

INFO2180 - LECTURE 3

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# CSS CONT'D

**THE CASCADE**

In CSS, all styles *Cascade* from the top of the stylesheet to the bottom. Therefore, styles can be added or overwritten as the stylesheet progresses.

```
p {  
    background: orange;  
    font-size: 24px;  
}
```

```
p {  
    background: green;  
}
```

```
p {  
  background: green;  
  background: orange;  
}
```

There are, however, times where the cascade doesn't play so nicely. Those times occur when different types of selectors are used and the ***specificity*** of those selectors breaks the cascade.

# SPECIFICITY

**EVERY SELECTOR IN CSS HAS A SPECIFICITY WEIGHT. A SELECTOR'S SPECIFICITY WEIGHT, ALONG WITH ITS PLACEMENT IN THE CASCADE, IDENTIFIES HOW ITS STYLES WILL BE RENDERED.**

<http://learn.shayhowe.com/html-css/getting-to-know-css/#specificity>



### SPECIFICITY WEIGHT

- ▶ The type selector has the lowest specificity weight and holds a point value of **0-0-1**.
- ▶ The class selector has a medium specificity weight and holds a point value of **0-1-0**.
- ▶ Lastly, the ID selector has a high specificity weight and holds a point value of **1-0-0**.

```
<p id="food"> ... </p>
```

```
#food {  
    background: green;  
}  
  
p {  
    background: orange;  
}
```

**#food** (1-0-0) is more specific than **p**  
(0-0-1).

```
<div class="hotdog">
  <p> ... </p>
  <p> ... </p>
  <p class="mustard"> ... </p>
</div>
```

```
.hotdog p {
  background: brown;
}

.hotdog p.mustard {
  background: yellow;
}
```

**.hotdog p.mustard (0-2-1)** is more  
specific than **.hotdog p (0-1-1)**.

COLOURS

# FOUR (4) PRIMARY WAYS TO REPRESENT COLOURS

- ▶ Keywords e.g. `white`, `red`, `green`, `blue`
- ▶ Hexadecimal Notation e.g. `#FF6600`
- ▶ RGB e.g. `rgb(128, 0, 0)` or `rgba(128, 0, 0, .5)`
- ▶ HSL e.g. `hsl(0, 100%, 25%)` or `hsla(0, 100%, 25%, .36)`

