

Cascading Style Sheets

Styling the Web

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Some slides adapted from Laura Farinetti







Goal

- Styling web content CSS
- Advanced layout in web pages
- Responsive layouts

Outline

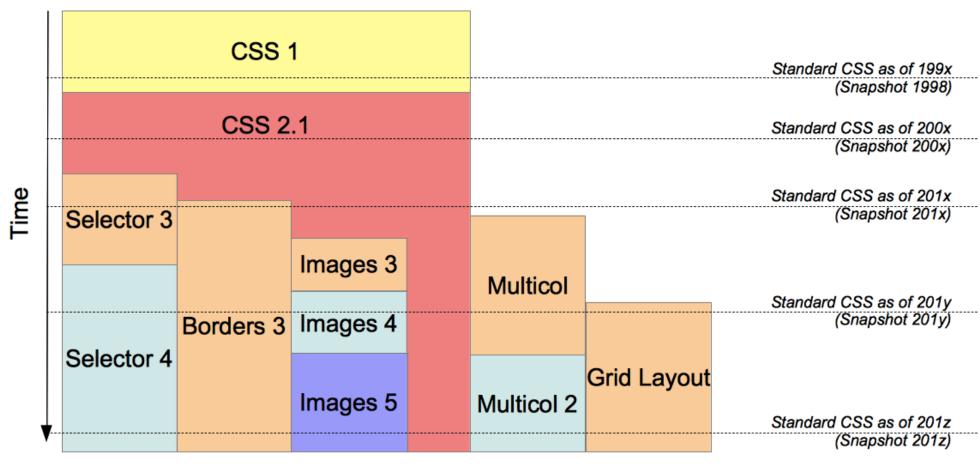
- CSS syntax
- CSS selectors
- CSS cascading
- CSS box model
- Page layout with grid
- CSS Flexbox
- Responsive layout



Cascading Style Sheets

- CSS 1: W3C recommendation (17 Dec 1996)
- CSS 2.1: W3C Recommendation (7 June 2011)
- CSS 3: modular approach, different stages (REC, PR, CR, WD) for different parts
 - See https://www.w3.org/Style/CSS/
- Resources:
 - https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS
 - https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/Reference

Overview of CSS development approach



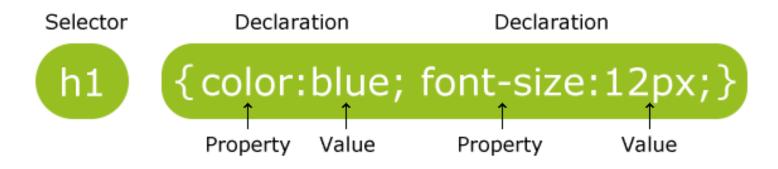
https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/CSS3

Cascading Style Sheets

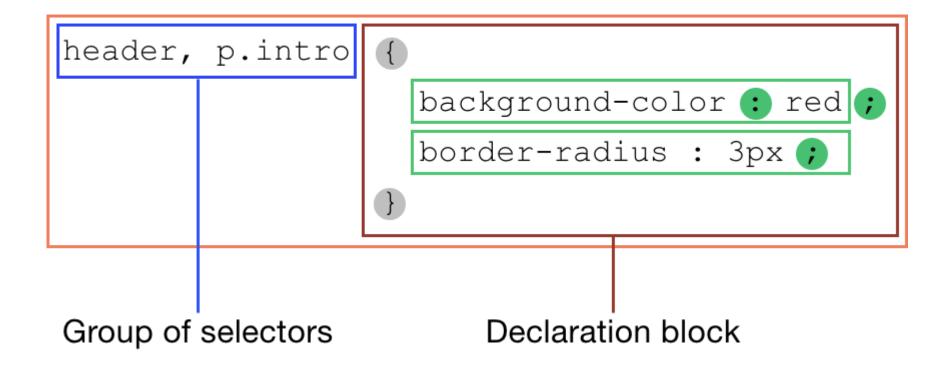
CSS SYNTAX

CSS Syntax

- CSS is based on rules
- A rule is a statement about one [stylistic] aspect of one or more HTML element
 - Selector + Declaration(s)
- A style sheet is a set of one or more rules that apply to an HTML document

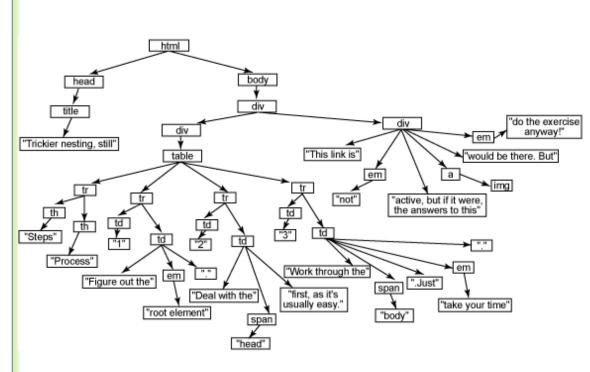


General syntax



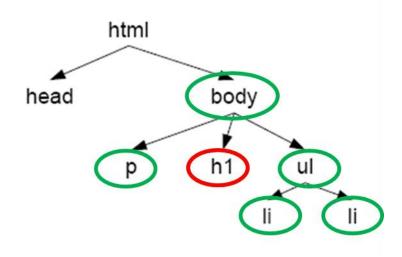
HTML nested structure

```
<html lang="en">
<head>
 <title>Trickier nesting, still</title>
</head>
<body>
 <div>
   <div>
    StepsProcesses
      1figure out the <em>root element</em>.
      2Deal with the <span>head</span> first as it's
usually easy.
      3Work through the <span>body</span>. Just <em>take
your time</em>.
    </div>
   <div>
    This link is <em>not</em> active, but it it were, the answer to this
<a><img src="exercise.jpg"></a> would be there. But <em>do the exercise
anyway!</em>
   </div>
 </div>
</body>
</html>
```

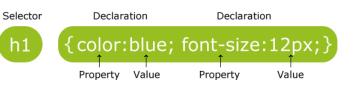


Tree structure and inheritance

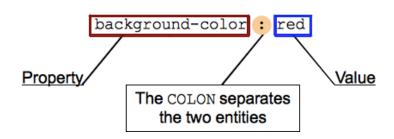
- HTML documents are trees
- Styles are inherited along trees
- When two rules are in conflict the most specific wins
- Example
 - body {color: green}
 - h1 {color: red}

