

Tables

Displaying your Data

Tables Used to Be Evil

**Tables are meant for
tabular data, not for layout**

Design

- Make sure to sketch your layout *before* you code.
- Decide on the number of rows and columns
- Decide if any rows/columns will span multiple cells

The Tags

- `<table>` – the container tag
- `<tr>...</tr>` - the rows
- `<td>...</td>` - the columns

Simple Table

One	Two	Three
Four	Five	Six
Seven	Eight	Nine

```
<table>  
  <tr><td>One</td><td>Two</td><td>Three</td></tr>  
  <tr><td>Four</td><td>Five</td><td>Six</td></tr>  
  <tr><td>Seven</td><td>Eight</td><td>Nine</td></tr>  
</table>
```


Table Headings

- How would you add table headings? (The bold cells at the top that define the data.)
- Some people use bold font, we use *semantic tags*
- `<th>..</th>` -- table heading

Table Headings

Row One	Row Two	Row Three
One	Two	Three
Four	Five	Six
Seven	Eight	Nine

```
<table>
  <tr><th>Row One</th><th>Row Two</th><th>Row Three</th></tr>
  <tr><td>One</td><td>Two</td><td>Three</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Four</td><td>Five</td><td>Six</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Seven</td><td>Eight</td><td>Nine</td></tr>
</table>
```

Spanning Multiple Cells

- It may be the case that your table won't be a perfect grid.
- You can combine multiple rows and/or columns using the **rowspan** and **colspan** attributes.


```
<table border = "1">
  <tr>
    <th>Child's Name: </th><th>Parent's Name: </th>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td rowspan="2">Catherine</td><td>Michael McCarthy</td></tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Colleen McCarthy</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Maggie</td> <td>Sheila McGee</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td rowspan="2">Edward</td><td>Catherine Howard</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Jeff Howard</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

Child's Name:	Parent's Name:
Catherine	Michael McCarthy
	Colleen McCarthy
Maggie	Sheila McGee
Edward	Catherine Howard
	Jeff Howard

The Border Attribute

- There are a number of attributes that tables can take, but in your HTML you should avoid styling.

Captions

- How do you link text to the table? A heading (h2, h3, etc.) will look good, but doesn't provide semantics.
- Use `<caption>`

Review

- **Tables should only be used for tabular data**
- **Draw your table before you code your table**
- **Check for unclosed tags**

Acknowledgements/Contributions

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