



LABTrack Tech Note 08-012

A Note on Creating Forms and Templates with LABTrack

Applicable to all version of LABTrack.

HTML Form Elements

LABTrack allows users and administrators to create forms on notebook pages and save them as templates (Save as Template toolbar button). What is being created on the notebook page is a W3C standard HTML document. All of the form field types of HTML are defined in the HTML 4 standard as described at <http://htmlhelp.com/reference/html40/alist.html>.

Form field elements are subtype of the Input form element as described in the document found at <http://htmlhelp.com/reference/html40/forms/input.html>.

Certain common attributes are functional depending on the input subgroup type. For example radio buttons are grouped together by making all of their IDs the same. To do this - add the radio buttons to the notebook page, then double click (or right click and select properties) on the radio button. Then change the ID field to a common value. The properties windows provided in LABTrack display and allow editing of all of the pertinent common and specific attributes for the form field element.

We recommend this reference document for help on field elements:
http://www.w3schools.com/html/html_forms.asp

Template Page Editable Check Box

When saving pages as a template the Page Editable check box plays an important role in the functionality of the template when it is used. Checking this box forces the display of the notebook page into Preview mode when ever a user applies the template to a notebook page. Leaving the Page Editable check box unchecked leaves the notebook page in Normal mode.

Notebook Page Modes

Three modes are displayed as links below the notebook page (not all are enabled depending on the check box described above and the type of user logged in): Normal, Preview and HTML.

In Normal mode the user can make changes to the form elements and the rest of the notebook page. In this mode they can delete, resize and add form elements for example. They can enter values by clicking twice on the form element. Clicking just once turns on the form element handles allowing resizing.

In Preview mode the user cannot edit form elements. They can only input or select values. In this mode users are also prevented from typing on the notebook page anywhere other than in a form element (eg. Text, Text Area, Drop Down List etc.)

Administrators have access to the HTML mode. In this mode administrators can display and edit the underlying HTML.