

HTML

HyperText Markup Language (HTML) is a data format used to encode web pages.

The "hypertext" part refers to the fact that the text is "non-linear". This means that you can include hyperlinks that branch to other hypertext documents.

The "markup" part refers to the tags that are used to mark up regions of text.

Note that HTML is not a programming language - although most browsers allow you to include JavaScript (which is a programming language) in your HTML files.

The Most Basic HTML Tags

The most widely recognized HTML tags are `` (for bold) and `<i>` (for italic).

What you write in HTML:

This is `bold` text.

What your browser displays:

This is **bold** text.

Note that you need to provide both an opening (start) tag and a closing (end) tag.

This is `<i>italic</i>` text.
 start tag end tag

This is *italic* text.

Nesting Tags

Tags can be combined by nesting them together.

This is `<i>bold italic</i>` text.
 start start end end
bold italic
 tag tag tag tag

But tags cannot cross over each other.

This is `<i>bold italic</i>` text.
 start start end end
bold italic
 tag tag tag tag

X

bad!