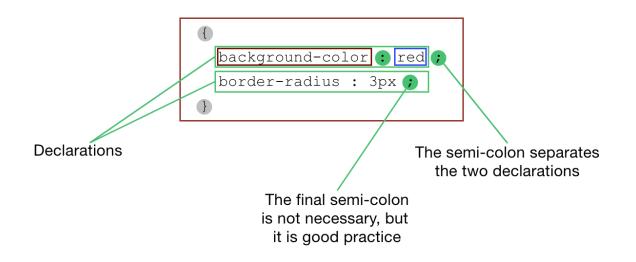


Declaration Syntax



A CSS declaration:





CSS properties (200+)

- Allowed Values (and Default Value):
 - Numbers, measurements, percentage
 - Enumerated options (strings)
 - Colors (name, RGB[A], HSL[A])
- Applies to:
 - Which elements may have this property
- Inherited:
 - Does also apply to children elements?

align-content align-items align-self all animation animation-delay animationdirection animation-duration animation-fill-mode animation-iteration-count animation-name animation-play-state animation-timing-function backface-visibility background background-attachment background-blend-mode background-clip background-color background-image background-origin background-position background-repeat background-size border border-bottom border-bottom-color border-bottom-left-radius border-bottom-right-radius border-bottom-style borderbottom-width border-collapse border-color border-image border-image-outset border-image-repeat border-image-slice border-image-source border-image-width border-left border-left-color border-left-style border-left-width border-radius border-right border-right-color border-right-style border-right-width borderspacing border-style border-top border-top-color border-top-left-radius bordertop-right-radius border-top-style border-top-width border-width bottom boxdecoration-break box-shadow box-sizing break-after break-before break-inside caption-side caret-color @charset clear clip clip-path color column-count columnfill column-gap column-rule column-rule-color column-rule-style column-rule-width column-span column-width columns content counter-increment counter-reset cursor direction display empty-cells filter flex flex-basis flex-direction flex-flow flex-grow flex-shrink flex-wrap float font @font-face font-family font-featuresettings font-kerning font-size font-size-adjust font-stretch font-style fontvariant font-variant-caps font-weight grid grid-area grid-auto-columns grid-autoflow grid-auto-rows grid-column grid-column-end grid-column-gap grid-column-start grid-gap grid-row grid-row-end grid-row-gap grid-row-start grid-template gridtemplate-areas grid-template-columns grid-template-rows hanging-punctuation height hyphens @import isolation justify-content @keyframes left letter-spacing line-height list-style list-style-image list-style-position list-style-type margin margin-bottom margin-left margin-right margin-top max-height max-width @media min-height min-width mix-blend-mode object-fit object-position opacity order outline outline-color outline-offset outline-style outline-width overflow overflow-x overflow-y padding padding-bottom padding-left padding-right paddingtop page-break-after page-break-before page-break-inside perspective perspectiveorigin pointer-events position quotes resize right scroll-behavior tab-size table-layout text-align text-align-last text-decoration text-decoration-color text-decoration-line text-decoration-style text-indent text-justify text-overflow text-shadow text-transform top transform transform-origin transform-style transition transition-delay transition-duration transition-property transitiontiming-function unicode-bidi user-select vertical-align visibility white-space width word-break word-spacing word-wrap writing-mode z-index



- http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/Reference
- https://www.tutorialrepublic.com/css-reference/css3-properties.php

CSS properties by category

- Animation Properties
- Background Properties
- Border Properties
- Color Properties
- Dimension Properties
- Generated Content Properties
- Flexible Box Layout
- Font Properties
- List Properties
- Margin Properties

- Multi-column Layout Properties
- Outline Properties
- Padding Properties
- Print Properties
- Table Properties
- Text Properties
- Transform Properties
- Transitions Properties
- Visual formatting Properties

https://www.tutorialrepublic.com/
css-reference/css3-properties.php

CSS Units: Most Used

- CSS has several different units for expressing a length
 - format: a number followed by a unit (e.g., 10px)
 - width, font-size, margin, padding, ...
- Two types of length units
 - absolute (fixed)
 - relative
- The most common fixed unit is pixel (px)
 - they are relative to the viewing device
 - for low-dpi devices, 1px is one device pixel (dot) of the display
 - for printers and high-resolution screens, 1px implies multiple device pixels
 - not well suited for responsive design (later on)

CSS Units: Most Used

• The most common relative units, instead:

Unit	Description
em	Relative to the font-size of the element. 2em means 2 times the size of the font of the current element
rem	Relative to font-size of the root element of the HTML page (Root EM)
vw	Relative to 1% of the width of the viewport, i.e., the browser window size
vh	Relative to 1% of the height of the viewport
%	Relative to the parent element

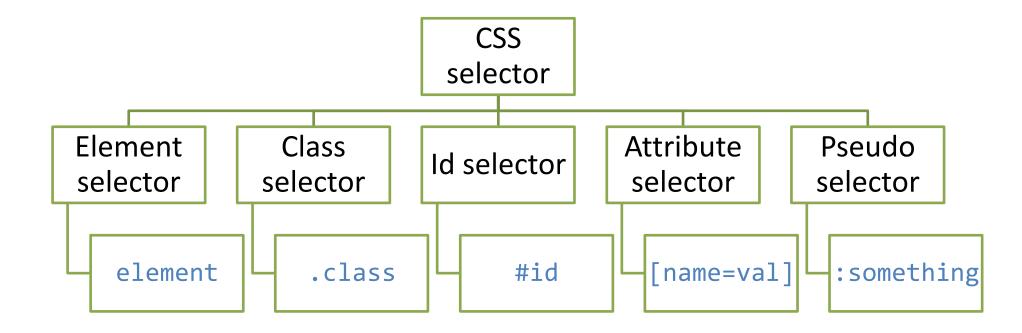
- Suggestions:
 - prefer relative units to absolute ones, when possible
 - rem is (nowadays) preferred to em

Cascading Style Sheets

CSS SELECTORS

CSS selectors

- Patterns used to select the element(s) you want to style
- Three main types of selectors plus "pseudo-selectors"



Element selector

- Used to apply the same style to all instances of a specific element in a document
- Example: apply the color red to all h1 elements that appear in the document

```
h1
{
    color:red;
}
```

Class selector

- Used to apply the same style to all elements belonging to a specific (defined) class
- Applies a specific style to a set of related elements, identified by class

Id selector

- Used to apply a style to a specific element in a document
- You can select a specific element by its (declared) id and apply a style to that (and possibly its children)

