

# Forms

Form text fields allow users to input, edit, and select text. Text fields are either single-line (underline or boxed) or multi-line. Labels should appear as helper text by default, then move above the input on focus.

Types
States
Assistive elements
Behavior
Form dropdown
Type ahead support for form entry

## Types

Input fields come in with 3 types.

- Underline input field
- Box input field
- Text area

1. Underline input field

First name

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Last name

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Email address

Jonsnow@gm|

### 1. Underline input field

Underline input fields save space by using the float label, the label moves up when the form is activated. They are commonly used for stacked input fields.

2. Box input field

Product title

Coupon code

eBay|

### 2. Box input field

Box input fields keep user context, it's more discoverable as it's more visually heavy. They are commonly used for single/separate input fields.

3. Text area

What's your questions

0/1000

### 3. Text area

Use text area for longer descriptive text content, text areas are taller and usually multi lines input fields as they wrap the characters onto a new line.

## States

Form fields have five interaction states: default, active, complete, error and disabled.

### Default

Before users interact with the form fields, they are in default states. By default, the label sits on the underline/box with secondary color.

Label

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Label

Label

### Active

Text fields are active when users click/touch them, the highlighted blue provides affordance of the active state, the text color turns to black when typing, bold out the typing color for the underline form to grab attention on current text. Box form and text area don't bold out the text as the box line around is already strong to users.

Label

**Typing|**

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Label

**Typing|**

Label

**Typing|**

### Complete

Text fields are in complete state when users have input the text into the forms and leave their cursor/touchpoints outside the area of the form. The text keeps black to differentiate from default states.

Label

**Typed text**

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Label

Typed text

Label

Typed text

### Error

We have three types of error state: empty error, character count error and validation error. The underline/box becomes red and red error message is displayed below the underline/box.

Zip code

Please enter a zip code

Product title

New baby swan dress girls white par

Your input has exceeded the limit 46/40

Leave your message

<script> </script>

Please enter the valid message

### Disabled

For forms fields that don't hold interactions with users, we show the disabled state.

Label

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Label

Label

## Assistive elements

Assistive elements provide additional detail about text entered into form fields.

### Icon signifier

Icon signifiers are used to the right of a text field to provide necessary additional visual information. The dropdown arrow indicates that the input field is a dropdown.

Card number

12345678901234 **VISA**

Security code

123 ⓘ

Country or region

United States ▾

### Optional field

To indicate that a field is optional, display the word "optional" in parentheses next to the field label.

Street address 2 (optional)

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Street address 2 (optional)

Description (Optional)

Enter a description, say why you like it.

### Placeholder text

Placeholder text is visible until a user enters a character. At that time the placeholder text is hidden. Use placeholder text to help users better understand the required input format.

Stress address 2 (optional)

| Apartment, Suite, Floor, etc

Security code

3 or 4 digits

Leave your question here

Question like "Can you change the shipping method?"

### Helper text

Helper text sits below an input and gives the user guidance on how to successfully fill out the form field, or how the input information will be used. Helper text should be visible either persistently or on focus.

Password

....|  Show

At least 6 characters  
A number or symbol

Coupon code

The coupon code will expire in 3 days

Leave your message here

This will be seen by the seller

### Error message

For text fields that validate their content (such as passwords), replace helper text with error text when applicable.

Password

123|  Show

At least 6 characters  
A number or symbol

Password

123|  Show

Please enter at least 6 characters  
Please contain a number or symbol

Keep the helper text if the information of error message is separate from helper text.

Phone number

607 - 3|

We only use this number if there's an order issue. Standard text rates may apply.

Phone number

607 - 3

Please input the 10-digit number  
We only use this number if there's an order issue. Standard text rates may apply.

## Behavior

Attributes within an input field determine its behavior. Below are various examples.

### Smooth transitions

The label moves up to underline forms, the transition need to be clear to be noticed and divert user's attention to the form itself to encourage users to type.

Label

### Input masking

Input masking shows the expect data in a specific format, the mask should increase the transparency and reduce the confusion.

For underline input fields, the masking text only exists during the time between the from is just activated and the 1st character is typed.

For box forms, the masking text fades away when the first character is typed.

Expiration

MM / YY

Date of birth

MM / DD / YYYY

Expiration

### Input obfuscation

Input obfuscation uses universal symbols to hide the sensitive/private information. We use different symbols to hide different content.

#### Asterisks (\*)

If all the content need to be hidden, use asterisks

Date of birth

\*/\*\*/\*\*\*\*

#### Lowercase of x

If part of the content need to be hidden, use lowercase x, but there are some exceptions like email obfuscation.

Phone number

607 - xxx - xx23

#### Ellipsis (...)

Use ellipsis to indicate the omission of words, or truncate something in the middle.

Address

254 Howard St, Vista Drive, Apt 110, San Francis...

#### Common exceptions from Accessibility

The symbols like \*/x/... should not cause confusion for visually impaired users or screen readers.

Email

m\*\*s@gmail.com

Credit card

Visa ending in 1234

[Read more about the input obfuscation](#)

## Character overflow

Overflow specifies the different behaviors of single and multi-line inputs when a user reaches a character limit.

For forms with strict character count, like credit card numbers, will only let a user type to the maximum character count. At that point, text entry will stop and the character counter will turn black.

For input fields, that don't require the character count or text area, a user will be able to type past the character limit shown in the character counter, the height of input field doesn't change and the front characters are eaten out with increasing characters.

Label

## Form dropdown

The form dropdown needs to keep consistent with other underline text fields in terms of the height and font size.

On dWeb, for dropdown options use customized options panel. On small screens like mWeb and native, use browser default for options panel.

Color

Select ▾

Color

Select ▲

Select ✓

Blue

Green

Orange

Color

Select ▲

Select ✓

Blue

Green

Orange

Use scroller for options that are more than 10.

Color

Select ▲

Select ✓

Amber

Black

Blue

Brown

Cyan

Deep purple

Green

Lime

Yellow

## Type ahead support for form entry

Auto complete the input field for users, the system would show a list of possible/potential characters that users would type to optimize the input experience. We have two types of type ahead now.

### Page-level auto fill

Page-level auto fill like search entry, the whole page to show the options.

### Content-level auto fill

Content-level auto fill like address auto complete, the options seems float on the page.

Search for anything

Poplular choices

Apple Series 1 (38mm) Apple Series 1 (38mm) Apple Watch with Rose Gold Watch with Rose Gold Watch Aluminum Case and... Aluminum Case and... Alumi

\$199.99 \$199.99 \$199.99

Popular choices

Home My eBay Search Notifications Settings

Country

United States ▾

Billing address

Apt or FL (optional)

Zip code