



## Define the position and size of UI elements

- Implement a simple registration form
- What is the difference between a “`SizedBox`” and a “`Container`”
- What is “margin” and “padding” for a container
- How to define the border of a `Container`
- What are gradient colors



Goal: create the layout of a simple registration form

Without  
input:

A mobile app interface titled "Registration Form" with a blue header. The form consists of three yellow input fields labeled "Name", "Address", and "eMail". Below the fields is a blue "Register" button. The status bar at the top shows the time 23:46 and various icons.

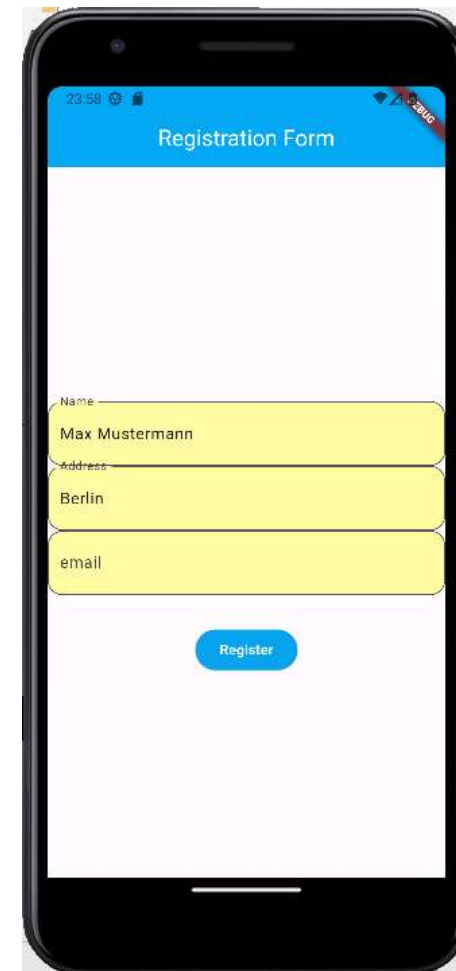
Filled:

The same mobile app interface as the previous one, but with the input fields filled. The "Name" field contains "Max Mustermann", the "Address" field contains "Berlin", and the "eMail" field contains "max@gmail.com". The "Register" button remains blue. The status bar at the top shows the time 23:44 and various icons.



# Arranging with Column.MainAxisAlignment

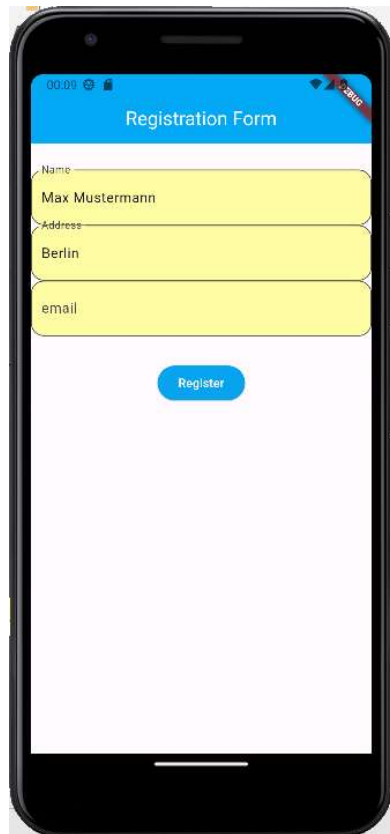
```
body: Column(  
  mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.center,  
  children: [  
    const SizedBox(height: 30),  
    TextField( // TextField ...  
    TextField( // TextField ...  
    TextField( // TextField ...  
    const SizedBox(height: 30),  
    ElevatedButton( // ElevatedButton ...  
  ],  
)
```



