

How to create Navigation Bar with CSS

Navigation is important for any web site. With CSS you can transform boring HTML menus into good-looking navigation bars.

A navigation bar needs standard HTML as a base. A navigation bar is basically a list of links, so using the `` and `` elements.

```
1 <ul>
2   <li><a href="home.html">Home</a></li>
3   <li><a href="news.html">News</a></li>
4   <li><a href="contact.html">Contact</a></li>
5   <li><a href="about.html">About</a></li>
6 </ul>
```

<HTML element>

Then remove the bullets and the margins and padding from the list.

```
1 ul {
2   list-style-type: none;
3   margin: 0;
4   padding: 0;
5 }
```

<CSS Rule>

Example explained:

- `list-style-type: none;` - Removes the bullets. A navigation bar does not need list markers
- Set `margin: 0;` and `padding: 0;` to remove browser default settings

The code in the example above is the standard code used in both vertical.

Vertical Navigation Bar

To build a vertical navigation bar, you can style the `<a>` elements inside the list, in addition to the code from the previous page.

```
1  li a {  
2      display: block;  
3      width: 60px;  
4      background-color: #dddddd;  
5  
6  }
```

<CSS Rule>

Example explained:

- `display: block;` - Displaying the links as block elements makes the whole link area clickable (not just the text), and it allows us to specify the width (and padding, margin, height, etc. if you want)
- `width: 60px;` - Block elements take up the full width available by default. We want to specify a 60 pixels width

You can also set the width of ``, and remove the width of `<a>`, as they will take up the full width available when displayed as block elements. This will produce the same result as our previous example.

```
1  ul {  
2      list-style-type: none;  
3      margin: 0;  
4      padding: 0;  
5      width: 60px;  
6  }  
7  
8  li a {  
9      display: block;  
10     background-color: #dddddd;  
11 }
```

Horizontal Navigation Bar

There are two ways to create a horizontal navigation bar. Using **inline** or **floating** list items.

- Inline List Items

One way to build a horizontal navigation bar is to specify the `` elements as inline, in addition to the "standard" code from the previous page.

Example explained

```
1  li {  
2    display: inline;  
3  }
```

- **display: inline;** - By default, `` elements are block elements. Here, we remove the line breaks before and after each list item, to display them on one line

- Floating List Items

Another way of creating a horizontal navigation bar is to float the `` elements, and specify a layout for the navigation links

```
1  ul {  
2    list-style-type: none;  
3    margin: 0;  
4    padding: 0;  
5    overflow: hidden;  
6  }  
7  
8  li {  
9    float: left;  
10 }  
11  
12 li a {  
13   display: block;  
14   padding: 8px;  
15   background-color: #dddddd;  
16 }
```

Example explained:

- `float: left;` - use float to get block elements to slide next to each other
- `display: block;` - Allows us to specify padding (and height, width, margins, etc. if you want)
- `padding: 8px;` - Since block elements take up the full width available, they cannot float next to each other. Therefore, specify some padding to make them look good
- `background-color: #dddddd;` - Add a gray background-color to each a element

Tip: Add the background-color to `` instead of each `<a>` element if you want a full-width background color.

Active/Current Navigation Link

Add an "active" class to the current link to let the user know which page is on.

```
1  .active {  
2      background-color: #4CAF50;  
3      color: white;  
4  }
```

Summarize

การสร้าง Navigation Bar โดยพื้นฐานแล้วจะต้องใช้ HTML Element `` และ `` ซึ่งสามารถสร้างได้ทั้งทางแนวดิ่ง (Vertical) และแนวนอน (Horizontal) ในการสร้างแนวนอน จะมีรูปแบบกฎที่ใช้ในการสร้างและจัดรูปแบบมี 2 วิธี เรียกว่า Inline List Item และ Floating List Items

Navigation bar Horizontal Example