Attribute selectors

Selector	Example	Example description	CSS
[attribute]	[target]	Selects all elements with a target attribute	2
[attribute=value]	[target=_blank]	Selects all elements with target="_blank"	2
[attribute~=value]	[title~=flower]	Selects all elements with a title attribute containing the word "flower"	2
[attribute =value]	[lang =en]	Selects all elements with a lang attribute value starting with "en"	2
[attribute^=value]	a[href^="https"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value begins with "https"	3
[attribute\$=value]	a[href\$=".pdf"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value ends with ".pdf"	3
[attribute*=value]	a[href*="w3schools"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value contains the substring "w3schools"	3

Pseudo class selector

- Used to style an element based on something other than the structure of the document
 - E.g., the status of a form element or link

```
/* makes all unvisited links blue */
a:link {color:blue;}
/* makes all visited links green */
a:visited {color:green;}
/* makes links red when hovered or activated */
a:hover, a:active {color:red;}
/* makes table rows red when hovered over */
tr:hover {background-color: red;}
/* makes input elements yellow when focus is applied */
input:focus {background-color:yellow;}
```

Combining selectors

```
• element.class#id[n=v]
```

→ may be combined

• S1, S2 \rightarrow S1 union S2

• S1 S2 \rightarrow S2 nested within S1

• S1 \rightarrow S2 \rightarrow S2 if a child of S1

• S1 + S2 \rightarrow S2 if it comes after a S1

• S1 \sim S2 \rightarrow S2 if it comes later than S1

CSS selectors

Selector	Example	Example description	CSS
.class	.intro	Selects all elements with class="intro"	1
#id	#firstname	Selects the element with id="firstname"	1
*	*	Selects all elements	2
element	p	Selects all elements	1
element,element	div, p	Selects all <div> elements and all elements</div>	1
element element	div p	Selects all elements inside <div> elements</div>	1
element>element	div > p	Selects all elements where the parent is a <div> element</div>	2
element+element	div + p	Selects all elements that are placed immediately after <div> elements</div>	2
element1~element2	p ~ ul	Selects every element that are preceded by a element	3

http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_selectors.asp

Display property

- Allows to control element visualization (block or inline)
- Changing an inline element to a block element, or vice versa, can be useful for making the page look a specific way

```
li {display:inline;}
span {display:block;}
```

http://www.w3schools.com/Css/css display visibility.asp

Display and visibility properties

- The property display allows to hide an element, too
 - The element will be hidden, and the page will be displayed as if the element is not there

```
h1.hidden {
    display: none;
}
```

- The property visibility also can hide an element, but the element will still take up the same space as before
 - The element will be hidden, but still affects the layout

```
h1.hidden {
   visibility: hidden;
}
```

CSS pseudo-class selectors

Selector	Example	Example description	CSS
:active	a:active	Selects the active link	1
::after	p::after	Insert something after the content of each element	2
::before	p::before	Insert something before the content of each element	2
:checked	input:checked	Selects every checked <input/> element	3
:disabled	input:disabled	Selects every disabled <input/> element	3
:empty	p:empty	Selects every element that has no children (including text nodes)	3
:enabled	input:enabled	Selects every enabled <input/> element	3
:first-child	p:first-child	Selects every element that is the first child of its parent	2
::first-letter	p::first-letter	Selects the first letter of every element	1
::first-line	p::first-line	Selects the first line of every element	1

Selector	Example	Example description	CSS
:first-of-type	p:first-of-type	Selects every element that is the first element of its parent	3
:focus	input:focus	Selects the input element which has focus	2
:hover	a:hover	Selects links on mouse over	1
:in-range	input:in-range	Selects input elements with a value within a specified range	3
:invalid	input:invalid	Selects all input elements with an invalid value	3
:lang(language)	p:lang(it)	Selects every element with a lang attribute equal to "it" (Italian)	2
:last-child	p:last-child	Selects every element that is the last child of its parent	3
:last-of-type	p:last-of-type	Selects every element that is the last element of its parent	3
:link	a:link	Selects all unvisited links	1

CSS pseudo-class selectors

Selector	Example	Example description	CSS
:not(selector)	:not(p)	Selects every element that is not a element	3
:nth-child(n)	p:nth-child(2)	Selects every element that is the second child of its parent	3
:nth-last-child(n)	p:nth-last-child(2)	Selects every element that is the second child of its parent, counting from the last child	3
:nth-last-of-type(n)	p:nth-last-of-type(2)	Selects every element that is the second element of its parent, counting from the last child	3
:nth-of-type(n)	p:nth-of-type(2)	Selects every element that is the second element of its parent	3
:only-of-type	p:only-of-type	Selects every element that is the only element of its parent	3
:only-child	p:only-child	Selects every element that is the only child of its parent	3
:optional	input: optional	Selects input elements with no "required" attribute	3
:out-of-range	input:out-of-range	Selects input elements with a value outside a specified range	3

Selector	Example	Example description	CSS
:read-only	input:read-only	Selects input elements with the "readonly" attribute specified	3
:read-write	input:read-write	Selects input elements with the "readonly" attribute NOT specified	3
:required	input:required	Selects input elements with the "required" attribute specified	3
:root	:root	Selects the document's root element	3
::selection	::selection	Selects the portion of an element that is selected by a user	
:target	#news:target	Selects the current active #news element (clicked on a URL containing that anchor name)	3
:valid	input:valid	Selects all input elements with a valid value	3
:visited	a:visited	Selects all visited links	1

Cascading Style Sheets

CSS CASCADING

Cascading Style Sheets

- The term "cascading" means that a document can include more than one style sheet
- In this case, visualization follows priority rules
 - Inline Style (inside HTML tag)
 - Internal Style (usually in the HTML head section)
 - External Style
 - Browser Default Style



External style

• Link to an external style sheet using the k > element

```
h1 { font-size:17px;
  font-family:verdana; color:green; }
h2 { font-size:18px;
  font-family:arial; color:red; }
style.css
```

Internal style

- <style> element inside the document header
- Not recommended prefer external styles

