

## Div & Span Elements

HTML elements can be grouped together with `<div>` and `<span>` areas.

<code>&lt;div&gt;</code>	Defines a section in a document (block-level)
<code>&lt;span&gt;</code>	Defines a section in a document (inline)

### Div Element

Div `<div>` elements configure a section or division of a webpage with a line break above and below automatically which is called a block-level element.

Think of `<div>` elements as the rooms in your house which are the load-bearing walls and separate one room from another. Use the `<div>` tag when you need to format a certain section that is separate from the rest of the webpage

The `<div>` tag is useful to define a section that contains block-level elements such as `<p>`, `<ul>`, `<ol>` etc.

#### Example:

```
<div id="logo">LOGO</div>
```

#### Explained:

In this example, the word LOGO will be formatted with the appropriate id format defined in the CSS. The following content will automatically display on the next line because of the block-level *div* element extends across the entire page.

### Span Element

Span `<span>` elements define a section of a webpage that is not physically separated from other areas by line breaks.

Use `<span>` elements if you need to format an area that is contained within another such as `<p>`, `<li>`, `<ol>` or `<div>` etc.

#### Example:

```
<p>This is <span class="important">important</span>.</p>
```

#### Explained:

In this example, only the word *important* will be formatted with the appropriate class defined in the CSS. Notice how the words *This is* and the *period* ( . ) are outside of the span.

## HTML4 & HTML5

In the past, web developer's utilized id's a little bit differently than they do today. In the past, developers would give *id's* to <div> elements to create headers, navigation, footers, sections and columns.

With the emergence of some new HTML5 tags, developers have the ability to style new tags or choose to give these tags id names to isolate them.

HTML4	HTML5
<div id="header">Header</div>	<header>Header</header>
<div id="nav">Navigation</div>	<nav>Navigation</nav>
<div id="section"> Section</div>	<section>Section</section>
<div id="column"></div>	<aside>Column</aside>
<div id="footer">Footer</div>	<footer>Footer</footer>

There are a number of other HTML5 tags available for developers to utilize in addition to the ones listed above. Some developers have moved to HTML5 tags while others still prefer to use *id* names to identify *divs*.