# KEYWORDS

```
.my-class {  
    background: maroon;  
}  
  
.some-other-class {  
    background: yellow;  
}
```



# HEXADECIMAL

```
.some-class {  
    background: #800000;  
}  
  
.another-class {  
    background: #fc6;  
}
```

**#fc6** is short hand for **#ffcc66**

## RED-GREEN-BLUE (RGB)

```
.task {  
    background: rgb(128, 0, 0);  
}
```

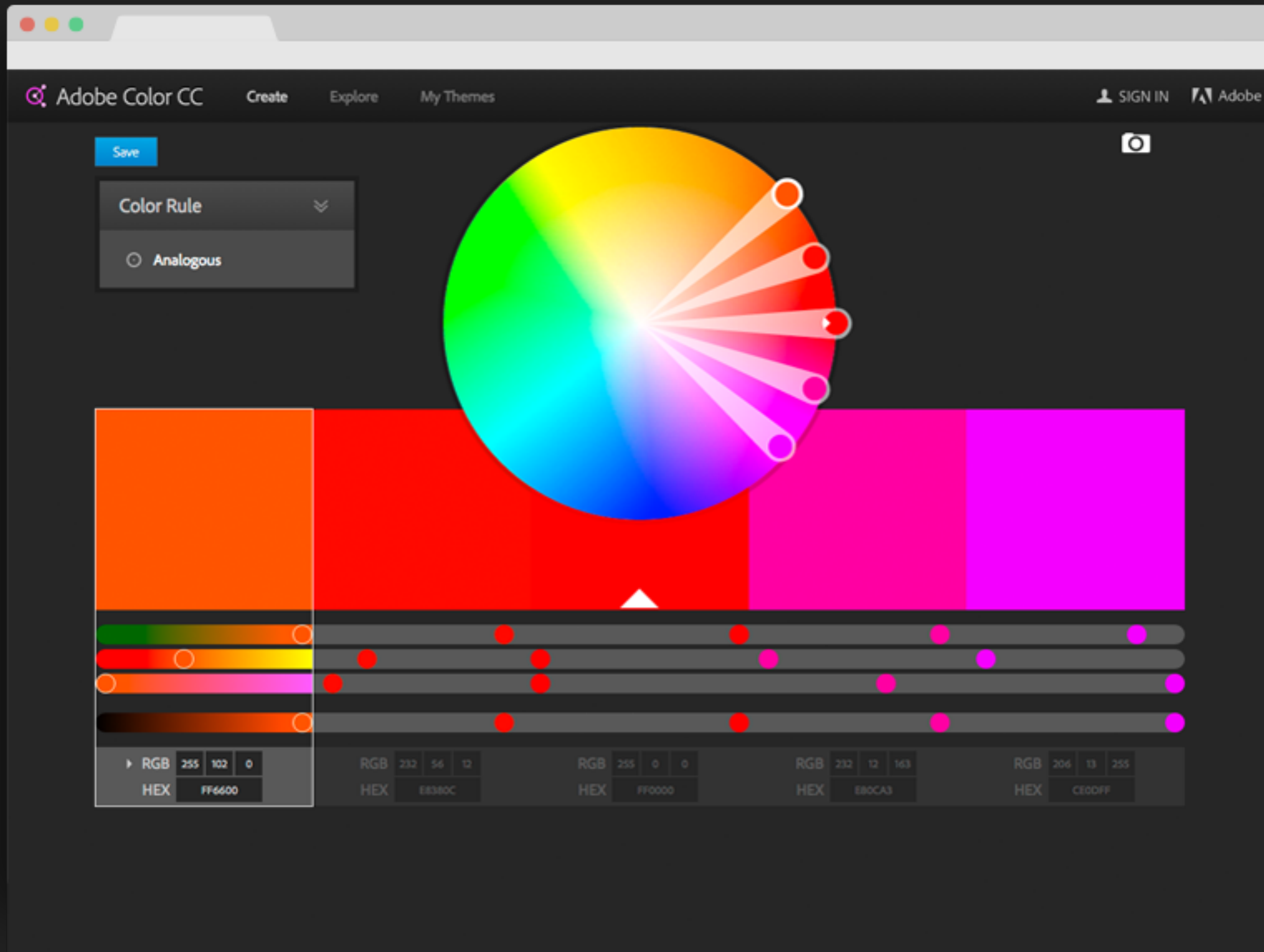
```
.task {  
    background: rgba(128, 0, 0, .25);  
}
```

# HUE-SATURATION-LIGHTNESS (HSL)

```
.task {  
    background: hsl(0, 100%, 25%);  
}  
  
.count {  
    background: hsla(60, 100%, 50%, .25);  
}
```

# Adobe Color CC

<https://color.adobe.com/>



# LENGTHS

# LENGTHS

- ▶ Pixels
- ▶ Percentages
- ▶ Em

These are the most popular, but there are others.

### EXAMPLE USING PIXELS

```
p {  
    font-size: 14px;  
}
```

The pixel is equal to 1/96th of an inch; thus there are 96 pixels in an inch.

### EXAMPLE WITH PERCENTAGES

```
div {  
    width: 50%;  
}
```

This **div** will be 50% of its parent element.



### EXAMPLE WITH EM

```
.banner {  
    font-size: 14px;  
    width: 5em;  
}
```

The width will be 5 times its font-size.  $5 \times 14 = 70\text{px}$

When a font size is not explicitly stated for an element, the em unit will be relative to the font size of the closest parent element with a stated font size.

