Supply Metadata

Meta information is simply data that describes other data. In the context of HTML, document metadata describes the document itself – rather than the document’s contents.

HTML metadata is defined in the head section of the HTML document using the `<meta>` tag. The `<meta>` tag is an “empty” tag that needs no matching closing tag to create an HTML element – it is only used to specify information with its tag attributes. Previous examples have used this tag to specify the document’s character-set. Further `<meta>` tags can be added to describe other aspects of the document.

Given the number of handheld devices that may view a web page, it is useful to optimize the page for smaller screens by including this `<meta>` tag in all your HTML documents’ head sections:

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
```

This will ensure your document will fill the device screen width and sets the initial zoom level so the content is not zoomed.

A `<meta>` tag can also assign a document HTTP header property to an `http-equiv` attribute and can specify that property’s value to a `content` attribute. You can assign the HTTP “refresh” property to an `http-equiv` attribute to reload the page after a number of seconds specified to its `content` attribute – for example, to reload the page after five seconds, like this:

```
<meta http-equiv="refresh" content="5">
```

This technique is often used on websites to dynamically update news or status items, as it does not depend on JavaScript support.

Another popular use redirects the browser to a new web page after a specified number of seconds, like this:

```
<meta http-equiv="refresh" content="5 ; url='new-page.html' ">
```

In this case, the `<meta>` tag’s `content` attribute specifies both the number of seconds to delay and the new URL to load.
...cont’d

1. Create a barebones HTML document
   ```html
   <!DOCTYPE HTML>
   <html lang="en">
   <head>
   <meta charset="UTF-8">
   <!-- More metadata to be inserted here. -->
   <title>Meta Refresh</title>
   </head>
   <body>
   <h1>Moving in 5 Seconds...</h1>
   </body>
   </html>
   ```

2. Insert two more elements of metadata
   ```html
   <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
   <meta http-equiv="refresh" content="5; url='https://ineasysteps.com'">
   ```

3. Save the document then open it in your web browser and wait five seconds to see the browser redirect

   ![Browser redirect](image-url)

When you only specify the domain to the `url` attribute, as in this case, the browser will automatically load the `index.html` page at that domain location.