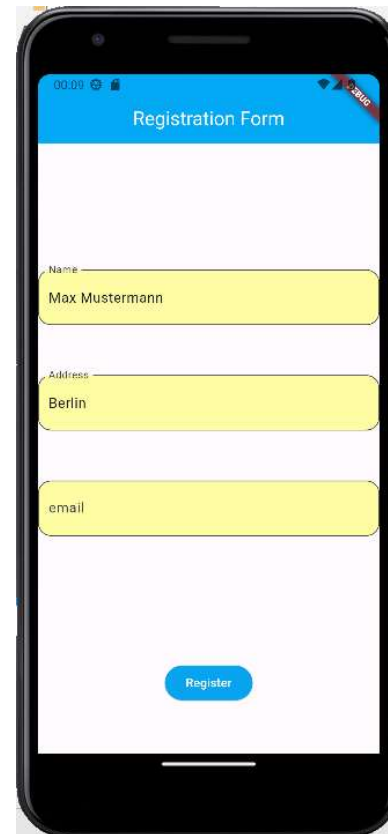
# AxisAlignments do not fully fit our needs here



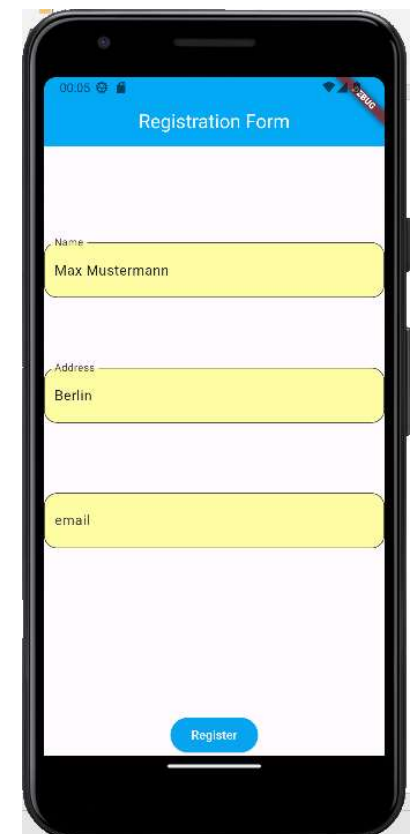
```
body: Column(  
  mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.start,
```



```
MainAxisAlignment.spaceEvenly,
```



```
MainAxisAlignment.spaceBetween,
```





# Issue when wrapping TextField in a row

A TextField has no property width. The first idea to make it “smaller” was to wrap it in a row and put SizedBoxes in front and behind it:

```
Row(  
  children: [  
    const SizedBox(width: 10),  
    TextField(  
      decoration: InputDecoration(  
        filled: true,  
        fillColor: myYellow,  
        labelText: "Name",  
        border: const OutlineInputBorder(  
          borderRadius:  
            BorderRadius.all(Radius.circular(10))),  
      ),  
      onChanged: (value) {  
        setState(() {  
          enteredName = value;  
        });  
      },  
    ), // TextField  
    const SizedBox(width: 10),  
  ],  
), // Row
```

Paused on exception

Back Frames  
Next Frames

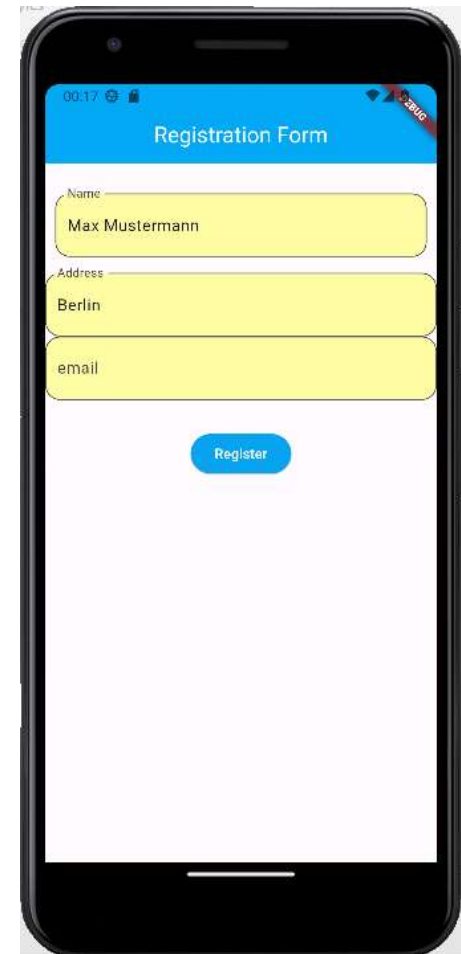
\_AssertionError ('package:flutter/src/material/input\_decorator.dart': Failed assertion: line 952 pos 7: 'layoutConstraints.maxWidth < double.infinity': An InputDecoration, which is typically created by a TextField, cannot have an unbounded width. This happens when the parent widget does not provide a finite width constraint. For example, if the InputDecoration is contained by a Row, then its width must be constrained. An Expanded widget or a SizedBox can be used to constrain the width of the InputDecoration or the TextField that contains it.)



