



Input Types

 Variation	 Notes
<u>Untitled</u>	
<u>Default</u>	This is going to be our default single line input field. Design two elements for this, a top aligned label, and an input container—roughly 320px wide and 32-48px tall. You can tweak the size later, but this is a good starting point. Mind you margins and padding. Also, make sure your label passes AA accessibility.
<u>Alternative Label Alignment</u>	For this exercise let's stick with simple top aligned labels only, but I do want to call out the others options. There are float labels (fun fact I invented Float Labels in 2013), left aligned, right aligned, and even bottom aligned labels. There are accessibility concerns with non-top or non-left aligned labels, but with some creativity on the development side, they can be made accessible to screen readers. Use at your own risk.
<u>Placeholder</u>	Helpful information that gives more context to what the input is asking for. For example, a label that says "First Name" might have "Eg. John" as the placeholder. I recommend using a 3.0 contrast score for placeholder text. This hits the right balance of readability and lightness so it doesn't look like actual typed text
<u>Helper Text</u>	This can be above or below the input field. It's always helpful to have this as a variation for pieces of information that need more context. For example, if someone is signing up for your an app and you're requesting their phone number(!?) more context for "WHY" you're asking for that information is key. This is often 2pt sizes smaller than the input size itself.
<u>Leading Icon</u>	Fancy word for an icon to the left of an input. Think credit card number, profile icon for name, lock for security code, etc.
<u>Trailing Icon</u>	Fancy word for an icon to the right of an input. Can be inside or outside of the input field. Think of show/hide icons on password fields, or error and success icons.
<u>Tooltip Icon</u>	A small icon that reveals more contextual information on hover or tap.
<u>Hover</u>	A slight change in style from the default input field that shows interactivity. This can be very subtle
<u>Focus / Active</u>	This needs to be painfully unmistakable. Can be done with border stroke and color, fill change, drop shadow, etc. This is the most important style.

Aa Variation	☰ Notes
<u>Autofill</u>	This is an often overlooked style that happens when information is added via a browsers' autofill capabilities—password, email, etc. The standard web form style for this is a slight yellow color change on the fill, but it can be styled anyway you'd like
<u>User Input (typing with cursor)</u>	Similar to the Focus state, but you can alter the color of the cursor or input text while the user is typing.
<u>User Input (not focused)</u>	This is what's leftover after the user has added information to an input field and has moved on to another form field or escaped focus from an existing one.
<u>Error</u>	Some type of validation error. It's best to use color, icon, and an error message for maximum accessibility. Don't forget that the best UX is often preventing errors from happening in the first place, but even still, you need a nice error design.
<u>Success</u>	An option for in-line validation for username search, etc. Best to use some type of "success" color like green with an icon and a message. Color can be different if style and/or brand allows for it.
<u>Inactive</u>	This is an input field that cannot be focused. (Eg. Home address that is linked to an internet service. User provided the information, but it cannot be changed) It's best to change all text to a contrast score of AA Large, so that it all has a similar contrast and "inactive feel"
<u>Password</u>	Hidden input like this ●●●●●●●● (option 8 will type bullets on the Mac) Consider a show/hide toggle on the far right of the input field, or below the input field.
<u>Width Considerations</u>	For items like ZIP or Postal Code, CC numbers, Prefixes, etc. When you know how many characters a form field will contain, you can adjust the width so it's more intuitive for the user.
<u>Prefixed</u>	Any input field that may contain a fixed character set before the input. For example if providing a URL input field, you may have "http://" as a prefix in a slightly lighter color separated from the main input.
<u>Suffixed</u>	Input field that contains information after the user input. Eg. lbs, ms, liters, or any unit of measurement.
<u>Multi-line input (character limit)</u>	Input fields that require more than one line of text—comments, free form notes, etc. Should be styled in the same way as the single-line fields, just taller.

Aa Variation	☰ Notes
<u>Preformatted</u>	Input that fits into an existing format like credit card numbers, telephone numbers, etc.
<u>Checkbox</u>	A small box that allows a user to select or deselect. Can be used for on/off toggle or for selecting multiple items at once.
<u>Radio button</u>	Similar to a checkbox, but should be reserved for selecting only one option out of many options. Should not be used for on/off.
<u>Dropdown</u>	Selectable container for holding multiple options, usually when there are more than 3 or 4 items to choose from (eg. Country selector)