# THE BOX MODEL

**EVERY ELEMENT ON A PAGE IS A RECTANGULAR BOX AND MAY HAVE WIDTH, HEIGHT, PADDING, BORDERS, AND MARGINS.**

<http://learn.shayhowe.com/html-css/opening-the-box-model/>

# BOX MODEL EXAMPLE



# BOX MODEL EXAMPLE

**Total width** = **margin-right** + **border-right**  
+ **padding-right** + **width** + **padding-left** +  
**border-left** + **margin-left**

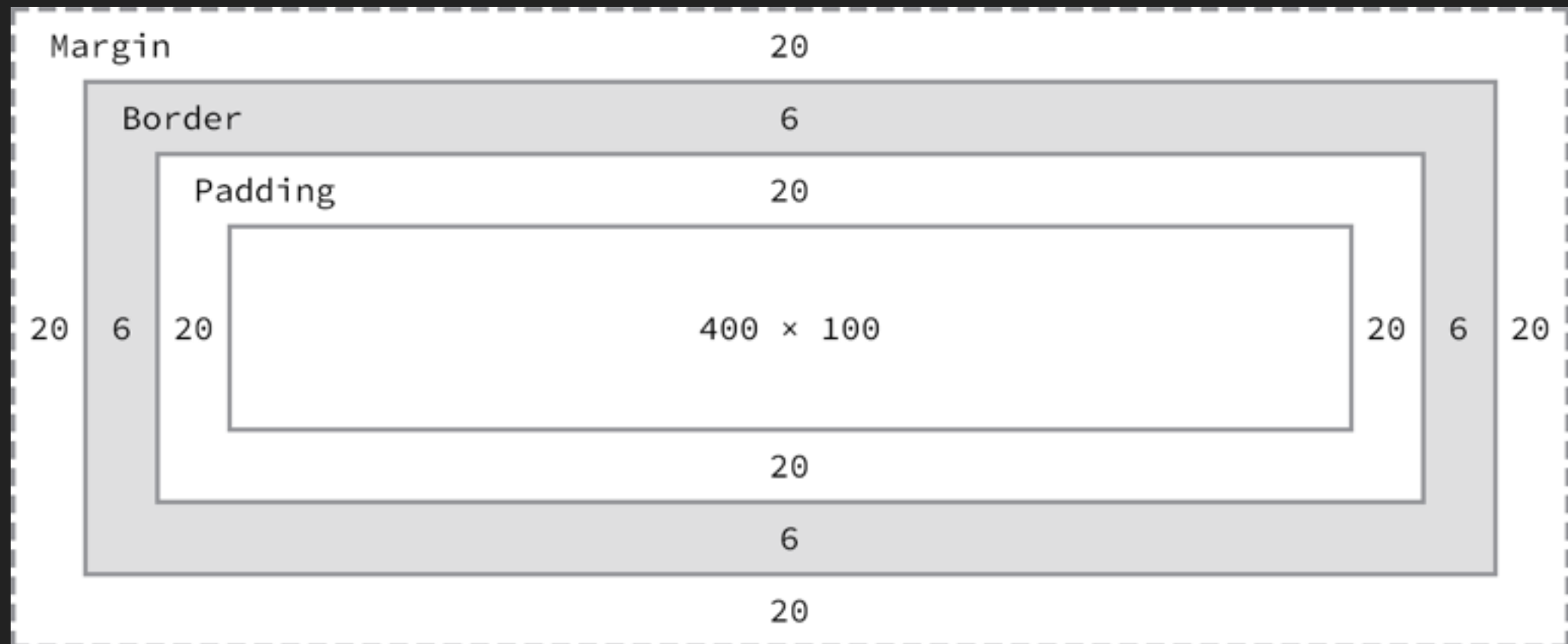
# BOX MODEL EXAMPLE

**Total height** = **margin-top** + **border-top** +  
**padding-top** + **height** + **padding-bottom** +  
**border-bottom** + **margin-bottom**

# BOX MODEL EXAMPLE

```
div {  
    border: 6px solid #949599;  
    height: 100px;  
    margin: 20px;  
    padding: 20px;  
    width: 400px;  
}
```

# BOX MODEL EXAMPLE



So what is the total height and width of this box?



# BOX MODEL EXAMPLE

**Width: 492px** = 20px + 6px + 20px  
+ 400px + 20px + 6px + 20px

**Height: 192px** = 20px + 6px + 20px  
+ 100px + 20px + 6px + 20px

# MARGIN AND PADDING

- ▶ Margin - allows us to set the amount of space that surrounds an element. (ie. outside an elements border)
- ▶ Padding - allows us to set the amount of space inside an elements border (ie. between the border and the content).
- ▶ Some browsers apply default margins and/or padding on elements.