## Solution A) Wrapping TextField with a SizedBox

```
body: Column(  
  mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.start,  
  children: [  
    const SizedBox(height: 30),  
    SizedBox(  
      width: MediaQuery.of(context).size.width - 20,  
      height: 80,  
      child: TextField(  
        decoration: InputDecoration(  
          filled: true,  
          fillColor: myYellow,  
          labelText: "Name",  
          border: const OutlineInputBorder(  
            borderRadius: BorderRadius.all(Radius.circular(15))),  
          ), // InputDecoration  
      ),  
    ],  
  ),
```

BTW: I retrieved "height: 80" by try-and-error.





## Solution B) Wrapping TextField with Padding

```
Padding(  
  padding: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 5, 10, 10),  
  child: TextField(  
    decoration: InputDecoration(  
      filled: true,  
      fillColor: myYellow,  
      labelText: "Address",  
      border: const OutlineInputBorder(  
        borderRadius: BorderRadius.circular(15)),  
      ), // InputDecoration  
    onChanged: (value) {  
      setState(() {  
        address = value;  
      });  
    },  
  ), // TextField  
), // Padding
```

Registration Form

Name  
Max Mustermann

Address  
Berlin

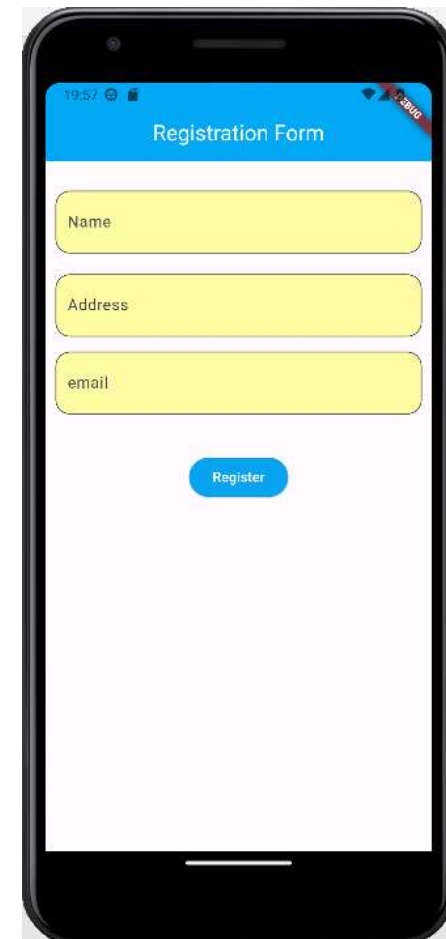
email

Register

## Solution C) Wrapping TextField with a Container



```
Container(  
  padding: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 5, 10, 10),  
  child: TextField(  
    decoration: InputDecoration(  
      filled: true,  
      fillColor: myYellow,  
      labelText: "email",  
      border: const OutlineInputBorder(  
        borderRadius: BorderRadius.circular(15)),  
    ), // InputDecoration  
    onChanged: (value) {  
      setState(() {  
        email = value;  
      });  
    },  
  ), // TextField  
), // Container
```







