HTML: Parsing Library

Version 9.4.0.3

November 1, 2026

```
(require html)
```
package: `html-lib`

The `html` library provides functions to read conformant HTML4 documents and structures to represent them. Since `html` assumes documents are conformant and is restricted to the older specific, it should be viewed as a legacy library. We suggest using the `html-parsing` package for modern Web scraping.

```
(read-xhtml port) → html?
  port : input-port?
(read-html port) → html?
  port : input-port?
```

Reads (X)HTML from a port, producing an `html` instance.

```
(read-html-as-xml port) → (listof content/c)
  port : input-port?
```

Reads HTML from a port, producing a list of XML content, each of which could be turned into an X-expression, if necessary, with `xml->xexpr`.

```
(read-html-comments) → boolean?
(read-html-comments v) → void?
  v : any/c
```

If `v` is not `#f`, then comments are read and returned. Defaults to `#f`.

```
(use-html-spec) → boolean?
(use-html-spec v) → void?
  v : any/c
```

If `v` is not `#f`, then the HTML must respect the HTML specification with regards to what elements are allowed to be the children of other elements. For example, the top-level `"<html>"` element may only contain a `"<body>"` and `"<head>"` element. Defaults to `#t`.

1 Example

```
(module html-example racket

  ; Some of the symbols in html and xml conflict with
  ; each other and with racket/base language, so we prefix
  ; to avoid namespace conflict.
  (require (prefix-in h: html)
           (prefix-in x: xml))

  (define an-html
    (h:read-xhtml
     (open-input-string
      (string-append
       "<html><head><title>My title</title></head><body>"
       "<p>Hello world</p><p><b>Testing</b>!</p>"
       "</body></html>"))))

  ; extract-pcdata: html-content/c -> (listof string)
  ; Pulls out the pcdata strings from some-content.
  (define (extract-pcdata some-content)
    (cond [(x:pcdata? some-content)
           (list (x:pcdata-string some-content))]
          [(x:entity? some-content)
           (list)]
          [else
           (extract-pcdata-from-element some-content)]))

  ; extract-pcdata-from-element: html-element -> (listof string)
  ; Pulls out the pcdata strings from an-html-element.
  (define (extract-pcdata-from-element an-html-element)
    (match an-html-element
      [(struct h:html-full (attributes content))
       (apply append (map extract-pcdata content))]

      [(struct h:html-element (attributes))
       '()]))

  (printf "~s\n" (extract-pcdata an-html)))

> (require 'html-example)
("My title" "Hello world" "Testing" "!")
```

2 HTML Structures

pcdata, entity, and attribute are defined in the xml documentation.

```
html-content/c : contract?
```

A html-content/c is either

- html-element
- pcdata
- entity

```
(struct html-element (attributes)
    #:extra-constructor-name make-html-element)
  attributes : (listof attribute)
```

Any of the structures below inherits from html-element.

```
(struct html-full struct:html-element (content)
    #:extra-constructor-name make-html-full)
  content : (listof html-content/c)
```

Any html tag that may include content also inherits from html-full without adding any additional fields.

```
(struct mzscheme html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-mzscheme)
```

A mzscheme is special legacy value for the old documentation system.

```
(struct html html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-html)
```

A html is (make-html (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-html))

A Contents-of-html is either

- body
- head

```
(struct div html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-div)
```

A div is (make-div (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct center html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-center)
```

A center is (make-center (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct blockquote html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-blockquote)
```

A blockquote is (make-blockquote (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct ins html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-ins)
```

An Ins is (make-ins (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct del html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-del)
```

A del is (make-del (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct dd html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-dd)
```

A dd is (make-dd (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct li html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-li)
```

A li is (make-li (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct th html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-th)
```

A th is (make-th (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct td html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-td)
```

A td is (make-td (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct iframe html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-iframe)
```

An iframe is (make-iframe (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct noframes html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-noframes)
```

A noframes is (make-noframes (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct noscript html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-noscript)
```

A noscript is (make-noscript (listof attribute) (listof G2))

```
(struct style html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-style)
```

A style is (make-style (listof attribute) (listof pcdata))

```
(struct script html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-script)
```

A script is (make-script (listof attribute) (listof pcdata))

```
(struct basefont html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-basefont)
```

A basefont is (make-basefont (listof attribute))

```
(struct br html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-br)
```

A br is (make-br (listof attribute))

```
(struct area html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-area)
```

An area is (make-area (listof attribute))

```
(struct alink html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-alink)
```

A alink is (make-alink (listof attribute))

```
(struct img html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-img)
```

An `img` is `(make-img (listof attribute))`

```
(struct param html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-param)
```

A `param` is `(make-param (listof attribute))`

```
(struct hr html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-hr)
```

A `hr` is `(make-hr (listof attribute))`

```
(struct input html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-input)
```

An `input` is `(make-input (listof attribute))`

```
(struct col html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-col)
```

A `col` is `(make-col (listof attribute))`

```
(struct isindex html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-isindex)
```

An `isindex` is `(make-isindex (listof attribute))`

```
(struct base html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-base)
```

A `base` is `(make-base (listof attribute))`

```
(struct meta html-element ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-meta)
```

A `meta` is `(make-meta (listof attribute))`

```
(struct option html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-option)
```

An `option` is `(make-option (listof attribute) (listof pcdata))`

```
(struct textarea html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-textarea)
```

A textarea is (make-textarea (listof attribute) (listof pcdata))

```
(struct title html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-title)
```

A title is (make-title (listof attribute) (listof pcdata))

```
(struct head html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-head)
```

A head is (make-head (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-head))

A Contents-of-head is either

- base
- isindex
- alink
- meta
- object
- script
- style
- title

