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Spatial Attributes

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Overview

Spaital attributes in HTML include the margins, borders, and padding of HTML elements, which can assist us in formatting our content in a meaningful and pleasing way to the end user.

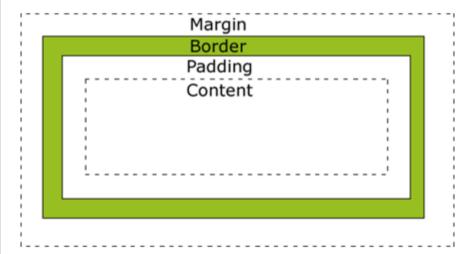
Tutorial

Box model

The **Box model** asserts that all HTML elements can be considered as boxes, or at the very least that every HTML element has a box-shaped margin.

This can be handy for conceptually laying out the information we store on a Web page, as well as being inherently useful for styling.

The Box model asserts that each element contains four layers of information, arranged in a concentric-box shape:



Each of these four layers have different roles:

- The margin is a transparent area around the outside of the content, allowing for easily spacing elements apart
- The border encases the padding and content, and can be coloured
- The padding is a transparent area around the content itself, which can be useful for spacing content apart within a border
- The content is the actual information stored within the HTML tag

(note: the border, padding and content are all affected by the background colour of an element.)

Margin and border properties

All HTML elements have four sides – top, bottom, left and right.

Properties can be set for each dimension or in a compound rule in CSS`:

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IDE Cheatsheet

```
margin: 10px; /*10px in all directions*/
margin: 10px 5px; /*10px top and bottom, 5px left and right*/
margin: 0px 5px 10px 15px; /*top, left, bottom, right*/
margin-bottom: 2em; /*Individual direction*/
}
```

- margin The space between the border of the element and other elements in the window. If left unset, the browser defines the margin.
- width and height The dimensions of the box; if left undefined, these dimensions are determined by the browser
- padding The space between the border and the content; if left undefined the size is set to 0
- background The space behind the content and padding of the element; can be transparent, a solid colour, one or more background images, or a background gradient
- border A ruled line that surrounds the element; can be set separately on each side; can be a colour, image, or styled (e.g. dotted); if left undefined the size is set to 0

Border-box model

When you set the width and height properties of an element with CSS you only set them for the content area.

The full size of an element is determined by adding together all four layers of the element (width+ 2(padding) + 2(border) + 2(margin)).

Here, the total width of the space the element takes up is 300 pixels:

```
{
  width: 250px;
  padding: 10px;
  border: 5px solid gray;
  margin: 10px;
}
```

Exercises

There are no exercises for this module.