## Compare SizedBox with Container

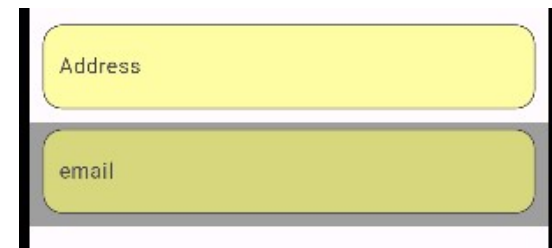
```
(new) SizedBox SizedBox({  
  Key? key,  
  double? width,  
  double? height,  
  Widget? child,  
})
```

```
(new) Container Container({  
  Key? key,  
  AlignmentGeometry? alignment,  
  EdgeInsetsGeometry? padding,  
  Color? color,  
  Decoration? decoration,  
  Decoration? foregroundDecoration,  
  double? width,  
  double? height,  
  BoxConstraints? constraints,  
  EdgeInsetsGeometry? margin,  
  Matrix4? transform,  
  AlignmentGeometry? transformAlignment,  
  Widget? child,  
  Clip clipBehavior = Clip.none,  
})
```

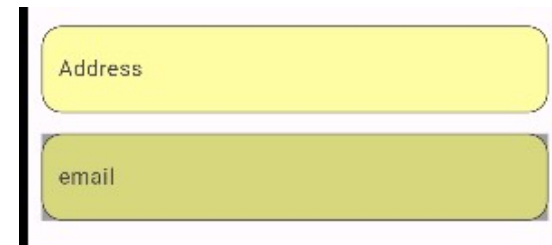


# Margin as alternative to padding in a Container

```
Container(  
  color: Colors.grey,  
  padding: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 5, 10, 10),  
  child: TextField(  
    decoration: InputDecoration(  
      filled: true,  
      fillColor: myYellow,  
      labelText: "email",  
    ),  
  ),  
)
```



```
Container(  
  color: Colors.grey,  
  //padding: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 5, 10, 10),  
  margin: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 5, 10, 10),  
  child: TextField(  
    decoration: InputDecoration(  
      filled: true,  
      fillColor: myYellow,  
      labelText: "email",  
    ),  
  ),  
)
```





# Margin vs. Padding

```
margin: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 0, 10, 20),
```



Margin is the space around the widget. For example, from the edge of the container to the edge of the phone screen.

Padding is the space within the widget. For example, from the edge of the container to the text in it.

```
padding: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 0, 10, 20),
```



Text was copied from

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/67351333/what-the-difference-between-margin-and-padding-in-container-widget-using-flutter>



## Finalizing registration form (part I)

To avoid code duplication, we create one line of the form in a method:

```
Widget getRegistrationLine(String label, void Function(String) callback) {  
  return Padding(  
    padding: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(10, 5, 10, 10),  
    child: TextField(  
      decoration: InputDecoration(  
        filled: true,  
        fillColor: myYellow,  
        labelText: label,  
        border: const OutlineInputBorder(  
          borderRadius: BorderRadius.circular(15)), // OutlineInputBorder  
        ), // InputDecoration  
      onChanged: callback,  
    ), // TextField  
  ); // Padding  
}
```



## Finalizing registration form (part II)

When creating the column of our form, we call the method for each line:

```
body: Column(  
  mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.start,  
  children: [  
    const SizedBox(height: 30),  
    getRegistrationLine("Name", setName),  
    getRegistrationLine("Address", setAddress),  
    getRegistrationLine("email", setMail),  
    const SizedBox(height: 30),  
    ElevatedButton(  

```

```
void setName(String p1) {  
  setState(() {  
    name = p1;  
  });  
}
```

Registration Form

Name  
Max Mustermann

Address  
Berlin

eMail  
x@yy.de

Register



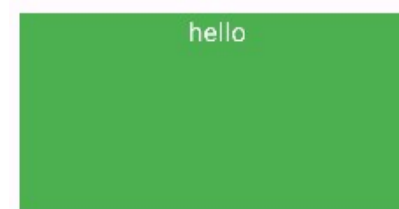
## Some more info on Container Widget

```
(new) Container Container({  
  Key? key,  
  AlignmentGeometry? alignment,  
  EdgeInsetsGeometry? padding,  
  Color? color,  
  Decoration? decoration,  
  Decoration? foregroundDecoration,  
  double? width,  
  double? height,  
  BoxConstraints? constraints,  
  EdgeInsetsGeometry? margin,  
  Matrix4? transform,  
  AlignmentGeometry? transformAlignment,  
  Widget? child,  
  Clip clipBehavior = Clip.none,  
})
```



