# 5 CSS **MISTAKES** YOU SHOULD **AVOID**



### **AVOID MAGIC NUMBERS**

A magic number is a value that is used 'because it just works'.

Never use numbers just because they work. In this situation it's better to use top: 100%;, which basically means 'all the way from the top'.

```
.dropdown-container { /* styles */}
.dropdown-menu {
   /* This is a magic number */
   margin-top: 47px;
}
```

```
.dropdown-container { /* styles */}
.dropdown-menu {
  top: 100%;
}
```





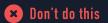


## AVOID MIXING CONTAINER WITH CONTENT STYLES

Don't use location dependant styles on standalone components.

A component should look the same no matter where you put it. Instead use layout wrappers for specific use cases.

```
.form-input-wrapper {
  margin-top: 20px;
}
.form-input {
  font-size: 14px;
  padding: 4px 8px;
}
```







# **AVOID USING QUALIFIED SELECTORS**

These are selectors who are needlessly prepended by an element. These are bad news because:

- They totally inhibit reusability on another element.
- They increase specificity.
- They increase browser workload (decreasing performance).

```
ul.nav {}
a.button {}
div.header {}
```

```
.nav {}
.button {}
.header {}
```

Bon't do this





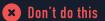
### AVOID USING ABSOLUTE VALUES FOR LINE HEIGHT

Line heights should always be set relatively in order to make them more flexible. If you ever change the font-size of a h1, you want to know that your line-height will track it.

```
h1 {
  font-size: 24px;
  line-height: 32px;
}

.site-title {
  font-size: 36px;
  line-height: 48px;
}
```

```
h1 {
   font-size: 24px;
   line-height: 1.333;
}
.site-title {
   font-size: 36px;
}
```







## **AVOID LOOSE CLASS NAMES**

Loose class names are very bad for two main reasons:

- You can't predict its purpose from the class alone.
- It's so vague that it could very easily be redefined by another dev.

```
/* What does this classes mean?*/
.card {}
.modal {}
.user {}
```

```
.user-post-card {}
.confirmation-modal {}
.user-avatar {}
```

Don't do this

