

<nav>

The HTML Navigation Element is used for declaring a section of navigation links.

Navigation can contain links to other pages, or to content within the page itself. While not every list of links should be marked with `<nav>`, there can be more than one navigational section on a page.

Examples

Here's a simple demonstration of the `<nav>` element.

HTML	Result
<pre><nav> <h1>Site Navigation</h1> Home Photos News </nav></pre>	Navigation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home• Photos• News

With a bit of CSS, this navigation can mimic common design patterns for site navigation. The headline "Site Navigation" is included for accessibility, yet hidden visually with CSS. Let's also add the [ARIA Role navigation](#) to properly support accessibility.

HTML	CSS	Result
<pre><nav role="navigation"> <h1>Site Navigation</h1> Home Photos News </nav></pre>	<pre>ul { blahblah: somecss; } li { } a { text-decoration: none; } h1 { }</pre>	Home Photos News

A `<nav>` element doesn't have to contain a list, it can contain other kinds of content as well. In this navigation block, links are provided in prose.

HTML	Result
<pre><nav> <h1>Navigation</h1> <p>You are on my home page. To the north lies my blog, from whence the sounds of battle can be heard. To the east you can see a large mountain, upon which many school papers are littered. Far up thus mountain you can spy a little figure who appears to be me, desperately scribbling a thesis.</p> <p>To the west are several exits. One fun- looking exit is labeled "games". Another more boring-looking exit is labeled ISP™.</p> <p>To the south lies a dark and dank contacts page. Cobwebs cover its disused entrance, and at one point you see a rat run quickly out of the page.</p> </nav></pre>	Navigation <p>You are on my home page. To the north lies my blog, from whence the sounds of battle can be heard. To the east you can see a large mountain, upon which many school papers are littered. Far up thus mountain you can spy a little figure who appears to be me, desperately scribbling a thesis.</p> <p>To the west are several exits. One fun-looking exit is labeled "games". Another more boring-looking exit is labeled ISP™.</p> <p>To the south lies a dark and dank contacts page. Cobwebs cover its disused entrance, and at one point you see a rat run quickly out of the page.</p>

Details

- The `<nav>` element is primarily intended sections that consist for major navigation blocks.
- A document may have several `<nav>` elements, for example, one for site navigation and one for intra-page navigation.
- In cases where the content of a `<nav>` element represents a list of items, use list markup to aid understanding and navigation.
- Not all groups of links on a page need to be in a `<nav>` element. Typically the `<footer>` element often has a list of links that don't need to be in a `<nav>` element.
- User agents (such as screen readers) that are targeted at users who can benefit from navigation information being omitted in the initial rendering, or who can benefit from navigation information being immediately available, can use this element as a way to determine what content on the page to initially skip or provide on request (or both).
- `<nav>` is a [sectioning element](#).

Attributes

HTML elements can have one or more **attributes**. Attributes provide the browser with more information about how the element should appear or behave. Attributes consist of a name and a value separated by an equal sign, with the value surrounded by quotes. For example, `class="news"`.

The `<nav>` element only supports the [global attributes](#).

ARIA Roles

The ARIA role of [navigation](#) is frequently used with `<nav>`. The `<nav>` role [\[insert proper explanation\]](#).

[Needs name — Ideas?]

Categories	Flow content, sectioning content, palpable content.
Permitted contents	Flow content.
Tag omission	Must have both a start tag and an end tag.
Permitted parent elements	Any element that can contain flow elements .
DOM interface	HTMLElement
Typical default display properties	nav { display: block; }

Browser compatibility

# New semantic elements - Working Draft	Usage stats:									
	Global									
HTML5 offers some new elements, primarily for semantic purposes. The elements include: section, article, aside, header, footer, nav, figure, figcaption, time, mark.	Support:		81.03%							
	Partial support:		3.86%							
	Total:		84.89%							
Show all versions	IE	Firefox	Chrome	Safari	Opera	iOS Safari	Opera Mini	Android Browser	Blackberry Browser	IE Mobile
			21.0			3.2		2.1		
	7.0		26.0			4.0-4.1		2.2		
	8.0		28.0	5.1		4.2-4.3		3.0		
	9.0		29.0	6.0		5.0-5.1		4.0		
	10.0	24.0	30.0	6.1	12.1	6.0-6.1		4.1	7.0	
Current	11.0	25.0	31.0	7.0	17.0	7.0	5.0-7.0	4.2-4.3	10.0	10.0
Near future		26.0	32.0		18.0			4.4		
Farther future		27.0	33.0							
Notes	Known issues (0)		Resources (5)		Feedback		Edit on GitHub			
Partial support refers to missing the default styling. This is easily taken care of by using <code>display:block</code> for all new elements (except time and mark, these should be <code>display:inline</code> anyway).										

Official Specifications

Specification	Status
WHATWG HTML Living Standard	Living Standard
W3C HTML Standard	Candidate Recommendation (?)

History

The `<nav>` element was introduced in HTML5.

Related or Similar Elements

`<menu>`

The `<menu>` element represents a list of commands, perhaps a list of `<button>` elements in use for a web application. The `<nav>` element is for a list of links to navigate a site or page. Don't confuse the two.

Learn more

- [HTML5 Doctor](#) (<http://html5doctor.com/nav-element/>)

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Notes from Jen:

Clicking on a "(?)" reveals a pop-up tip with more information. For example, to define Candidate Recommendation.

The code examples are live and can be edited by the user — temporarily, as a way to learn more. We can add a reset button to the example back to it's original state. Changes are not saved in any way; close the browser and the change is gone.

Sources for this content:

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element/nav>

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/tag_nav.asp

<http://html5doctor.com/nav-element/>

[http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ie/gg593047\(v=vs.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ie/gg593047(v=vs.85).aspx)

http://www.quackit.com/html_5/tags/html_nav_tag.cfm

<http://sideshowbarker.github.io/htmlr/nav.html#nav>

<http://www.w3.org/2009/cheatsheet/#search.nav>

<http://www.whatwg.org/specs/web-apps/current-work/multipage/sections.html#the-nav-element>

<http://www.w3.org/TR/html5/sections.html#the-nav-element>

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/html5/html5_tags.htm