

## HTML <table> Example & Table Tutorial

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[HTML <table> Example & Table Tutorial](#)

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### Creating HTML Tables - A Tutorial

#### How To Create A Table in HTML

(Some links on this page take you to details in the [HTML Tag Reference](#). Bookmark this page in your Favorites so you can come back to it later.)

#### HTML table code from the top down

Most tutorials on HTML tables build from the bottom up, starting with minimal HTML table code and adding features a step at a time in subsequent examples. Many developers prefer a quick top-down view, since it's easy to remove the elements that are not needed for a particular table layout, so this table tutorial takes that approach.

The top element of an HTML table layout is, of course, the [table element](#). Inside the [table](#) element are the following child elements:

1. an optional [caption element](#)
2. optional column definitions, using an optional [colgroup element](#) and one or more [<col/> elements](#)
3. an optional table head section, using a [thead element](#) with [table rows](#) and table heading cells, similar to the [table body](#), except that the table headings use the [<th> tag](#) rather than the [<td> tag](#)
4. an optional table footer section, using a [tfoot element](#) with [table rows](#) and [table cells](#), similar to the [table body](#)
5. the body section, using an optional [tbody element](#) along with [tr table row elements](#) that contain [td elements](#) for the table cells

The [tfoot element](#) for the [HTML table footer](#) comes *before* the [tbody element](#) for the body of the HTML table, near the [table header](#). This is because when the table is displayed on multiple pages, such as when printing web pages, the table header and footer will appear at the bottom of those rows of a table that fit on a page, before the rest of the body of the table, which might be considerably long in some cases, has been rendered.

The following HTML code is an example of all of the elements which can be used for HTML tables:

```
<a mode="pre" href="../tags/table-tag/index.html">table</a> class="border">
  <a mode="pre" href="../tags/caption-tag/index.html">caption</a> >Table Caption</caption>
  <a mode="pre" href="../tags/colgroup-tag/index.html">colgroup</a> >
    <a mode="pre" href="../tags/col-tag/index.html">col</a> style="width: 20%"/>
    <a mode="pre" href="../tags/col-tag/index.html">col</a> style="width: 30%"/>
```

```

<<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/col-tag/index.html">col</a> style="width: 50%"/>
</colgroup>
<<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/thead-tag/index.html">thead</a> >
  <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/tr-tag/index.html">tr</a> >
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/th-tag/index.html">th</a> rowspan="2"></th>
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/th-tag/index.html">th</a> colspan="2">Multiple Column Heading
  </tr>
  <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/tr-tag/index.html">tr</a> style="vertical-align: bottom">
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/th-tag/index.html">th</a> >First Column Heading</th>
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/th-tag/index.html">th</a> >Second Column Heading</th>
  </tr>
</thead>
<<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/tfoot-tag/index.html">tfoot</a> >
  <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/tr-tag/index.html">tr</a> ><<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/td-tag/
</tfoot>
<<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/tbody-tag/index.html">tbody</a> >
  <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/tr-tag/index.html">tr</a> >
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/th-tag/index.html">th</a> >Row 1</th>
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/td-tag/index.html">td</a> >Row 1 Column 1</td>
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/td-tag/index.html">td</a> >Row 1 Column 2</td>
  </tr>
  <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/tr-tag/index.html">tr</a> >
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/th-tag/index.html">th</a> >Row 2</th>
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/td-tag/index.html">td</a> >Row 2 Column 1</td>
    <<a mode="pre" href="../../tags/td-tag/index.html">td</a> >Row 2 Column 2</td>
  </tr>
</tbody>
</table>

```

The `class` attribute on the [<table> tag](#) is used to add borders in the table examples in the next section.

[back to top](#)

## HTML table with border between cells

Although a `style` attribute could easily be coded on the [<table> tag](#) to add a border style to an HTML table (`<table style="border: 4px inset gray">`), this will only create a border around the whole table:

	First Column Heading	Second Column Heading
Row 1	Row 1 Column 1	Row 1 Column 2
Row 2	Row 2 Column 1	Row 2 Column 2

This is an example of an HTML table footer.

For an HTML table with borders between cells, each cell needs the border style. Since coding a style attribute on every cell would be extremely redundant, the easiest and simplest way to add the border style attribute is using CSS. Code a `class` attribute on the [<table> tag](#) as shown in the [HTML table example](#) above. Then add the border styles using a [link tag](#) for a [style sheet](#) containing the following CSS code:

```

table.border {
  border-collapse: collapse;
}

table tr {
  vertical-align: top;
}

```

```
table.border th, table.border td {
  border: 4px inset gray;
}
```

The value of "collapse" for the CSS `border-collapse` style displays a single border between cells rather than the default which gives each cell its own separate border. The CSS `vertical-align` attribute shown aligns the text in each table row at the top of the cells in that row, unless overridden as shown for the [table headings](#) in the [table example code](#) above. Note that the CSS `border` style is applied to the `<th>` tag and `<td>` tag on tables with borders in order to display a border around each table cell.

	Multiple Column Heading	
First Column Heading	Second Column Heading	
Row 1	Row 1 Column 1	Row 1 Column 2
Row 2	Row 2 Column 1	Row 2 Column 2
This is an example of an HTML table footer.		

[back to top](#)

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## Tags used to create a table in HTML

### The HTML table tags - table elements in HTML 5

See the detailed information in the [HTML Tag Reference](#) for more information on the various tags used to create an HTML table:

#### [<table>](#)

The **table** element is the main element that creates an HTML table. The other elements are inside the **table** element.

#### [<caption>](#)

The `<caption>` tag is used to create a table caption in HTML. On screen, a caption will appear above the table as the table title.

#### [<colgroup>](#)

A `<dfn>colgroup</dfn>` is a group of one or more columns in a table. It can be used to apply a style to multiple table columns.

#### [<col>](#)

The **col** element represents a vertical column in a table. It can be used to apply a style to a table column which can be used to, for example, set the column width.

#### [<thead>](#)

The **thead** element indicates which [table rows](#) belong to the table header.

#### [<tr>](#)

The `<tr>` tag is used for each table row.

### [<th>](#)

The <th> tag is used for a table heading cell.

### [<tfoot>](#)

The **tfoot** element indicates which [table rows](#) belong to the table footer. For example, the footer can include a total of the numerical values in a column or some other column summary for non-numerical columns.

### [<tbody>](#)

The **tbody** element indicates which [table rows](#) belong to the table body.

### [<td>](#)

The <td> tag is used for a table detail cell.

[back to top](#)

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*THE END*