

CSS MEDIA QUERIES

A DAO OF WEB DESIGN

RESPONSIVE DESIGN

“The control which designers know in the print medium, and often desire in the web medium, is simply a function of the limitation of the printed page. We should embrace the fact that the web doesn’t have the same constraints, and design for this flexibility. But first, we must ‘accept the ebb and flow of things.’”

—John Allsopp, “A Dao of Web Design”

<https://alistapart.com/article/dao/>

Media Queries

Responsive Design

Features you can include in a media query include : width, height, device-width, device-height, orientation, aspect-ratio, device-aspect-ratio, color, color-index, monochrome, resolution, scan grid

Most of the above can be combined with min- and max- prefixes.

The most common media queries assess min-width and max-width.

Media queries can be used to load an alternate style sheet or, more commonly, to offer alternate styles within an existing style sheet.

Media Query Syntax

Responsive Design

CSS media queries use the `@media` rule followed by two optional values: “only” or “not”

“only” screens out older browsers from reading the rest of the query.

“not” negates the result: “not screen” means everything except screen-based media.

A feature: value pair, enclosed by parentheses, comprises the essence of the media query.

Media features that can be assessed are predefined.

Multiple feature: value pairs can be combined with “and”.

Media Query Syntax

CSS Rule Set

```
body {  
    background-color: orange;  
}
```

Responsive Design

CSS Rule Set with a Media Query

```
@media only screen and  
    (min-width: 480px) { body {  
        background-color:  
        orange;  
    }  
}
```



HTML

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="utf-8">
5   <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,
6     initial-scale=1">
7   <title></title>
8   <style type="text/css">
9     body {
10 background-color: orange;
11 }
12
13 @media only screen and (max-width: 600px) {
14
15   body {
16 background-color: lightblue;
17 }
18 }
19
20 </style>
21 </head>
22 <body>
23   <p>Resize the browser window. When the width of
24     this document is 600 pixels or less, the background-
25     color is "lightblue", otherwise it is "orange".</p>
26
27   </body>
28 </html>
```

Result

Resize the browser window. When the width of this document is 600 pixels or less, the background-color is "lightblue", otherwise it is "orange".

media1.html

```
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3  <head>
4      <meta charset="utf-8">
5      <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
6      <title></title>
7  <style type="text/css">
8
9      body {
10 background-color: orange;
11 font-size: 40pt;
12 }
13
14 @media only screen and (max-width: 600px) {
15
16     body {
17 background-color: lightblue;
18     }
19     p {
20         font-size: 20pt;
21     }
22 }
23
24
25
26 </style>
27 </head>
28 <body>
29     <p>Resize the browser window. When the width of this document is 600 pixels or less, the background-color is
        "lightblue", otherwise it is "orange".</p>
30
31 </body>
32 </html>
```

Common device breakpoints

- 320px – 480px: Mobile devices
- 481px – 768px: iPads, Tablets
- 769px – 1024px: Small screens, laptops
- 1025px – 1200px: Desktops, large screens
- 1201px and more – Extra large screens, TV

- There is no standard list of breakpoints. There are a ton of devices on the market (w/new devices released every year) so we can't and we shouldn't define fixed breakpoints for each of them.

SOME SAY IT IS BETTER TO DEFINE YOUR BREAKPOINTS WITH YOUR INDIVIDUAL CONTENT IN MIND ... RATHER THAN DESIGN FOR SPECIFIC DEVICES THAT MAY CHANGE.



ONE OF THE UTILITIES OF LIBRARIES LIKE BOOTSTRAP IS THE BREAKPOINTS ARE BUILT INTO THE TEMPLATE AND KEPT CURRENT: <https://getbootstrap.com/docs/5.0/layout/breakpoints/>

LAYOUT APPLICATIONS

A simple flexbox example: https://i6.cims.nyu.edu/~mr6465/media_queries/flex-media/

```
index.html
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en" >
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="UTF-8">
5   <title>Simple FlexBox Layout</title>
6   <link rel="stylesheet" href="./style.css">
7
8 </head>
9 <body>
10 <!-- partial:index.partial.html -->
11 <header class="header">Header </header>
12 <main class="main">Main
13   <p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nullam tristique mollis
14     venenatis, ex quis bibendum sagittis, turpis nunc tristique lectus, ut varius leo lo
15     quis. In hac habitasse platea dictumst. Pellentesque sit amet condimentum arcu, vel
16     placerat elit, vitae sollicitudin neque. Donec lacinia hendrerit scelerisque. Ut sit
17     Suspendisse efficitur est in rhoncus hendrerit. Quisque ipsum augue, venenatis a mau
18     magna eget, tempus dictum ante. Vestibulum et rutrum augue. Aliquam consequat sceler
19
20 Nunc non malesuada dolor, tincidunt fermentum nisl. Donec semper interdum neque a vive
21 Integer nisl libero, lobortis eget sem vitae, interdum scelerisque tortor. Sed interdum
22 efficitur. Vestibulum elementum porttitor vestibulum. Pellentesque habitant morbi tris
23 eros id risus ullamcorper, nec convallis augue pellentesque. Fusce molestie blandit dap
24 cursus nulla ut dui fermentum sagittis at et felis. Nunc ac lorem bibendum, viverra urna
25 lorem ex auctor purus, vel aliquam tellus velit ac ex.</p>
26   
27
28 </main>
29 <aside class="sidebar">Sidebar</aside>
30 <footer class="footer">Footer</footer>
31 <!-- partial -->
32
33 </body>
34 </html>
```

```
style.css
1 body {
2   display: flex;
3   flex-wrap: wrap;
4 }
5 body > * { /*(greater than) > is a child selector that styles the immediate children.*/
6
7   background: #eee;
8   padding: 2rem;
9   text-align: center;
10  border: 5px solid white;
11 }
12
13 .header {
14
15   flex: 1 100%;
16   order: 4;
17 }
18
19 .footer {
20
21   flex: 1 100%;
22   order: 2;
23 }
24
25 .sidebar {
26   flex: 1;
27   order: 3;
28 }
29
30 .main {
31   flex: 2;
32   order: 1;
33 }
34
35 @media screen and (max-width: 600px){
36   body {
37     -webkit-flex-direction: column;
38     flex-direction: column;
39     flex-wrap: nowrap;
40   }
41   .header {
42
43     order: 1;
44   }
45
46   .footer {
47
48     order: 4;
49   }
50
51   .sidebar {
52
53     order: 3;
54   }
55   .main {
56
57     order: 2;
58   }
59 }
```

USING BREAKPOINTS WITH GRID ENABLES RESPONSIVE MULTI-COLUMN LAYOUTS

```
1  .wrapper {  
2    display: grid;  
3    grid-template-columns: 50% 30% 20%;  
4    grid-template-rows: 30% 30% 30%;  
5    grid-gap: 1%;  
6  
7    text-align: center;  
8    color: white;  
9    font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;  
10   font-size: 1.5000em;  
11  
12  
13 }
```

Default liquid layout with 3x3 grid

```
128  
129 @media (max-width: 600px) {  
130  
131   .wrapper {  
132     grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr;  
133   }  
134  
135   #item3{  
136     background-color: pink;  
137     grid-row-start: 1;  
138     grid-row-end: 2;  
139     font-size: 10pt;  
140   }
```

Smaller screen width: switch to 2 column grid!

Examples:

- https://i6.cims.nyu.edu/~mr6465/media_queries/kpop/index_breakpoints.html
- https://i6.cims.nyu.edu/~mr6465/web_design/responsive/seasons/
- https://i6.cims.nyu.edu/~mr6465/media_queries/grid/