

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Midterm #2 next week
- ❖ Site for php scripts

<http://turtle.cs.umd.edu/classes/198N/FormValidationCode/>

HTML FORMS

- ❖ 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.

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>



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

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 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

DEBUGGER

- ❖ Allow us to see values of variables
- ❖ Allow us to execute statements one at a time
- ❖ Firebug Debugger
 - ❖ <http://www.getfirebug.com/>
- ❖ Demo