Units in CSS

Overview

CSS units are used for **expressing the size** of different properties.
The units are expressed by a **number followed by the unit symbol**. Many CSS properties take "length" values, such as width, margin, padding, font-size, border-width, etc.

Examples :	margin : 10px ;
	padding : 2em ;
	border-radius : 50% etc.

Whitespace cannot appear between the number and the unit.
If the value is 0, the unit can be omitted.
For some CSS properties, negative lengths are allowed, like margin.

There are two types of length units:

- Absolute
- Relative

Absolute Units

The absolute units are a **fixed size/length** of the element. Absolute length units are not recommended for use on-screen because screen sizes vary so much.

The absolute units consist of the following :

- **cm** - centimeters
- **mm** - millimeters in inches (1in = 96px = 2.54cm)
- **px** - pixels (1px = 1/96th of 1in)
- **pt** - points (1pt = 1/72 of 1in)
- **pc** - picas (1pc = 12 pt)

- ❖ px is most commonly used.

Relative Units

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

Some of the relative units are the following:

- **em** - Relative to the font size of the element (2em means 2 times the size of the current font)
- **rem** - Relative to the font size of the root element
- **vw** - Relative to 1% of the width of the browser window size
- **vh** - Relative to 1% of the height of the browser window size
- **%** - Relative to the parent element