```
(struct tr html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-tr)
```

A tr is (make-tr (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-tr))

A Contents-of-tr is either

- td
- th

```
(struct colgroup html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-colgroup)
```

A colgroup is (make-colgroup (listof attribute) (listof col))

```
(struct thead html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-thead)
```

A thead is (make-thead (listof attribute) (listof tr))

```
(struct tfoot html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-tfoot)
```

A tfoot is (make-tfoot (listof attribute) (listof tr))

```
(struct tbody html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-tbody)
```

A tbody is (make-tbody (listof attribute) (listof tr))

```
(struct tt html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-tt)
```

A tt is (make-tt (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct i html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-i)
```

An i is (make-i (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct b html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-b)
```

A b is (make-b (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct u html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-u)
```

An u is (make-u (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct s html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-s)
```

A s is (make-s (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct strike html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-strike)
```

A strike is (make-strike (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct big html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-big)
```

A big is (make-big (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct small html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-small)
```

A small is (make-small (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct em html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-em)
```

An em is (make-em (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct strong html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-strong)
```

A strong is (make-strong (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct dfn html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-dfn)
```

A dfn is (make-dfn (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct code html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-code)
```

A code is (make-code (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct samp html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-samp)
```

A samp is (make-samp (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct kbd html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-kbd)
```

A kbd is (make-kbd (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct var html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-var)
```

A var is (make-var (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct cite html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-cite)
```

A cite is (make-cite (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct abbr html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-abbr)
```

An abbr is (make-abbr (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct acronym html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-acronym)
```

An acronym is (make-acronym (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct sub html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-sub)
```

A sub is (make-sub (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct sup html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-sup)
```

A sup is (make-sup (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct span html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-span)
```

A span is (make-span (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct bdo html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-bdo)
```

A bdo is (make-bdo (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct font html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-font)
```

A font is (make-font (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct p html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-p)
```

A p is (make-p (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct h1 html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-h1)
```

A h1 is (make-h1 (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct h2 html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-h2)
```

A h2 is (make-h2 (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct h3 html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-h3)
```

A h3 is (make-h3 (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct h4 html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-h4)
```

A h4 is (make-h4 (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct h5 html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-h5)
```

A h5 is (make-h5 (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct h6 html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-h6)
```

A h6 is (make-h6 (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct q html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-q)
```

A q is (make-q (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct dt html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-dt)
```

A dt is (make-dt (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct legend html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-legend)
```

A legend is (make-legend (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct caption html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-caption)
```

A caption is (make-caption (listof attribute) (listof G5))

```
(struct table html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-table)
```

A table is (make-table (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-table))

A Contents-of-table is either

- caption
- col
- colgroup
- tbody
- tfoot
- thead

```
(struct button html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-button)
```

A button is (make-button (listof attribute) (listof G4))

```
(struct fieldset html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-fieldset)
```

A fieldset is (make-fieldset (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-fieldset))

A Contents-of-fieldset is either

- legend

- G2

```
(struct optgroup html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-optgroup)
```

An optgroup is (make-optgroup (listof attribute) (listof option))

```
(struct select html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-select)
```

A select is (make-select (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-select))

A Contents-of-select is either

- optgroup
- option

```
(struct label html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-label)
```

A label is (make-label (listof attribute) (listof G6))

```
(struct form html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-form)
```

A form is (make-form (listof attribute) (listof G3))

```
(struct ol html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-ol)
```

An ol is (make-ol (listof attribute) (listof li))

```
(struct ul html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-ul)
```

An ul is (make-ul (listof attribute) (listof li))

```
(struct dir html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-dir)
```

A dir is (make-dir (listof attribute) (listof li))

```
(struct menu html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-menu)
```

A menu is (make-menu (listof attribute) (listof li))

```
(struct dl html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-dl)
```

A dl is (make-dl (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-dl))

A Contents-of-dl is either

- dd
- dt

```
(struct pre html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-pre)
```

A pre is (make-pre (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-pre))

A Contents-of-pre is either

- G9
- G11

```
(struct object html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-object)
```

An object is (make-object (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-object-applet))

```
(struct applet html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-applet)
```

An applet is (make-applet (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-object-applet))

A Contents-of-object-applet is either

- param
- G2

```
(struct -map html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make--map)
```

A Map is (make--map (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-map))

A Contents-of-map is either

- area
- fieldset
- form
- isindex
- G10

```
(struct a html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-a)
```

An a is (make-a (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-a))

A Contents-of-a is either

- label
- G7

```
(struct address html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-address)
```

An address is (make-address (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-address))

A Contents-of-address is either

- p
- G5

```
(struct body html-full ()
    #:extra-constructor-name make-body)
```

A body is (make-body (listof attribute) (listof Contents-of-body))

A Contents-of-body is either

- del
- ins
- G2

A G12 is either

- button
- iframe
- input
- select
- textarea

A G11 is either

- a
- label
- G12

A G10 is either

- address
- blockquote
- center
- dir

- div
- dl
- h1
- h2
- h3
- h4
- h5
- h6
- hr
- menu
- noframes
- noscript
- ol
- p
- pre
- table
- ul

A G9 is either

- abbr
- acronym
- b
- bdo
- br
- cite
- code
- dfn

- em
- i
- kbd
- -map
- pcdata
- q
- s
- samp
- script
- span
- strike
- strong
- tt
- u
- var

A G8 is either

- applet
- basefont
- big
- font
- img
- object
- small
- sub
- sup
- G9

A G7 is either

- G8
- G12

A G6 is either

- a
- G7

A G5 is either

- label
- G6

A G4 is either

- G8
- G10

A G3 is either

- fieldset
- isindex
- G4
- G11

A G2 is either

- form
- G3