Summary of HTML 3.0 Tables

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1. Quick reference

Values shown as \(i\) are integers; \(f\) are fixed-point numbers such as 2.7; \(d\) are dimensions; \(c\) are characters; and \(a\) are common alignment attributes.

This publication is available in Web form\(^1\) and also as a PDF document\(^2\). Please forward any comments to tcc-doc@nmt.edu.

The principal table elements must occur in this order:

1. The \(<table>\) tag starting the table.
2. The \(<caption>\)\(...</caption>\) element, if any.
3. One or more \(<tr>\) elements containing the table's rows. Each will contain a \(<td>\) element for each cell.
4. The \(</table>\) tag ending the table.

2. Dimensions \((d)\)

| \(i\)px | Screen pixels; this is the default unit, if no units are given. |
| \(f\)in | Inches. |
| \(f\)cm | Centimeters. |

\(^1\)http://www.nmt.edu/tcc/help/pubs/htmltabcrib/

\(^2\)http://www.nmt.edu/tcc/help/pubs/htmltabcrib.pdf
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>fmm</th>
<th>Millimeters.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fpi</td>
<td>Printer's pica, about 1/6&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fpt</td>
<td>Printer's point, about 1/72&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fem</td>
<td>Printer's em, equal to the default font size.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>Percentage of a width that depends on context. For example, in a &lt;td&gt; tag, a width=&quot;75%&quot; attribute would mean 3/4 of the table's width.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Common alignment attributes (a)

- **align=align-attr**
  Controls horizontal alignment of cell contents. Values may be: **left, center, or right; justify** for justified paragraphs; or **char** for alignment to a character defined by the **char** attribute.

- **char=char**
  Define **c** as the alignment character for **align=char**. The default is ".".

- **charoff=charoff**
  Align all cells to a point that is **d** away from the left side of the cell (right side for Hebrew and Arabic).

- **valign=valign-attr**
  Controls vertical alignment of cell contents. Values may be: **top, middle, bottom**, or **baseline**, which horizontally aligns the first line of each paragraph on that row.

4. Attributes of the <table> tag

- **align="table-align"**
  Specifies the horizontal position of the table within the window. The value may be **left, center, or right**.

- **width="d"**
  Controls the width of the entire table.

- **border="d"**
  Place a frame around the table. The dimension is optional.

- **frame="frame-option"**
  Specifies which sides of the frame to display: **void** for none; **above, below**, or **both** for the top and bottom; **lhs, rhs, or vsides** for the sides; or **box** for all four sides.

- **rules="rules-option"**
  Specifies where to place rules within the table: **basic** for rules between row and column groups; **rows**, between rows; **cols**, between columns; **all** for both **rows** and **cols**.

- **cellspacing="d"**
  Add space between cells.

- **cellpadding="d"**
  Add space around cell contents.

5. The <caption> tag

Adds a caption (title) to the table. Attributes:
6. The `<tr>` tag

Starts a new table row. Attributes include `align`, `char`, `charoff`, and `valign`.

7. The `<td>` and `<th>` tags

Defines one cell. `<th>` should be used for row and column headings, `<td>` for normal cells. Attributes include `align`, `char`, `charoff`, and `valign`, plus:

- `nowrap`
  Don’t wrap text into paragraphs. May increase the width of the table.

- `rowspan="i"`
  This item will use the next $i$ cells in this column. A value of 0 (zero) means to span all remaining cells.

- `colspan="i"`
  This item will use the next $i$ cells in this row. A value of 0 (zero) means to span all remaining cells.

8. A look ahead: HTML 4.0 tables

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**Warning**
Most browsers don’t support these features yet.

The principal table elements must occur in this order:

1. The `<table>` tag starting the table.
2. The `<caption>`...`</caption>` element, if any.
3. Any `<colgroup>` and `<col>` tags describing the column structure.
4. `<thead>` and the table header, if any.
5. `<tfoot>` and the table footer, if any.
6. The table body. This must be inside a `<tbody>` element if either `<thead>` or `<tfoot>` was used.
7. The `</table>` tag ending the table.

8.1. The `<colgroup>` tag

Sets attributes common to the following `<col>` tags. Attributes: `align`, `char`, `charoff`, and `valign`.

8.2. The `<col>` tag

Sets up the style of the cells in a column. Attributes: `align`, `char`, `charoff`, and `valign`, plus:

- `span="i"`
  Replicate this column $i$ times.

- `width="d"`
  Set the width of the column(s).
8.3. The `<thead>`, `<tfoot>`, and `<tbody>` tags

Place your column heads in the `<thead>` element, and your column footings in the `<tfoot>` element if any. Then place the body of your table within the `<tbody>` element. Attributes include `align`, `char`, `charoff`, and `valign`. 