# Alignment in Container

```
Container(  
  alignment: Alignment.topCenter,  
  width: 300,  
  height: 100,  
  color: Colors.green,  
  child: const Text("hello",  
    style: TextStyle(color: Colors.white, fontSize: 20))),
```



- bottomCenter Alignment
- bottomLeft Alignment
- bottomRight Alignment
- center Alignment
- centerLeft Alignment
- centerRight Alignment
- topCenter Alignment
- topLeft Alignment
- topRight Alignment





## Container with border

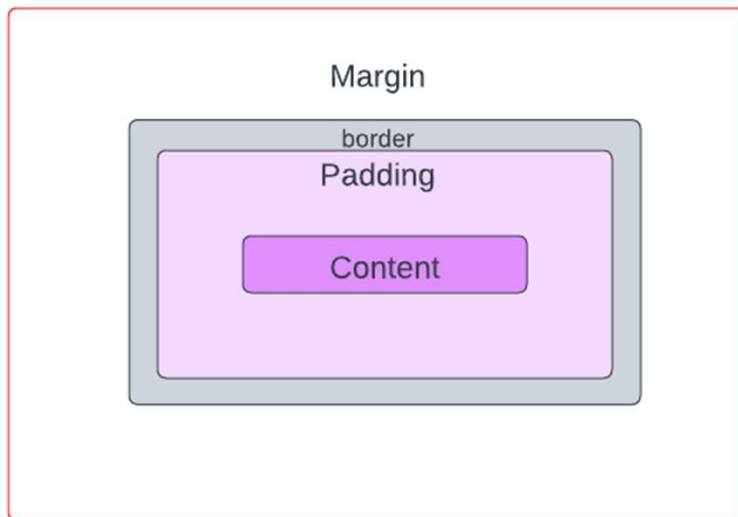


```
Container(  
  //width: 300,  
  //height: 100,  
  margin: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(70, 20, 70, 20),  
  padding: const EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(50, 20, 50, 20),  
  // you cannot define both color and decoration !  
  //color: Colors.green,  
  decoration: BoxDecoration(  
    color: Colors.green,  
    border: Border.all(  
      color: Colors.red, width: 10, style: BorderStyle.solid), // Border.all  
      borderRadius: const BorderRadius.all(Radius.circular(20)), // BoxDecoration  
    ),  
  ),  
  child: Container(height: 50, color: Colors.orange), // Container
```





# Container: box model



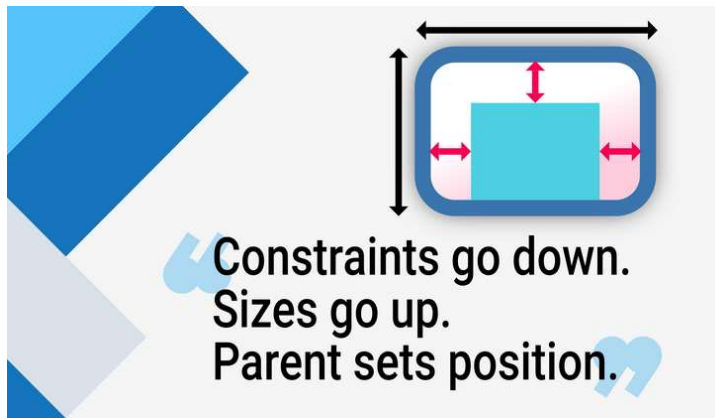
```
Container(  
  // width: 300,  
  // height: 200,  
  color: Colors.green,  
  child: Container(  
    margin: EdgeInsets.all(30),  
    padding: EdgeInsets.fromLTRB(50, 30, 50, 20),  
    //alignment: Alignment.center,  
    color: Colors.blue,  
    child: Text("hello world",  
      style: TextStyle(backgroundColor: Colors.red)), // Text  
  ) // Container // Container
```



The picture of “box-model” was taken from <https://blog.logrocket.com/flutter-layouts-guide-margins-padding/>



# Understanding Flutter layout algorithm



Flutter layout can't really be understood without knowing this rule, so Flutter developers should learn it early on.