## MARGIN AND PADDING DECLARATIONS

```
div {  
  margin: 20px;  
  padding: 5px;  
}
```

All sides share same length

```
div {  
  margin: 10px 20px;  
  padding: 5px 10px;  
}
```

Top/Bottom, Left/Right

```
div {  
  margin: 10px 20px 0 15px;  
  padding: 5px 10px 0 15px;  
}
```

Top, Right, Bottom, Left

# BORDERS

- ▶ Borders fall between the margin and padding.
- ▶ Borders require 3 properties - **width**, **style** and **color**.
- ▶ Examples of the most common styles are **solid**, **double**, **dashed**, **dotted** and **none**.

# BORDER DECLARATION

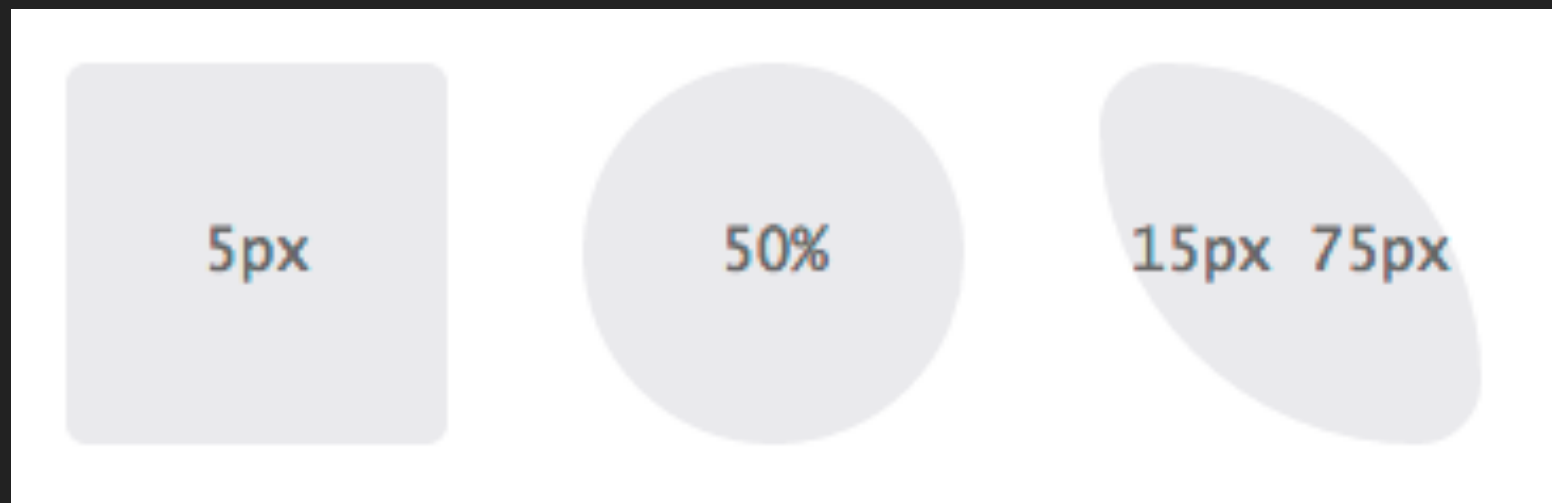
```
div {  
    border: 6px solid #949599;  
}
```

You can also set individual borders, e.g. **border-right**, **border-left**, **border-top**, **border-bottom**.

Or properties like **border-top-width**, **border-top-style**, **border-top-color**.

# BORDER RADIUS

- ▶ This enables rounded corners for an element.