Inline style

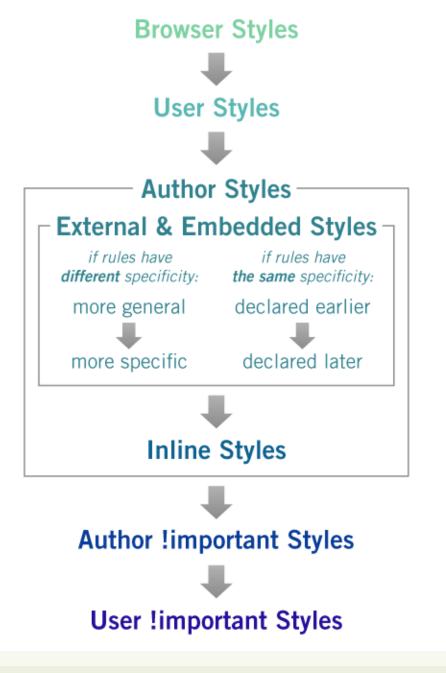
- <style> attribute within an HTML element
- Last resort, just for local (very local) changes

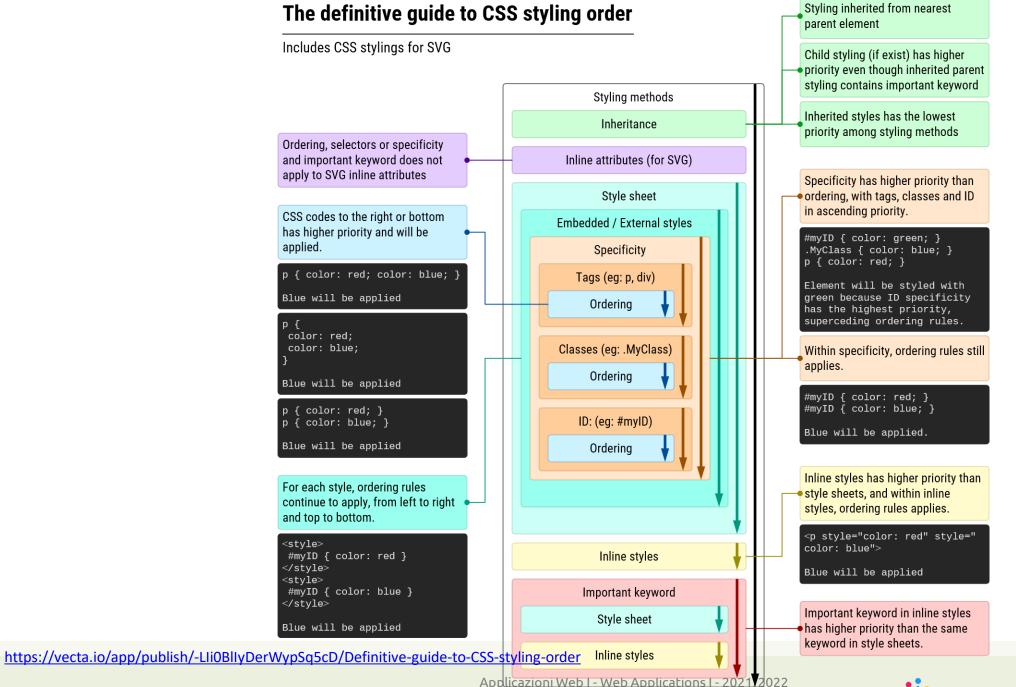
```
<h1 style="font-size:17px;
  font-family:verdana; color:green; "> Questo
  testo e' di colore verde, e utilizza il
  font verdana a 17 pixel </h1>
```

Priority rules

 Rules can be marked as "important"

```
h1 {
  color:red !important
}
```



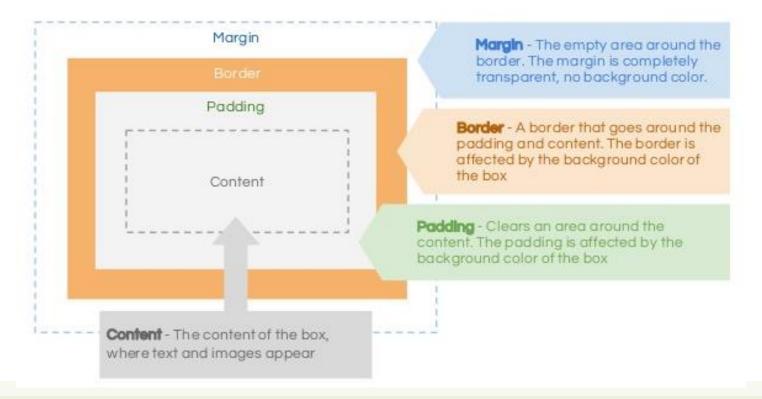


Cascading Style Sheets

CSS BOX MODEL

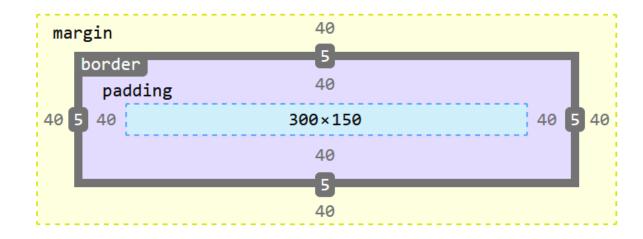
The box model

- One of the cornerstones of CSS
- Every element on the page is considered to be a rectangular box

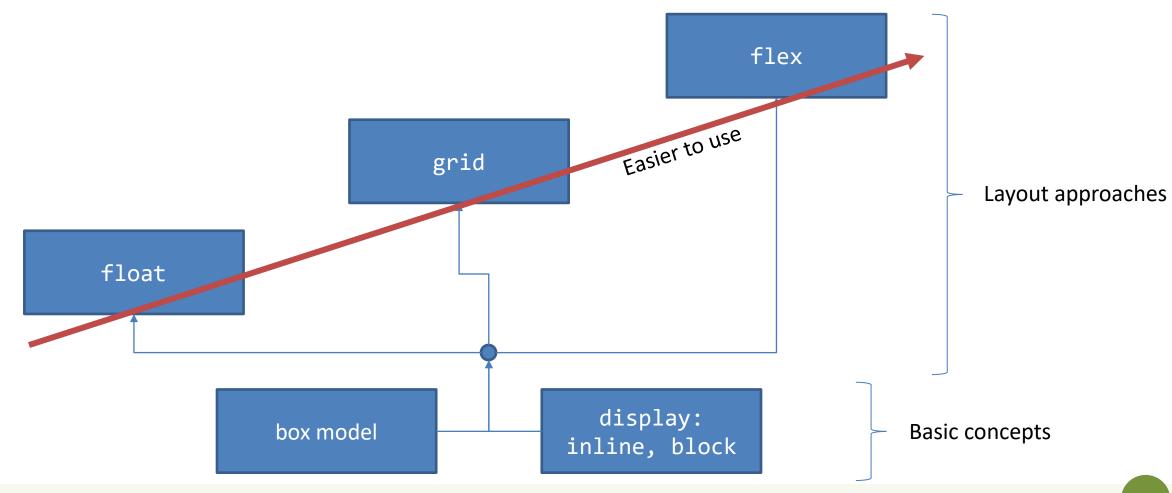


The box model

- Total element width =
 width + left padding + right padding +
 left border + right border + left margin
 + right margin
- Total element height =
 height + top padding +
 bottom padding + top border +
 bottom border + top margin + bottom
 margin
- You can set any of these properties, independently