In more detail:

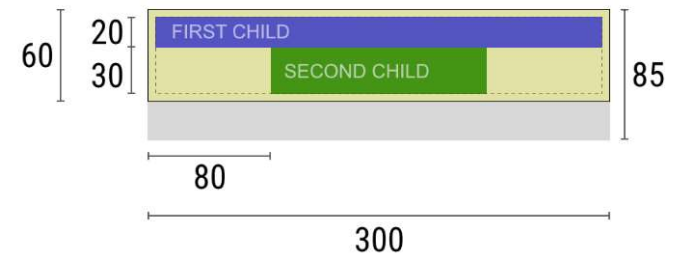
- A widget gets its own **constraints** from its **parent**. A *constraint* is just a set of 4 doubles: a minimum and maximum width, and a minimum and maximum height.
- Then the widget goes through its own list of **children**. One by one, the widget tells its children what their **constraints** are (which can be different for each child), and then asks each child what size it wants to be.
- Then, the widget positions its **children** (horizontally in the **x** axis, and vertically in the **y** axis), one by one.
- And, finally, the widget tells its parent about its own **size** (within the original constraints, of course).

This was copied from <https://docs.flutter.dev/ui/layout/constraints>



# Example for the Flutter layout algorithm

For example, if a composed widget contains a column with some padding, and wants to lay out its two children as follows:



The negotiation goes something like this:

**Widget:** "Hey parent, what are my constraints?"

**Parent:** "You must be from 0 to 300 pixels wide, and 0 to 85 tall."

**Widget:** "Hmmm, since I want to have 5 pixels of padding, then my children can have at most 290 pixels of width and 75 pixels of height."

**Widget:** "Hey first child, You must be from 0 to 290 pixels wide, and 0 to 75 tall."

**First child:** "OK, then I wish to be 290 pixels wide, and 20 pixels tall."

**Widget:** "Hmmm, since I want to put my second child below the first one, this leaves only 55 pixels of height for my second child."

**Widget:** "Hey second child, You must be from 0 to 290 wide, and 0 to 55 tall."

**Second child:** "OK, I wish to be 140 pixels wide, and 30 pixels tall."

**Widget:** "Very well. My first child has position x: 5 and y: 5, and my second child has x: 80 and y: 25."

**Widget:** "Hey parent, I've decided that my size is going to be 300 pixels wide, and 60 pixels tall."

Also copied from <https://docs.flutter.dev/ui/layout/constraints>



# Gradient colors

```
Container(  
  alignment: Alignment.topCenter,  
  width: 300,  
  height: 200,  
  decoration: const BoxDecoration(  
    //color: Colors.green,  
    gradient: LinearGradient(colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue]),  
  ), // BoxDecoration  
  child: null), // Container
```

```
gradient: LinearGradient(  
  colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue], stops: [0.3, 0.7]),
```

```
gradient: LinearGradient(  
  colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue], stops: [0.5, 0.5]),
```



# More Gradients

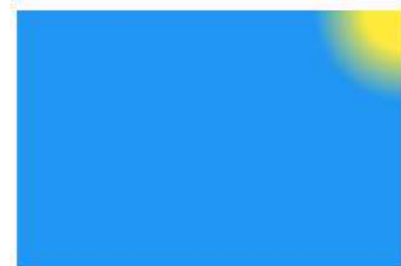
```
gradient: LinearGradient(  
  colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue], stops: [0.3, 0.7],  
  begin: Alignment.topLeft, end: Alignment.bottomRight), // LinearGradient
```



```
gradient: RadialGradient(  
  colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue], stops: [0.3, 0.7]),
```



```
gradient: RadialGradient(  
  center: Alignment.topRight,  
  colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue], stops: [0.3, 0.7]),
```



# Sweep Gradients

```
gradient: SweepGradient(  
  colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue], stops: [0.3, 0.7]),
```

```
gradient: SweepGradient(  
  startAngle: pi * 0.5,  
  endAngle: pi,  
  colors: [Colors.yellow, Colors.blue], stops: [0.3, 0.7]),
```

```
gradient: SweepGradient(  
  colors: [Colors.red, Colors.green,  
           Colors.yellow, Colors.blue, Colors.red],  
  stops: [0.0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1]) // SweepGradient
```



# Gradient colors in Powerpoint

