

Case Study: Form Formatting

Ivan Pepelnjak (@ioshints, ip@ioshints.info)
NIL Data Communications



ipSpace

Case Study: Formatted Forms

Plezanje na umetni steni: dodaj nov trening

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena	<input type="text"/>
Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)	<input type="text" value="18.3"/>
Vrsta stene	<input type="text" value="--- izberi ---"/> ▼
Dolžina treninga (ure)	<input type="text"/>

Ostali zanimivi podatki

Skupna preplezana višina	<input type="text"/>
Soplezalec	<input type="text"/>
Opombe	<input type="text" value="... vnesi opombo ..."/>

[Nazaj](#)[Shrani](#)

Can't Tell You How Wrong This Is

```
<table>
  <tr>
    <td>Umetna stena:</td>
    <td> <input class="formField" type="text"
      name="TargetName" id="TargetName"
      size="50" maxlength="50" />
    </td>
  </tr>
  ...
```

- Use **fieldset**, **label** and **legend**
- Don't use tables for formatting

Fieldsets, Legends and Labels

```
<form class="xForm">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Osnovni podatki</legend>
    <table>
      <tr>
        <td><label for="tgt" >Umetna stena</label></td>
        <td><input class="formField" type="text" name="tgt" ...></td>
      </tr>
    </table>
  </fieldset>
  ...

```

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena

Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)

Can we do it without tables?

Markup: Paragraphs or Bullets

```
<form class="xForm">
  <fieldset>
    <legend>Osnovni podatki</legend>
    <ol>
      <li>
        <label for="TargetName">Umetna stena</label>
        <input class="formField" type="text" name="TargetName" ... />
      </li>
      <li>
        <label for="Date">Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)</label>
        <input class="formField" type="text" name="Date" ... />
      </li>
    </ol>
  </fieldset>
  ...
</form>
```

Nice Try, Sherlock!

Osnovni podatki

1. Umetna stena
2. Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)
3. Vrsta stene
4. Dolžina treninga (ure)

Fix Bullet List Formatting

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena

Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)

Vrsta stene

Dolžina treninga (ure)

```
.xform * { font-size: 8pt; }  
.xform ol { margin: 0 0; padding: 0 0; }  
.xForm li {  
    margin: 0.1em 0 0.1em 0;  
    padding: 0.2em 0.3em;  
    list-style-type: none;  
}
```

Float the Labels

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena	<input type="text"/>
Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)	<input type="text"/>
Vrsta stene	<input type="text" value="--- izberi ---"/>
Dolžina treninga (ure)	<input type="text"/>

```
.xForm label { float: left;
                width: 15em; padding-right: 1em; }
```

- Float the labels to the left
- Give them fixed width and right-side padding

What happens on label overflow?

Floating Content Overflow Problem

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena	<input type="text"/>
Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)	<input type="text"/>
Vrsta stene	<input type="text" value="--- izberi ---"/>
Dolžina treninga (ure)	<input type="text"/>

- Floats are stacked as far to the top of the page as possible
- Use **clear: left**

Clearing Each Bullet Line

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena

Datum
treninga
(dd.mm.llll ali
dd.mm)

Vrsta stene

Dolžina
treninga
(ure)

```
.xForm li { clear: left }
```

What happens with multi-line fields?

Multi-Line Fields Don't Align Properly

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena	<input type="text"/>
Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll ali dd.mm)	<input type="text"/>
Vrsta stene	--- izberi --- <input type="button" value="v"/>
Izberi vrsto stene na kateri si treniral	
Dolžina treninga (ure)	<input type="text"/>

Solution:

- Shift the bullet body to the right (all body lines will get aligned)
- Shift the label to the left (float is within parent element)

Almost There

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena

Datum treninga (dd.mm.llll
ali dd.mm)

Vrsta stene

Izberi vrsto stene na kateri si treniral

Dolžina treninga (ure)

```
.xForm li {
    clear: left; margin-left: 15em;
}

.xForm label {
    float: left;
    width: 14em; padding-right: 1em;
    margin-left: -15em; }
```

How can we handle forms with long labels?

Per-Fieldset (Or Bullet List) Width

Osnovni podatki

Umetna stena	<input type="text"/>
Datum treninga (dd.mm.lill ali dd.mm)	<input type="text"/>
Vrsta stene	<input type="text" value="--- izberi ---"/> Izberi vrsto stene na kateri si treniral
Dolžina treninga (ure)	<input type="text"/>

HTML:

```
<fieldset id="baseData"> ...
```

CSS:

```
#baseData label { width: 22em; margin-left: -23em; }
#baseData li    { margin-left: 23em; }
```

ID selector is more specific than any tag/class selector

Questions?

