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7 COMMON HTML MISTAKES

01

SEMANTIC HEADER & FOOTER

Divs have no semantic structure. Instead of using divs to create headers or footer structures, use `<header>` and `<footer>` elements.



```
<div id="header">
  ...
</div>

<div id="footer">
  ...
</div>
```




```
<header>
  ...
</header>

<footer>
  ...
</footer>
```

02


NOT USING THE FIGURE ELEMENT

If you need to add a caption to your image, use the `<figure>` element combined with the `<figcaption>` element.



```

<p>Image of something interesting</p>
```




```
<figure>
  
  <figcaption>
    <p>This is the caption of the image.</p>
  </figcaption>
</figure>
```


03

RESPECT INLINE & BLOCK ELEMENTS HIERARCHY

Don't place Block elements within Inline elements.



```
<!-- a is inline element-->
<!-- h2 is block element-->
<a href="#">
  <h2>Some title</h2>
</a>
```



```
<!-- a is inline element-->
<!-- h2 is block element-->
<h2>
  <a href="#">Inline inside Block is fine</a>
</h2>
```

04

DON'T USE `` or `<i>` FOR BOLDING AND ITALICIZING

The `` and `<i>` tags are presentational tags, and have no semantic meaning, instead either change the font-weight/font-style in the CSS or use the `` or `` element.



```
<b>This is a bold text</b>  
<i>This is an italic text</i>
```




```
<strong>This is a bold text</strong>  
<em>This is an italic text</em>
```

05

DON'T USE INLINE STYLES

Writing inline styles violates the principle of having the structure (HTML) separate from the presentation (CSS). Instead write the styles in a stylesheet.



```
<h1 style="font-size: 24px">
  Some cool title
</h1>
```




```
h1 {
  font-size: 24px;
}
```


06

DON'T REMOVE FOCUS OUTLINE

The focus indicator is extremely important for users who are unable to use a mouse, if the default focus indicator clashes with your design, you can use CSS to restyle it.



```
button:focus {  
  outline: none;  
}
```




```
button:focus {  
  box-shadow: 0px 0px 0px 4px rgba(239, 155, 137, 0.5);  
}
```

Use box-shadow instead as it is more flexible

07

NOT USING DESCRIPTIVE LINKS


A link's text should be explicit and convey where is redirecting the user to, both users and search engines can more easily understand your content and how it relates to other pages.



```
<a href="/product/features">
  Read more
</a>

<a href="/product/features">
  Click here
</a>

<a href="/product/features">
  Learn more
</a>
```



```
<p>
  Check out all of our
  <a href="/product/features">
    product features
  </a>.
</p>
```