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HTML Div Element

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The `<div>` element is used as a container for other HTML elements.

The <div> Element

The `<div>` element is by default a block element, meaning that it takes all available width, and comes with line breaks before and after.

Example

A <div> element takes up all available width:

```
Lorem Ipsum <div>I am a div</div> dolor sit amet.
```

Result

Lorem Ipsum
I am a div
dolor sit amet.

[Try it Yourself »]

The `<div>` element has no required attributes, but `style`, `class` and `id` are common.

<div> as a container

The `<div>` element is often used to group sections of a web page together.

Example

A <div> element with HTML elements:

```
<div>
  <h2>London</h2>
  <p>London is the capital city of England.</p>
  <p>London has over 13 million inhabitants.</p>
</div>
```

Result

London

London is the capital city of England.

London has over 13 million inhabitants.

[Try it Yourself »]

Center align a <div> element

If you have a `<div>` element that is not 100% wide, and you want to center-align it, set the CSS `margin` property to `auto`.

Example

```
<style>
div {
  width:300px;
  margin:auto;
}
</style>
```

London

London is the capital city of England.

London has over 13 million inhabitants.

Try it Yourself »

Multiple <div> elements

You can have many `<div>` containers on the same page.

Example

```
<div>
  <h2>London</h2>
  <p>London is the capital city of England.</p>
  <p>London has over 13 million inhabitants.</p>
</div>

<div>
  <h2>Oslo</h2>
  <p>Oslo is the capital city of Norway.</p>
  <p>Oslo has over 600.000 inhabitants.</p>
</div>

<div>
  <h2>Rome</h2>
  <p>Rome is the capital city of Italy.</p>
  <p>Rome has almost 3 million inhabitants.</p>
</div>
```

Result

London

London is the capital city of England.

London has over 13 million inhabitants.

Oslo

Oslo is the capital city of Norway.

Oslo has over 600.000 inhabitants.

Rome

Rome is the capital city of Italy.

Rome has almost 3 million inhabitants.

Try it Yourself »

Aligning <div> elements side by side

When building web pages, you often want to have two or more `<div>` elements side by side, like this:

London

London is the capital city of England.

London has over 13 million inhabitants.

Oslo

Oslo is the capital city of Norway.

Oslo has over 600.000 inhabitants.

Rome

Rome is the capital city of Italy.

Rome has almost 3 million inhabitants.

There are different methods for aligning elements side by side, all include some CSS styling. We will look at the most common methods:

Float

The CSS `float` property was not originally meant to align `<div>` elements side-by-side, but has been used for this purpose for many years.

The CSS `float` property is used for positioning and formatting content and allow elements float next to each other instead of on top of each other.

```
<style>
.mycontainer {
  width:100%;
  overflow:auto;
}
.mycontainer div {
  width:33%;
  float:left;
}
</style>
```

Result

London	Oslo	Rome
London is the capital city of England.	Oslo is the capital city of Norway.	Rome is the capital city of Italy.
London has over 13 million inhabitants.	Oslo has over 600.000 inhabitants.	Rome has almost 3 million inhabitants.

Try it Yourself »

Learn more about float in our CSS float tutorial.

Inline-block

If you change the `<div>` element's `display` property from `block` to `inline-block`, the `<div>` elements will no longer add a line break before and after, and will be displayed side by side instead of on top of each other.

Example

How to use display: inline-block to align div elements side by side:

```
<style>
div {
  width: 30%;
  display: inline-block;
}
</style>
```

Result

London	Oslo	Rome
London is the capital city of England.	Oslo is the capital city of Norway.	Rome is the capital city of Italy.
London has over 13 million inhabitants.	Oslo has over 600.000 inhabitants.	Rome has almost 3 million inhabitants.

Try it Yourself »

Flex

The CSS Flexbox Layout Module was introduced to make it easier to design flexible responsive layout structure without using float or positioning.

To make the CSS flex method work, surround the `<div>` elements with another `<div>` element and give it the status as a flex container.

Example

How to use flex to align div elements side by side:

```
<style>
.mycontainer {
  display: flex;
}
.mycontainer > div {
  width:33%;
}
</style>
```

Result

London is the capital city of England.	Oslo is the capital city of Norway.	Rome is the capital city of Italy.
London has over 13 million inhabitants.	Oslo has over 600.000 inhabitants.	Rome has almost 3 million inhabitants.

Try it Yourself »

Learn more about flex in our CSS flexbox tutorial.

Grid

The CSS Grid Layout Module offers a grid-based layout system, with rows and columns, making it easier to design web pages without having to use floats and positioning.

Sounds almost the same as flex, but has the ability to define more than one row and position each row individually.

The CSS grid method requires that you surround the `<div>` elements with another `<div>` element and give the status as a grid container, and you must specify the width of each column.

Example

How to use grid to align <div> elements side by side:

```
<style>
.grid-container {
  display: grid;
  grid-template-columns: 33% 33% 33%;
}
</style>
```

Result

London	Oslo	Rome
London is the capital city of England.	Oslo is the capital city of Norway.	Rome is the capital city of Italy.
London has over 13 million inhabitants.	Oslo has over 600.000 inhabitants.	Rome has almost 3 million inhabitants.

Try it Yourself »

Learn more about grid in our CSS grid tutorial.

HTML Tags

Tag	Description
<div>	Defines a section in a document (block-level)

For a complete list of all available HTML tags, visit our HTML Tag Reference.

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