

## Merge Data with form template

There are 2 ways to merge data with the xdp template when it is being rendered as HTML.

**dataRef:** You can use the `dataRef` parameter in the url. This parameter specifies absolute path of the data file that is merged with the template. This parameter can be a URL to a rest service returning the data in xml format

**data:** This parameter specifies the UTF-8 encoded data bytes that are merged with the template. If this parameter is specified, the HTML5 form ignores `dataRef` parameter. As a best practice we recommend using the data approach. This example shows you how to use the data attribute.

The address block below is being pre-populated using the data attribute. When the form is being rendered, we make a HTTP POST call and the data returned by the HTTP call is used to pre-populate the address block. You are encouraged to download the package and take a look at the `setdata.jsp` file. This code in this file make the HTTP call and uses the data attribute to populate the form

We make use of custom profile for rendering this XDP template. In the custom profile, we have included the `setdata.jsp`. The code in this JSP makes HTTP POST calls to an URL with in AEM. The result of the POST call is then used as the data for the form.

Name	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
City	<input type="text"/>	State	<input type="text"/>
		Zip Code	<input type="text"/>
Country	<input type="text"/>		

Sample Submit

Please fill out the form and submit. You will get back the structure of the data that needs to be created to pre-populate the form.