

# Field Hints / Contextual Help

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### Introduction

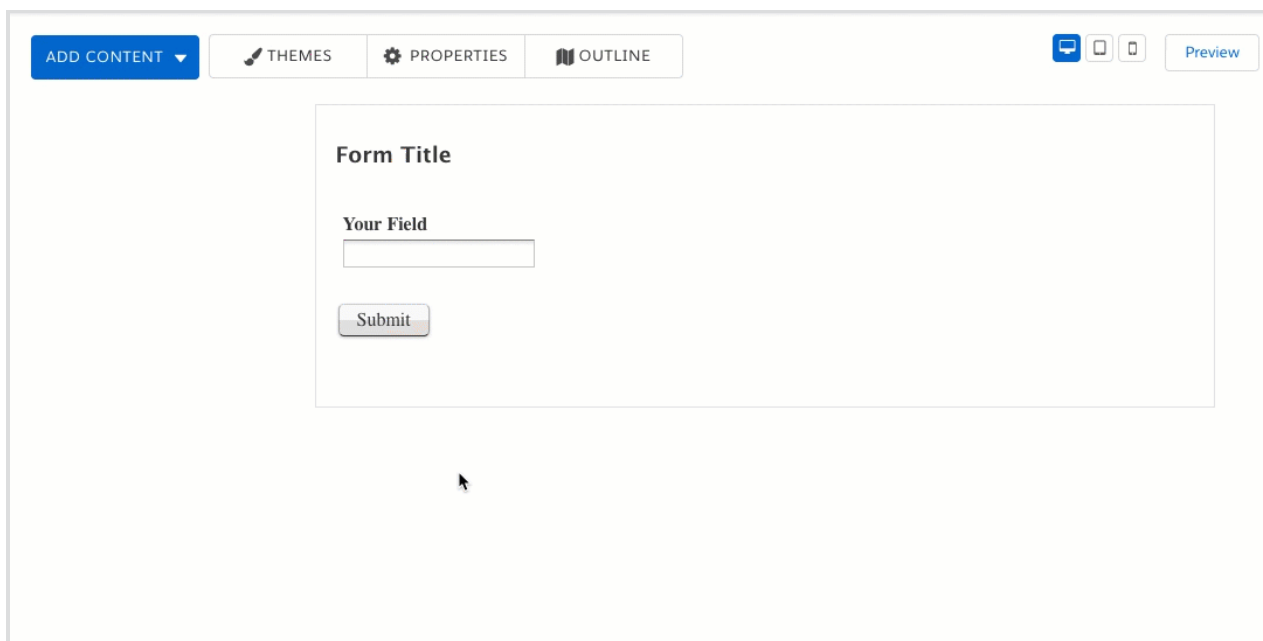
A hint is a helpful little companion to a form field. They give you handy clues and directions about what's needed. [Read more on our blog](#).

You can also [see our example form](#) for hints in action, or [get the template](#).

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## Add a Hint

1. Select the field by clicking within the highlighted area to bring up the [editing toolbar](#).
2. Click on the **Options** button.
3. On the [sidebar](#), click to expand the **Contextual Help (Hint)** menu.
4. From here, you can type the help message, choose the location of the hint, and add placeholder text.

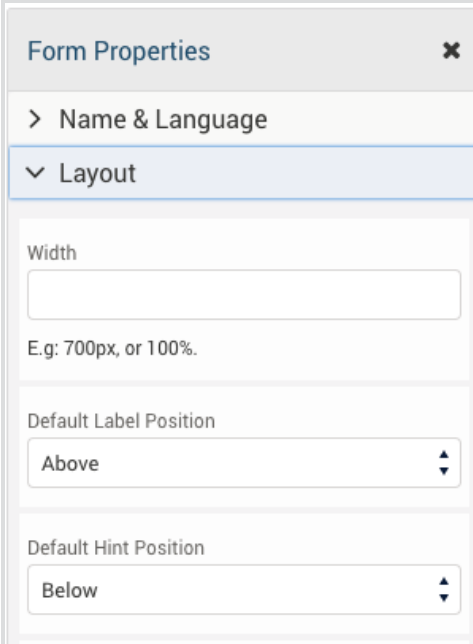


The screenshot shows a form editor interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with buttons for 'ADD CONTENT', 'THEMES', 'PROPERTIES', and 'OUTLINE'. On the right side of the navigation bar, there are icons for chat, desktop, and mobile, along with a 'Preview' button. The main area of the editor displays a form with the following elements: a title 'Form Title', a label 'Your Field' above a text input field, and a 'Submit' button below the input field. A mouse cursor is visible near the bottom center of the form area.

You can choose the hint location **per field** or change the default location **for all fields** on the

form.

In the **Layout** settings of the Properties menu, you may select the form's settings for [hint](#) and [label](#) placement.



