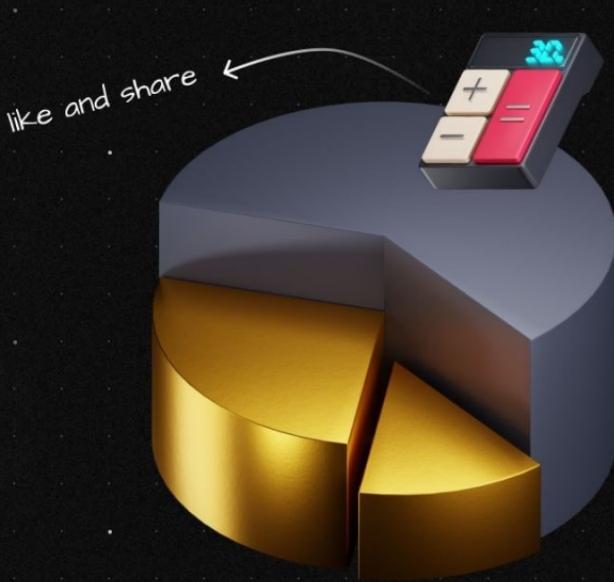




# Absolute vs Relative units in CSS



Every property in CSS has **a value**, the CSS units have a role to determine the **size of the property** you set your content or element.



24 is the value and  
px (pixel) is the unit  
for h1 fontsize

CSS has several **different units** for expressing a length. Many CSS properties take "length" values, such as width , margin , padding , font-size , etc.

Note:

Some CSS properties can also have negative lengths!

## Two types of units

### Absolute

Absolute length units are fixed and length will appear as exactly that size.

### Relative

Relative length units specify a length relative to another length property.

Absolute length units are not recommended for use on screen, because screen sizes vary so much.

Relative length units scales better between different rendering mediums.

swipe and understand better with examples



Swipe →

## Absolute Units

Unit	Description
cm	centimeters
mm	millimeters
in	inches ( $1\text{in} = 96\text{px} = 2.54\text{cm}$ )
px	pixels ( $1\text{px} = 1/96\text{th of 1in}$ )
pt	points ( $1\text{pt} = 1/72 \text{ of 1in}$ )
pc	picas ( $1\text{pc} = 12\text{pt}$ )

**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 Units

Unit	Description
<b>em</b>	Relative to the font-size of the element
<b>ex</b>	Relative to the x-height of the current font
<b>ch</b>	Relative to width of the "0" (zero)
<b>rem</b>	Relative to font-size of the root element
<b>vw</b>	Relative to 1% of the width of the viewport
<b>vh</b>	Relative to 1% of the height of the viewport
<b>vmin</b>	Relative to 1% of viewport's smaller dimension
<b>vmax</b>	Relative to 1% of viewport's larger dimension
<b>%</b>	Relative to the parent element

The em and rem units are practical in creating perfectly **scalable layout!**

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



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