

Intro to Flex in CSS

Overview

The Flexbox layout provides an efficient way to layout, align and distribute space among items in a container. This is helpful when the size of the elements in the container is unknown and/or dynamic.

Using the flex in a container gives the **ability to alter its items width/height and order as well to best fit in the space available**. A flex container expands items to fill available free space or shrinks them to prevent overflow.

The flex is a value for the display property. It has to be **provided in the container** for the flex to work. Only if it is defined inside the container, flex properties will work. **Flex properties are defined on the child elements**.

The Flexible Box Layout Module makes designing a **flexible, responsive layout structure** easier without using float or positioning.

To make the container to be flex, add this property in the container:

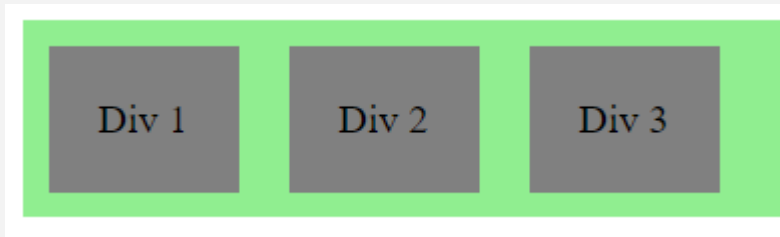
- `display: flex ;`
- `display: inline-flex;` for the inline variation.

In the below example, a parent div contains 3 divs with display property as **flex**.

```
HTML :    <div class="parent">
           <div>Div 1</div>
           <div>Div 2</div>
           <div>Div 3</div>
           </div>

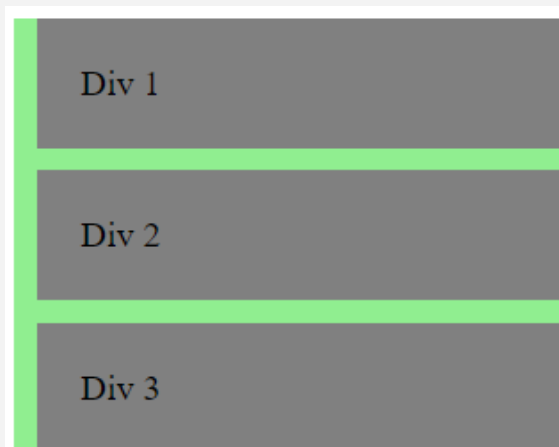
CSS :      .parent {
           display: flex;
           background-color: lightgreen;
           }
```

```
.parent > div {  
  background-color: grey ;  
  margin: 10px;  
  padding: 20px;  
}
```



Browser :

❖ The same code without **display : flex ;**



Browser :