### EXAMPLE BORDER RADIUS

```
div {  
    border-radius: 5px;  
}
```

A single value will round all four corners of an element equally

# EXAMPLE OF BORDER RADIUS

```
div {  
    border-top-right-radius: 5px;  
}
```

You can also use **border-top-left-radius**,  
**border-bottom-right-radius**, **border-bottom-left-radius**



# BOX SIZING

- ▶ The **box-sizing** CSS property allows us to change the way the box model is calculated.
- ▶ Allowed values are **content-box**, **padding-box** and **border-box**.
- ▶ **content-box** is the default.

border-box

padding-box

content-box



### EXAMPLE OF BOX SIZING

```
div {  
    -webkit-box-sizing: content-box;  
    -moz-box-sizing: content-box;  
    box-sizing: content-box;  
}
```

What are those hyphens and  
letters before the property?

## VENDOR PREFIXES

- ▶ As CSS3 was being introduced, browsers gradually began to support the new properties and values proposed as part of the specification.
- ▶ They were able to make these available to developers before the spec was finalized using vendor prefixes.
- ▶ As the CSS3 spec becomes finalized vendor prefixes will become less relevant.

# LAYOUTS AND POSITIONING

# WAYS TO POSITION ELEMENTS

- ▶ Floats
- ▶ Uniquely Positioning Elements
  - ▶ Relative Positioning
  - ▶ Absolute Positioning