The screenshot shows the 'Form Properties' dialog box with the 'Layout' section expanded. It includes a 'Width' input field with a placeholder 'E.g: 700px, or 100%'. Below it are two dropdown menus: 'Default Label Position' set to 'Above' and 'Default Hint Position' set to 'Below'.

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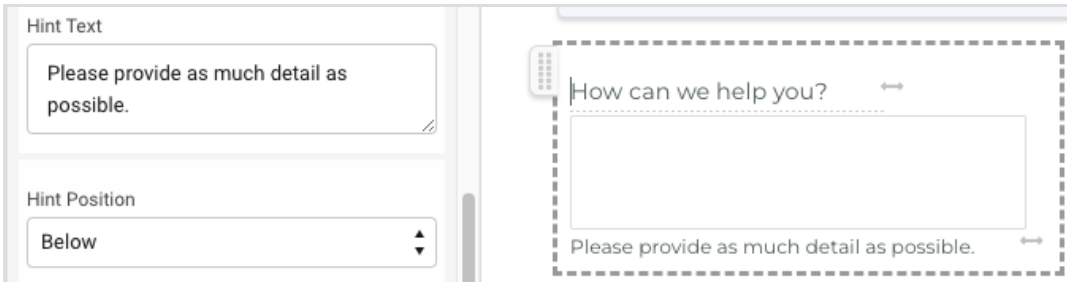
## Placement

You can add hints below, on the side, in a pop-up, or as placeholder text. Each location has different benefits, so you should consider what you need and how your respondents will see the form. It's all about their experience, so you want the hints to be as helpful as possible!

Here's a handy pros and cons list:

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### Below



The diagram shows a control panel on the left and a form field on the right. The control panel has 'Hint Text' set to 'Please provide as much detail as possible.' and 'Hint Position' set to 'Below'. The form field on the right shows the hint text 'Please provide as much detail as possible.' positioned below the input field, which contains the placeholder text 'How can we help you?'.

- Visible even when you're not typing in the field.

- Good if this hint should stand out with just a glance at the page. Otherwise, it can add clutter.
- Works better with less space (e.g. narrow form, sidebar form).

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## To the Side

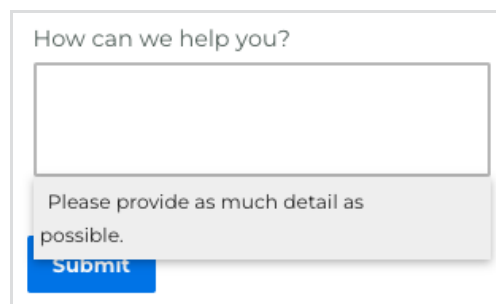


The image shows a form with a text input field. Above the field is the label "How can we help you?". To the right of the field is a hint box containing the text "Please provide as much detail as possible." The hint box is positioned to the right of the input field, and the input field is empty.

- Just like the "below" hint, it's visible even when you're not typing in the field.
- Also good if this hint should stand out with just a glance at the page. Otherwise, it can add clutter.
- Best if you've got empty space on the side, in a full-page form.

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## As a Pop-Up

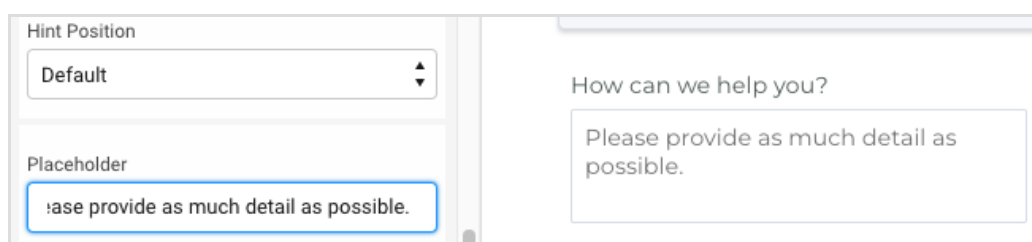


The image shows a form with a text input field. Above the field is the label "How can we help you?". Below the field is a pop-up hint box containing the text "Please provide as much detail as possible." The pop-up box is positioned below the input field, and the input field is empty. A blue "Submit" button is located below the pop-up box.

- Hidden until the field is selected, so it's clutter-free.
- Make sure it's something unique to the field, like an expected input format: *mm/dd/yyyy*

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## As Placeholder Text



The image shows a form with a text input field. Above the field is the label "How can we help you?". Below the field is a placeholder text box containing the text "Please provide as much detail as possible." The placeholder text is positioned below the input field, and the input field is empty. The placeholder text is highlighted with a blue border.

- Most space-efficient and has nothing extra needed.
  - Disappears as soon as the text is typed, which can be confusing if the respondent doesn't pay close attention.  
(If the field requires a very specific format, consider a [Custom Format](#) instead.)
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