Page Layout methods

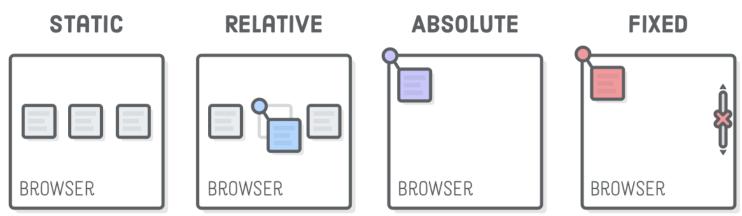


Cascading Style Sheets

CSS POSITIONING SCHEMES

Positioning schemes

- **Static**: normal flow
- Relative: offset relative to the block position in the normal flow
- Absolute: the box position is determined by the top, left, right, bottom properties, relative to the containing block
- Fixed: fixed with respect to some reference point (the viewport)

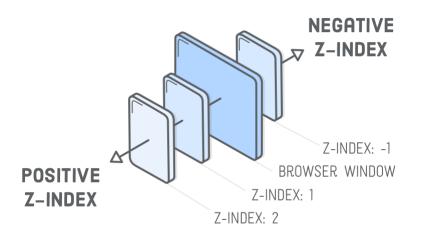


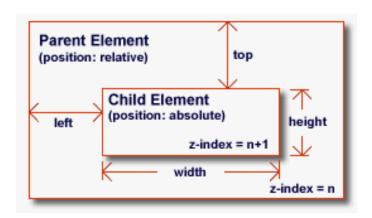
.item {
 position: static | relative
 | absolute | fixed;
 left: 20px;
 top: 20px;
}

https://internetingishard.com/html-and-css/advanced-positioning/

z-index

• In case of overlaps the z-index property specifies the stack order of an element (which element should be placed in front of, or behind, the others)





Cascading Style Sheets

LAYOUT WITH FLOATS

Floating

The CSS float property gives control over the horizontal position of an element



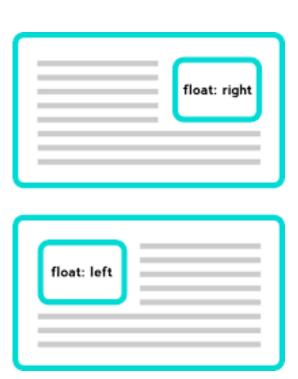
https://internetingishard.com/html-and-css/floats/

Floating

- A floated box can either be shifted to the left or the right until its outer edge touches the edge of its containing box, or another floated box
- Often used for images and when working with layouts

```
img
{
   float:right;
}
```

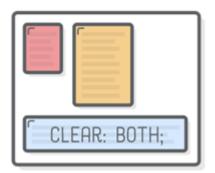
http://www.w3schools.com/Css/css_float.asp



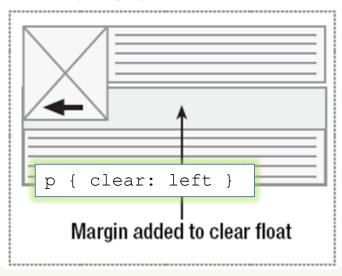
Clearing floats

- "Clearing" a float: tell a block to ignore any floats that appear before it
 - Instead of flowing around, a cleared element appears after any floats
 - It's like forcing a box back into the default vertical flow of the page

CLEARING WITH CHILD ELEMENT

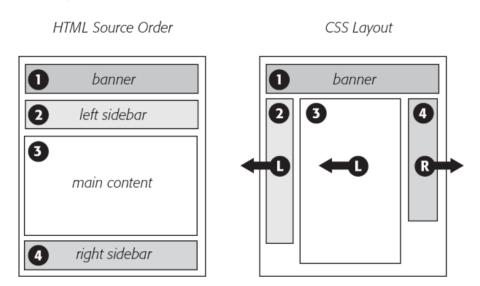


Second paragraph cleared



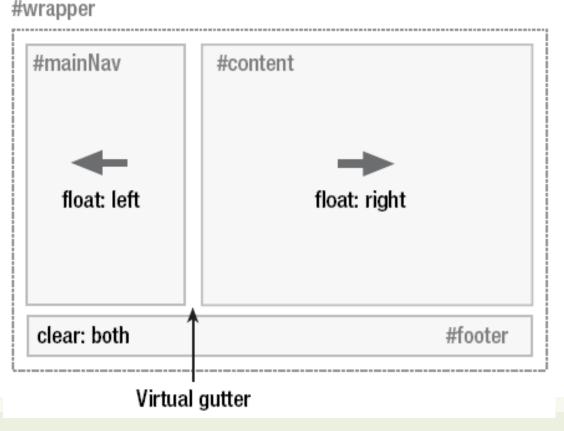
Float-based layouts

- Set the width of the elements you want to position, and then float them left or right
 - Two-column floated layout
 - Three-column floated layout



Two-column floated layout

 Create a virtual gutter by floating one element left and one element right

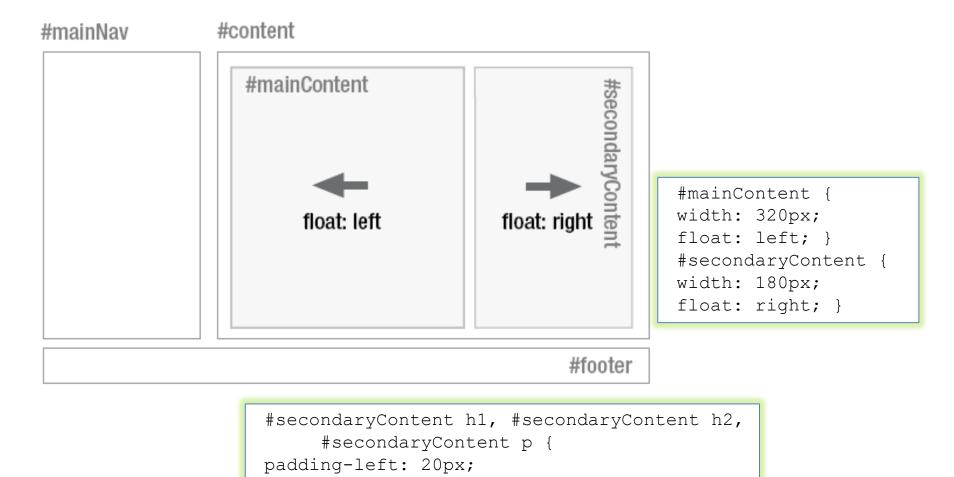


Two-column floated layout

```
#content {
width: 520px;
float: right;
}
#mainNav {
width: 180px;
float: left;
}
#footer {
clear: both;
}
```