# NORMAL FLOW

**<header> ... </header>**

**<section> ... </section>**

**<aside> ... </aside>**

**<footer> ... </footer>**



# NORMAL FLOW

<header>

<section>

<aside>

<footer>

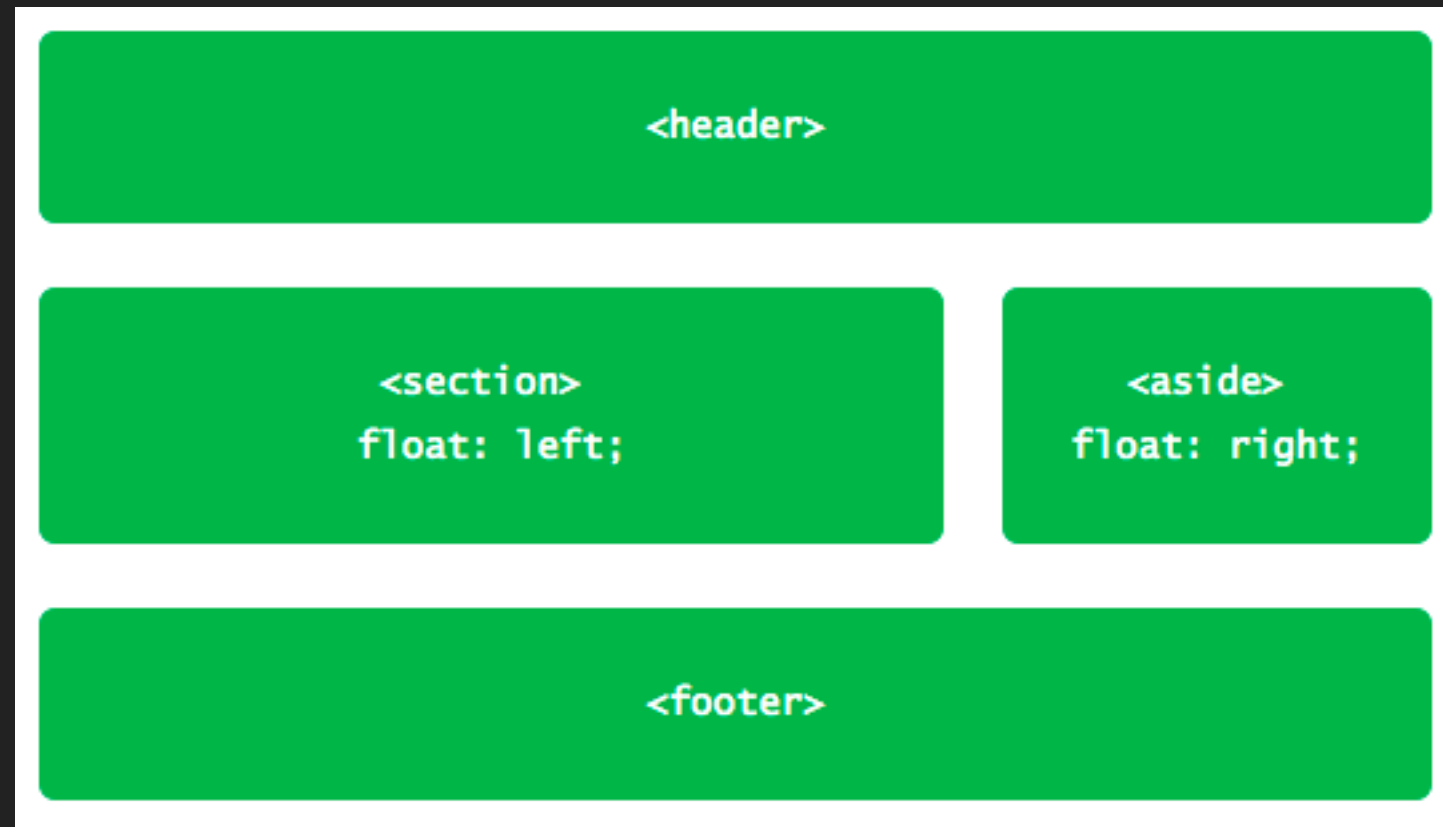
# FLOATS

- ▶ Allows us to take an element, remove it from the normal flow of a page, and position it to the left or right of its parent element.
- ▶ The **float** property accepts a few values, the two most popular ones are **left** and **right**.
- ▶ An example could be floating an **<img>** element to the side so that paragraphs of text wrap around it.
- ▶ You can also float multiple elements to create a layout.

# FLOATS

```
section {  
    float: left;  
    margin: 0 1.5%;  
    width: 63%;  
}  
aside {  
    float: right;  
    margin: 0 1.5%;  
    width: 30%;  
}
```

# FLOATS



## CLEARING FLOATS

- ▶ Sometimes if you are not careful when using floats, you can end up with elements unnecessarily wrapping around a floated element or filling in the available space since it is no longer in the normal flow.



