A HTML form or web form allows collecting user’s input. The users fill their information using forms elements like textboxes, radio buttons, checkboxes etc. For example a web form can be used to collect feedback from user for the website.

Another example of web form is login form (as shown in figure). This form contains two textboxes asking for ‘username’ and ‘password’, and a button labeled as ‘login’ to send the form’s information to server for processing. It also contains a hyperlink ‘Not registered’ to open new page for creating new account.

![Login Form](image)

**Figure: An Example of Login form**

<form> element defines a form in HTML

```
<form>
    .....
    form elements
    .....
</form>
```
Attributes of `<form>` element

1. **action** :- It defines the process to be performed when the form is submitted.

   For example: `<form action="login_validate.php"`>

   When the form is submitted, this login_validate.php page contains the action to be performed that is to handle the form’s data and where the data proceed further.

2. **target** :- It specifies where to open result after submitting the form. It can have value:
   - `self` :- The result will be displayed in same tab. It is default value.
   - `blank` :- in new tab.
   - `top` :- in the entire browser window i.e. “breaks out of all frames”.
   - `parent` :- in the parent of the current frame.

   For example: `<form target="_blank">`

3. **method** :- It specifies the HTTP method to be used when submitting the form data. It can have value:

   - `get` :- It is default value. It is not secure method because the submitted form’s data will be visible in the address field of the browser.
   - `post` :- We must use post method when form contains sensitive or personal information because it does not display the submitted form data in the address field of the browser.

   For example: `<form method="post">`
Exercise:

1. What is the use of Web forms?
2. What are the differences between “get” and “post” method of HTML form?