

## <meta> - META TAG IN HTML

- The <meta> tag specifies metadata about the document.
- Metadata is not displayed on the HTML document, but the search engine can read the meta information that will be in **machine parsable**.
- Meta elements are usually used to define
  - page description
  - keywords
  - author of the document
  - last modified
  - other metadata.
- The <meta> tag belongs to **metadata content Category**.
- The <meta> tag supports **Global Attributes and Event Attributes**.

### Syntax for <meta> tag in HTML:

```
<meta name = "meta name " content = "name attribute value" >
```

### Differences between HTML 4.01 and HTML5 for <meta> tag in HTML:

#### HTML 4.01

- In HTML 4 the declaration of the charset is  
**<meta http-equiv="content-type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">**

#### HTML5

- The **scheme attribute** is not supported.
- The **charset** is a new attribute.
- When compare with HTML 4 easy to specify charset in HTML 5 **<meta charset="UTF-8">**



## Sample coding for <meta> tag in HTML:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <meta charset="UTF-8">
    <meta name="description" content="Wikitechy a community of
Developers and IT Professional">
  </head>
</html>
```

## Code Explanation for <meta> tag in HTML:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <meta charset="UTF-8">
    <meta name="description" content="Wikitechy a community of
Developers and IT Professional">
  </head>
</html>
```

1. **<meta> tag** defines metadata about an HTML document.
2. **charset** is an attribute, which specifies the character encoding of the document.
3. **name** is an attribute, which is used to define the name of the metadata. name attribute has some predefined values such as description, keywords, application-name, etc.
4. **content** is an attribute, which is used to describe the value of the name attribute.

**Attributes of <meta> tag in HTML:**

Attribute	Value	HTML 4.0.1	HTML 5	Description
<b>content</b>	text	Yes	Yes	Provides the value associated with the http-equiv or name attribute.
<b>http-equiv</b>	content-type default-style refresh	Yes	Yes	Gives an HTTP header for the information/value of the content attribute.
<b>name</b>	application- name author description generator keywords	Yes	Yes	Describes the metadata name.
<b>charset</b>	character_set	Yes	Yes	Defines the character encoding for the HTML document.
<b>scheme</b>	format/URI	Yes	No	Defines a scheme to be used to explain the value of the content attribute.



**Browser Support for <meta> tag in HTML:**

Browser	Language Attribute
Chrome	Yes
Internet explorer / Edge	Yes
Firefox	Yes
Safari	Yes
Opera	Yes

**Tips and Notes**

- The <meta> tags always push inside the <head> element.
- Metadata will always passed as name/value pairs.
- The content attribute must be specified if the name or the http-equiv attribute is specifies.