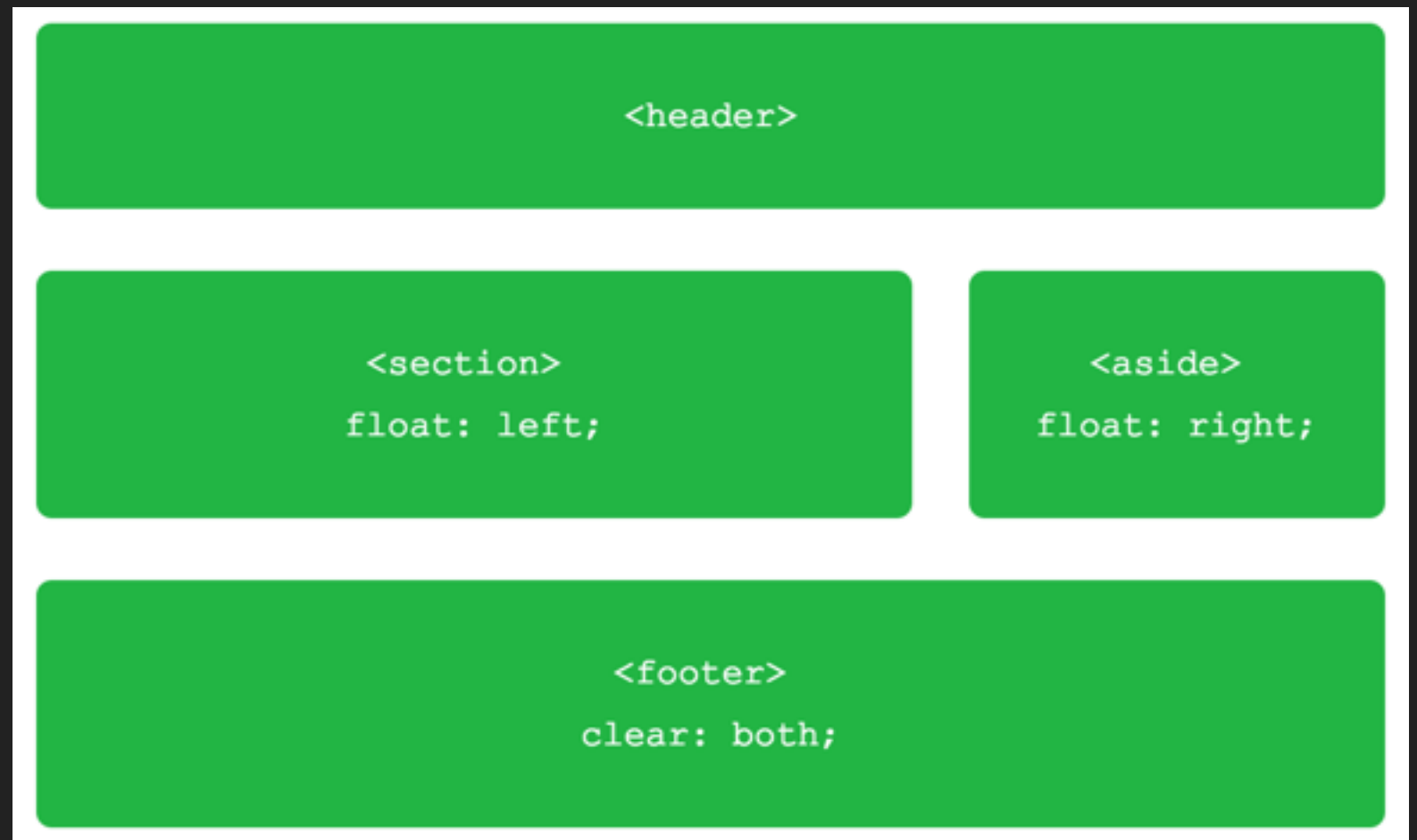
# CLEARING FLOATS

- ▶ To prevent content from wrapping around floated elements, we need to clear, or contain, those floats and return the page to its normal flow.
- ▶ We can do this by using the **clear** property.
- ▶ This property accepts a few different values: the most commonly used values being **left**, **right**, and **both**.
- ▶ The **left** value will clear left floats, while the **right** value will clear right floats. The **both** value, however, will clear both left and right floats and is often the most ideal value.

## CLEARING FLOATS

- ▶ So using our previous example. We can apply the following:

```
footer {  
  clear: both;  
}
```



# UNIQUELY POSITIONING ELEMENTS

- ▶ There are times we need to precisely position an element. In cases like this we use the **position** property.
- ▶ The default position is **static** (normal flow), however, this value can be overwritten with **relative** or **absolute**.
- ▶ These work along with the box offset properties **top**, **right**, **bottom** and **left**.



# RELATIVE POSITIONING

- ▶ Allows us to move an element, but keep it in the normal flow of a page, thus preventing other elements from flowing around it.

# EXAMPLE OF RELATIVE POSITIONING

```
<div> ... </div>  
<div class="offset"> ... </div>  
<div> ... </div>
```

```
div {  
    height: 100px;  
    width: 100px;  
}  
.offset {  
    left: 20px;  
    position: relative;  
    top: 20px;  
}
```

# EXAMPLE OF RELATIVE POSITIONING



# ABSOLUTE POSITIONING

- ▶ Similar to the **relative** value for the **position** property, with the exception that the element will not appear in the normal flow of the document and the space it occupied will not be preserved.
- ▶ It is also moved in relation to its closest relatively positioned element.

# EXAMPLE OF ABSOLUTE POSITIONING

```
<section>  
  <div class="offset"> ... </div>  
</section>
```

```
section {  
  position: relative;  
}  
.offset {  
  right: 20px;  
  position: absolute;  
  top: 20px;  
}
```

# EXAMPLE OF ABSOLUTE POSITIONING

```
<section>  
position: relative;
```

```
<div  
class="offset">  
position:  
absolute;  
right: 20px;  
top: 20px;
```

# RESOURCES TO LEARN MORE

- ▶ <http://learn.shayhowe.com/html-css/>
- ▶ <http://learnlayout.com/>
- ▶ <http://webtypography.net/>
- ▶ <https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/>
- ▶ <http://cssspecificity.com/>

**ANY QUESTIONS?**