https://blog.html.it/layoutgala/index.html

Three-column floated layout



padding-right: 20px; }

References for CSS box model and positioning

- Learn CSS layout
 - http://learnlayout.com/
- Floatutorial
 - http://css.maxdesign.com.au/floatutorial/
- All about floats
 - https://css-tricks.com/all-about-floats/

Cascading Style Sheets

PAGE LAYOUT WITH GRIDS

Advanced layout: grid

Maki-zushi



The rice and seaweed rolls with fish and/or vegetables. There are also more specific terms for the rolls depending on the style.

Nigiri-zushi



The little fingers of rice topped with wasabi and a filet of raw or cooked fish or shellfish. Gener-

Technically, the word 'sushi' refers to the rice, but colloquially, the term is used to

describe a finger-size piece of raw fish or shellfish on a bed of vinegared rice or simply

the consumption or raw fish in the Japanese style (while sushi is not solely a Japanese

invention, these days, the Japanese style is considered the de facto serving standard).

ally the most common form of sushi you will see.

Temaki-zushi



Also called a hand-roll. Cones of sushi rice, fish and vegetables wrapped in seaweed. It is very similar to maki.

WHAT IS SUSHI?

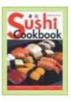
Beginning as a method of preserving fish centuries ago, sushi has evolved into an artful, unique dining experience. In its earliest form, dried fish was placed between two pieces of vinegared rice as a way of making it last. The nori (seaweed) was added later as a way to keep one's fingers from getting sticky.

Sashimi



Sashimi is raw fish served sliced, but as-is. That means no rice bed or roll, but it is often served

alongside daikon and/or shiso. This is my favorite style as you really get the flavor of the fish...



QUICK & EASY SUSHI COOKBOOK

This book has great pictures, however it is not as complete as Sushi Made Easy.



SUSHI FOR PARTIES: MAKI-ZUSHI AND NIGIRI-ZUSHI

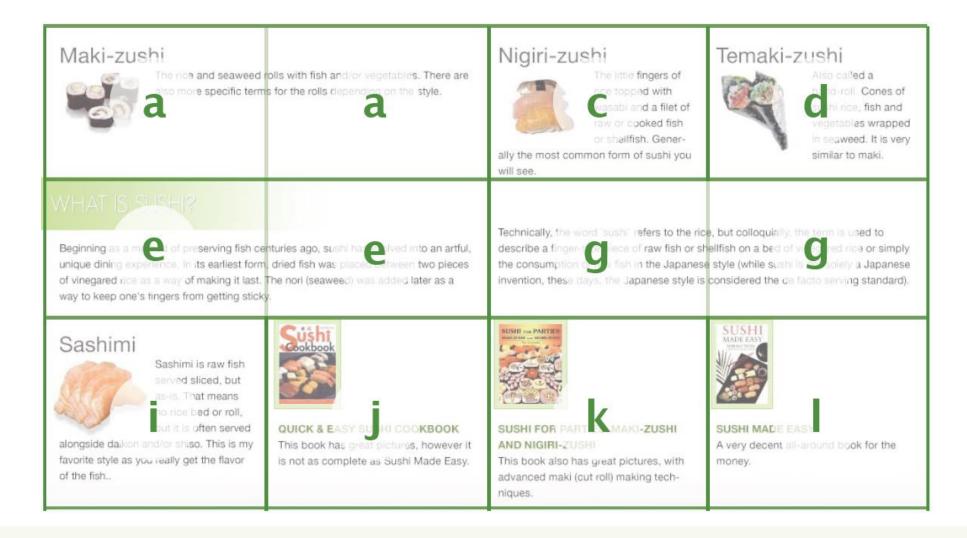
This book also has great pictures, with advanced maki (cut roll) making techniques.



SUSHI MADE EASY

A very decent all-around book for the money.

Advanced layout: grid



Advanced layout: grid

- It is possible to define a grid in which content can flow or be placed, or that remain empty
- There are 3 ways to define a grid
 - Explicit grid: defined with 'grid-columns' and 'grid-rows' properties
 - Natural grid: automatically created by elements with a natural grid structure (multi-column elements and tables)
 - Default grid: all other block elements define a single-cell grid

Example

Classic three-column layout

```
<section>
  <header>Title</header>
  <nav>Menu</nav>
  <article>Content</article>
  <aside>Notes</aside>
  <footer>Footer</footer>
</section>
```



Example

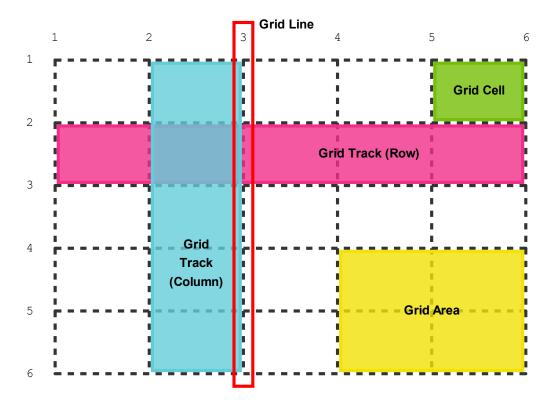
```
• fr = fraction values
section {

    new unit applicable to

  display: grid;
  grid-columns: 150px 1fr 200px;
                                                                     grid-rows and grid-
  grid-rows: 50px 1fr 50px; }
                                                                     columns properties
section header {
  grid-column: 2;
  grid-row: 1; }
section nav {
  grid-column: 1;
                                150px
                                                    1fr
                                                                       200px
  grid-row: 2; }
                                        header (1, 2)
                        50px
section article {
  grid-column: 2;
                                                                    notes (2, 3)
                              menu (2, 1)
                                        content (2, 2)
  grid-row: 2; }
section aside {
                         1fr
  grid-column: 3;
  grid-row: 2; }
section footer {
  grid-column: 2;
  grid-row: 3; }
                        50px
                                        footer (3, 2)
```

