

HTML and CSS

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Task

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Units

Absolute Lengths

px (pixels)

The most common unit for web design. Fixed size.

cm, mm, in

Centimeters, millimeters, inches – used for print.

pt, pc

Points and picas – mainly for print design.

* Pixels (px) 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.

Relative Lengths

%	Percentage of the parent element's size.
em	Relative to the font size of the parent.
rem	Relative to the font size of the root (<html>).
vh, vw	Viewport width and height ($1\text{vw} = 1\%$ of screen width).
vmin, vmax	Based on the smaller (vmin) or larger (vmax) viewport dimension.
ch	Width of the 0 character in the chosen font.
ex	Height of the lowercase x in the font.

* Viewport = the browser window size. If the viewport is 50cm wide, $1\text{vw} = 0.5\text{cm}$.

```
h1 {  
  font-size: 24px; /* Fixed size, does not change */  
}
```

```
.container {  
  width: 80%; /* Takes 80% of its parent */  
}
```

```
h1 {  
  font-size: 2rem; /* 2x the root font size */  
}
```

```
.box {  
  height: 50vh; /* 50% of the viewport height */  
}
```

```
html {  
    font-size: 16px; }  
  
body {  
    font-size: 1rem;  
    padding: 2vw; }  
  
.container {  
    width: 80%;  
    max-width: 1200px;  
    margin: auto;  
    background: lightgray;  
    padding: 2rem;  
    text-align: center;}  
  
.title {  
    font-size: 2rem;  
    margin-bottom: 1rem; }  
  
.text {  
    font-size: 1.2rem;  
    width: 60%;  
    margin: auto; }  
  
.button {  
    display: inline-block;  
    padding: 1em 2em;  
    font-size: 1rem;  
    background: steelblue;  
    color: white;  
    border: none;  
    cursor: pointer; }  
  
.section {  
    width: 100vw;  
    height: 30vh;  
    background: lightcoral;  
    display: flex;  
    align-items: center;  
    justify-content: center; }
```

EM vs REM vs PX

Select your body font size

Conversions based on 16px browser default size

Pixels	EMs	Percent	Points
6px	0.375em	37.5%	5pt
7px	0.438em	43.8%	5pt
8px	0.500em	50.0%	6pt
9px	0.563em	56.3%	7pt
10px	0.625em	62.5%	8pt
11px	0.688em	68.8%	8pt
12px	0.750em	75.0%	9pt
13px	0.813em	81.3%	10pt
14px	0.875em	87.5%	11pt
15px	0.938em	93.8%	11pt
16px	1.000em	100.0%	12pt
17px	1.063em	106.3%	13pt
18px	1.125em	112.5%	14pt
19px	1.188em	118.8%	14pt
20px	1.250em	125.0%	15pt
21px	1.313em	131.3%	16pt
22px	1.375em	137.5%	17pt
23px	1.438em	143.8%	17pt
24px	1.500em	150.0%	18pt

When to use?

- Use absolute units when you need precise sizing that won't change, like borders or print styling.
- Use relative units for scalable and responsive layouts.
- **Use `rem` for consistent scaling across the entire website.**
- **Use viewport units when designing full-screen sections and dynamic layouts.**

Display

- Use **block** for structural elements (e.g., <div>, <section>).
- Use **inline** for text elements inside a paragraph.
- Use **inline-block** for buttons or interactive elements.
- Use **flex** when aligning elements dynamically.
- Use **grid** for structured layouts.
- Use **none** to hide elements dynamically.

Flexbox

Flexbox allows you to align items horizontally and vertically with minimal CSS. It is particularly useful for:

- Centering elements
- Creating dynamic layouts
- Building responsive navigation bars
- Handling equal-height columns

```
.container {  
  display: flex;  
}
```

Display: flex;

Container properties

- flex-direction
- flex-wrap
- justify-content
- align-items
- align-content

Items properties

- flex
- order
- align-self

```
<div class="container">
  <div class="item">1</div>
  <div class="item">2</div>
  <div class="item">3</div>
</div>
```

```
.container {
  display: flex;
  background-color: lightgray;
}

.item {
  padding: 20px;
  background-color: steelblue;
  color: white;
  margin: 5px;
}
```

Flex direction

row

Default. Items are placed left to right.

row-reverse

Items are placed right to left.

column

Items are placed top to bottom.

column-reverse Items are placed bottom to top.

```
.container {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: row; /* Main axis: left to right */  
}
```

Justify content

flex-start Items align to the start (default).

flex-end Items align to the end.

center Items are centered.

space-between Space between items.

space-around Space around items.

space-evenly Equal spacing around all items.

Align items

`stretch` Default. Items stretch to fill the container.

`flex-start` Items align at the top.

`flex-end` Items align at the bottom.

`center` Items align at the middle.

`baseline` Items align by their text baselines.

Flex wrap

nowrap

Default. Items stay in a single line.

wrap

Items wrap to the next line if needed.

wrap-reverse

Items wrap in reverse order.

Summary of flex

- `display: flex;` enables flexbox.
- `flex-direction` controls row/column layout.
- `justify-content` aligns on the main axis.
- `align-items` aligns on the cross axis.
- `flex-wrap` controls item wrapping.

Homework

<https://css-tricks.com/snippets/css/a-guide-to-flexbox/>

<https://www.markhendriksen.com/interactive-css-flexbox-tool>

<https://flexboxfroggy.com/>