadioButtons.html`

Drop-DOWN/Scrollable Lists

- ❖ Defined using the `<select>` tag (not the `<input>` tag)
- ❖ `<option>` tag to specify possible options
- ❖ To define a default choice use:
`selected="selected"`
- ❖ The ***multiple*** attribute in `<select>` allows for selection of multiple items (usually displayed as a multiple-selection list)
- ❖ **Example:** DropDownList.html
- ❖ **Example:** ScrollableList.html

Textareas

- ❖ Allows user to input more than one line of information
- ❖ We use the `<textarea>` tag
- ❖ ***rows*** and ***cols*** attributes define the text area
- ❖ Default text (if any) appears between the `<textarea>` and `</textarea>` tags
- ❖ **Example:** Textarea.html