Suggested reference for Grid Layout

 https://webkit.org/blog/7434/cs s-grid-layout-a-new-layoutmodule-for-the-web/



Cascading Style Sheets

CSS FLEXBOX

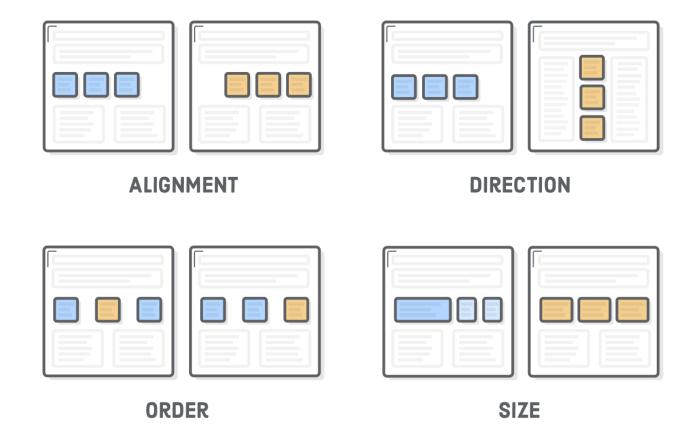
Flexbox

- Alternative to floats/grids for defining the overall appearance of a web page
- Flexbox gives complete control over the alignment, direction, order, and size of boxes





Flexbox



https://internetingishard.com/html-and-css/flexbox/

https://www.w3schools.com/css/css3_flexbox.asp

Flexbox

- Flexbox uses two types of boxes
 - Flex containers: group a set of flex items and define how they're positioned
 - Flex items
- Every HTML element that's a direct child of a flex container is an item



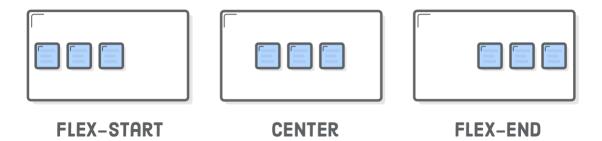
Horizontal alignment

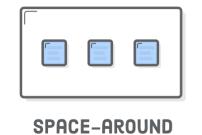
```
.menu-container {
   /* ... */
   display: flex;
   justify-content: center;
}
```

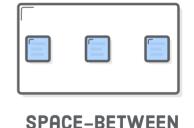
To turn one HTML elements into a flex container:

```
{ display:flex; }
```

- "justify-content" property defines the horizontal alignment of its items
 - center, flex-start, flex-end
 - space-around, space-between

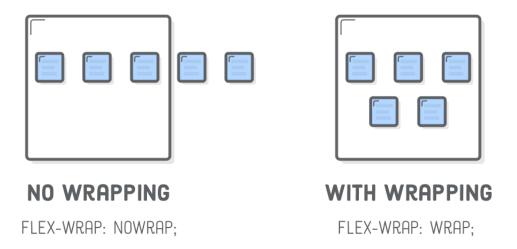


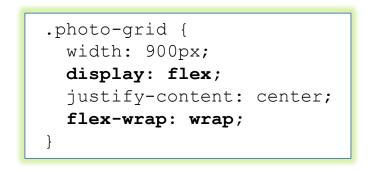




Wrapping

- The flex-wrap property creates a grid
 - Then, you can change alignment, direction, order, and size of items

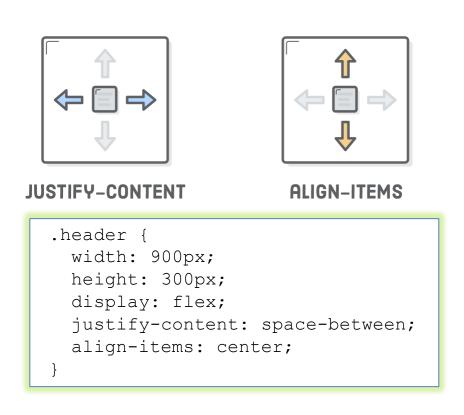




Vertical alignment

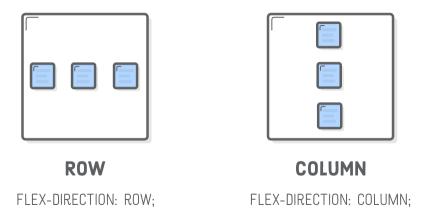
Flex containers can also define the vertical alignment of their items





Direction

 Refers to whether a container renders its items horizontally or vertically

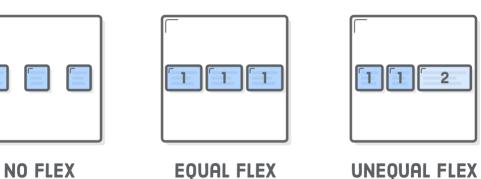


Flexible items

- Flex items are flexible: they can shrink and stretch to match the width of their containers
- The flex property defines the width of individual items in a flex container
 - a weight that tells the flex container how to distribute extra space to each item

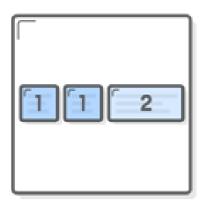
E.g., an item with a flex value of 2 will grow twice as fast as items with the default

value of 1



Flexible items

Example



```
.footer {
    display: flex;
    justify-content: space-between;
}

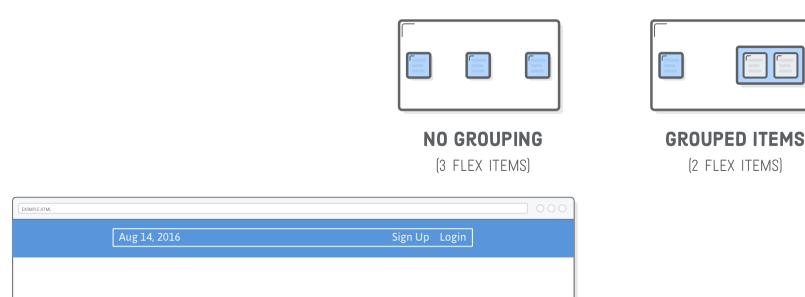
.footer-item {
    border: 1px solid #fff;
    background-color: #D6E9FE;
    height: 200px;
    flex: 1; }

.footer-three { flex: 2; }
```

```
<div class='footer'>
    <div class='footer-item footer-one'></div>
    <div class='footer-item footer-two'></div>
    <div class='footer-item footer-three'></div>
</div>
```

