Practical: Applying Padding and Margins

The goal of this lesson is to show you a real world example of how padding and margin work.

First off, let's see a very important use of margins.

How to Perfectly Center Elements Horizontally

Consider the markup below:

```
<div class="center"></div>
```
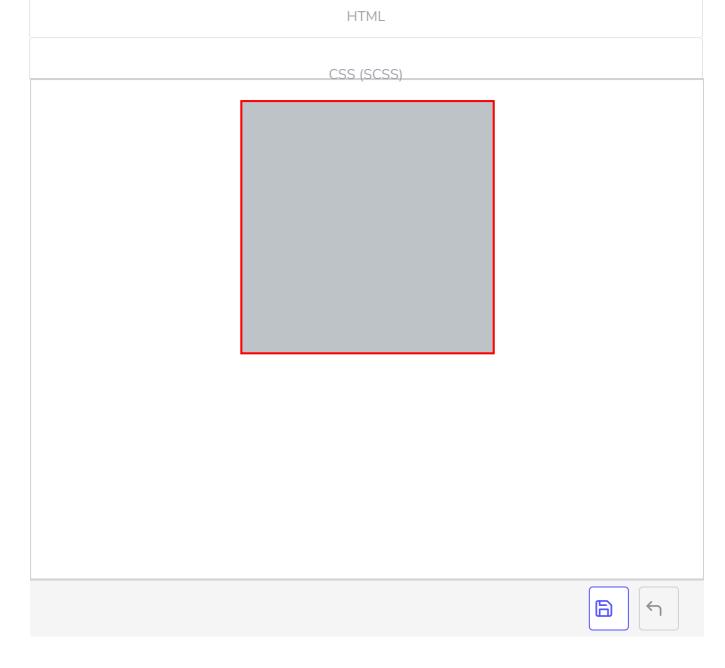
A simple `div` with a class, `.center`

Assume the `div` is styled like so:

```
.center {
    width: 250px;
    height: 250px;
    border: 2px solid red;
    background-color: rgb(189,195,199);
    margin-left: auto;
    margin-right: auto;
    margin-top: 20px;
    margin-bottom: 30px;
}
```

It is just a `div` with a `width` and `height`. Oh, and a border too! The other style declarations are for margins.

Before any further explanations, here is the result of that:

Output

CSS (SCSS)

Did you notice that the `div` is perfectly centered within the page (along the horizintal).

How is this done?

The auto margin trick!

If you set the values of the `left` and `right` margin values of an element to `auto`, you will get a perfectly centered element along the horizontal!

```css
.center {
    width: 250px;
    height: 250px;
    border: 2px solid red;
    background-color: rgba(189,195,199 ,1);
    margin-left: auto;
    margin-right  auto;
    margin-top: 20px;
    margin-bottom: 30px;
}
```

Try it out.

See the CSS in the code playground above. Play with the codes till you find gold🎇

Margin, Padding and Multiple elements.

In this example, I want you to visually see how padding and margin work.

Consider the markup below:

```html
<div class="wrapper">
    <p>This paragraph should be displayed in the default style of
      the browser with a background color and border.
      This is help us see where it starts and finishes.</p>
    <p>This is another paragraph that has the default browser
      styles so we can see how the spacing between the paragraphs
      displays when no margin or padding has been applied.</p>
    <p class="paddingtest">This paragraph has 2em of padding applied
      using CSS. The padding creates additional space on the inside
      of the element.</p>
    <p class="margintest">This is another paragraph that has a margin of 5
em applied using CSS.
```

```
   The margin creates additional space on the outside of the element.</p>
     <p>This is another paragraph that has the default browser

     styles so we can see how the spacing between the paragraphs
     displays when no margin or padding has been applied.</p>
</div>
```

Let's go ahead and style the elements like so:

```
body {
    background-color: #fff;
    margin: 0; /*this will remove every outer space from body*/
    padding: 0; /*this will remove every inner space from body*/
    font-family: "Lucida Grande", "Lucida Sans Unicode",
        "Lucida Sans", Verdana, Tahoma, sans-serif;
    font-size: 0.75em;
}
.wrapper {
    width: 80%;
    margin-top: 20px;
    margin-left: auto;
    margin-bottom: 40px;
    margin-right: auto;
}
p {
    border: 2px solid #aaa;
    background-color: #8cacea;
    color: #fff;
}
p.paddingtest {
    padding: 2em;
}
p.margintest {
    margin: 5em;
}
```
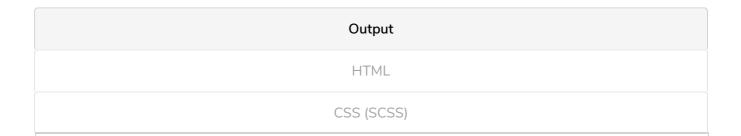
Anything look unclear?

Go over the style declaration rather carefully.

You'll realize that this is just applications of what we have discussed so far. They should NOT be difficult to grasp.

The `auto` margin on both `left` and `right` of the `.wrapper` class will perfectly center the element along the horzontal on the page.

And here's what we have:

Output
HTML
CSS (SCSS)

This paragraph should be displayed in the default style of the browser with a background color and border. This is help us see where it starts and finishes.

This is another paragraph that has the default browser styles so we can see how the spacing between the paragraphs displays when no margin or padding has been applied.

This paragraph has 2em of padding applied using CSS. The padding creates additional space on the inside of the element.

This is another paragraph that has a margin of 5em applied using CSS. The margin creates additional space on the outside of the element.

Look closely and you will see the effect both `margin` and `padding` have on the elements above.

Pretty cool, huh?