Grouping

- Flex containers only know how to position elements that are one level deep (i.e., their child elements)
 - You can group flex items using <div>

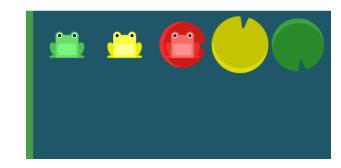


Summary of CSS flexbox

- display: flex to create a flex container
- justify-content to define the horizontal alignment of items
- align-items to define the vertical alignment of items
- flex-direction if you need columns instead of rows
- row-reverse or column-reverse values to flip item order
- order to customize the order of individual elements
- align-self to vertically align individual items
- flex to create flexible boxes that can stretch and shrink

References for CSS flexbox

- Interneting is hard flexbox tutorial
 - https://internetingishard.com/html-and-css/flexbox/
- A complete guide to flexbox
 - https://css-tricks.com/snippets/css/a-guide-to-flexbox/
- W3schools
 - https://www.w3schools.com/css/css3_flexbox.asp
- Flexbox, guida pratica
 - http://www.html.it/guide/flexbox-guida-pratica/
- Flexbox Froggy (a game-like tutorial)
 - http://flexboxfroggy.com/

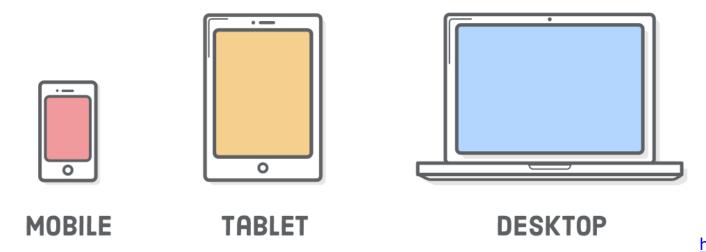


Cascading Style Sheets

RESPONSIVE LAYOUT

Responsive design

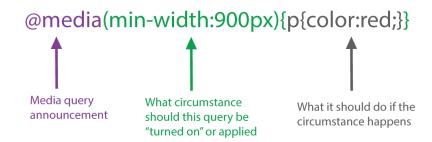
- Display well in everything from widescreen monitors to mobile phones
- Approach to web design to eliminate the distinction between the mobile-friendly version of your website and its desktop counterpart

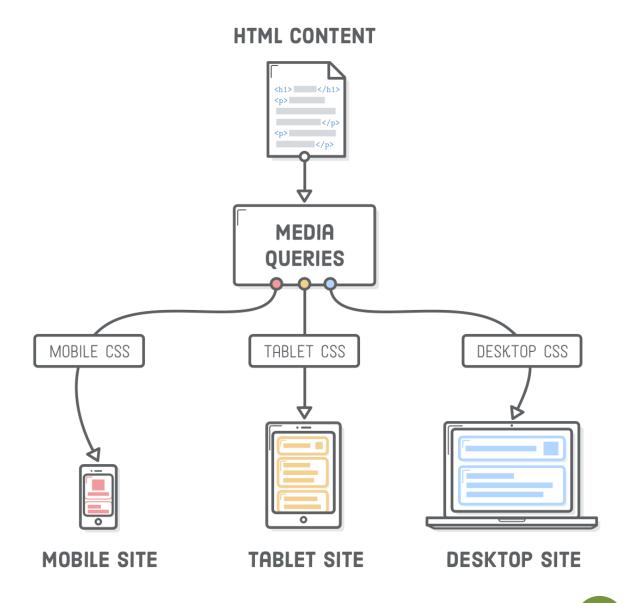


https://internetingishard.com/htmland-css/responsive-design/

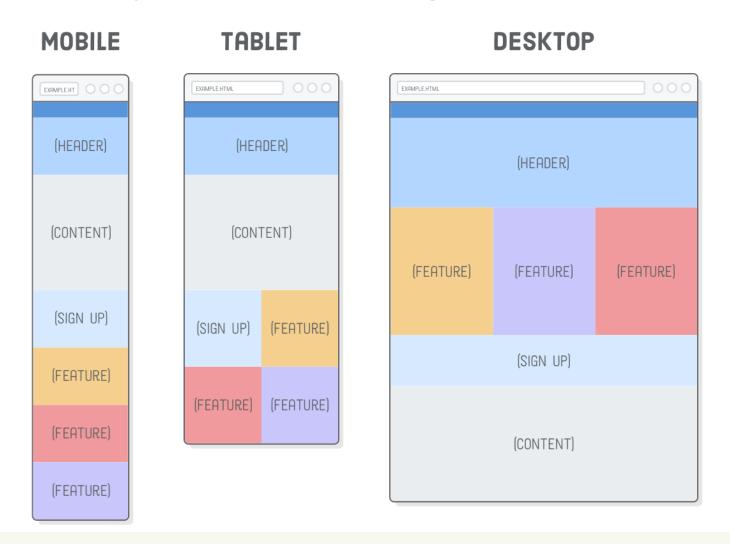
Responsive design

- Responsive design is accomplished through CSS "media queries"
 - A way to conditionally apply CSS rules





Layout for responsive design

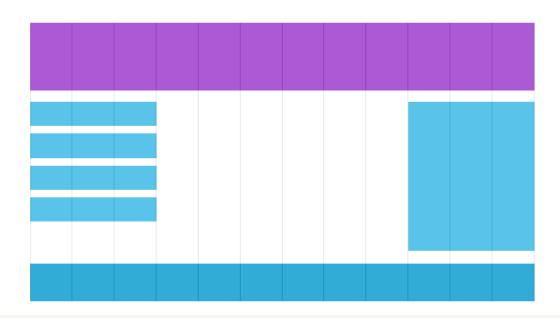


Grid-view

 Many web pages are based on a grid-view, i.e., the page is divided into columns

A responsive grid-view often has 12 columns, a total width of 100%,

and will shrink and expand as you resize the browser window



CSS Frameworks

- Set of templates to simplify web development
- Example: Bootstrap
 - Open Source CSS (and Javascript) framework
 - Allows applying "modern" styles with sensible and nice-looking defaults
 - Many ready-to-use UI elements (e.g., buttons, menus, tabs, collapsible items, ecc.)
 - Takes care of cross-browser issues
 - Simplified layout model
 - Developed by Twitter
 - https://getbootstrap.com/docs/5.0/getting-started/introduction/



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