

Topics

E Courses

Activities

CSS layout cheat sheet

Layout mechanics - Centering elements - Common code

Layout mechanics

Display

Controls how an element is represented within the flow.

display: inline inline

x padding x margin x width

Allows other elements beside; margin, padding & width don't work.

display: block block block

inline

inline

block

✓ padding ✓ margin ✓ width

Takes up an entire line; margin, padding & width work.

block

display: inline-block

inline-block inline-block inline inline inline-block ✓ padding ✓ margin ✓ width

Allows other elements beside; margin, padding &

width work. Can create columns, but will force a space between boxes.

Float

Controls whether text is wrapped around the element.

float: left|right|none

float: left

Allows other elements to wrap around the element.

Multiple floats

float: left float: left float: left

Can create columns with boxes touching sides.

clear: left|right|both

float: left float: left clear: both Force the element below floated elements.

overflow: hidden

float: left float: left overflow: hidden

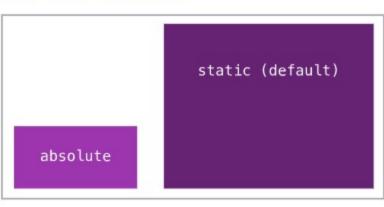
floated children-a clearfix.

Use on a parent element to force it to wrap around the

Position

Gives strict, coordinate-based control over layout.

position: absolute

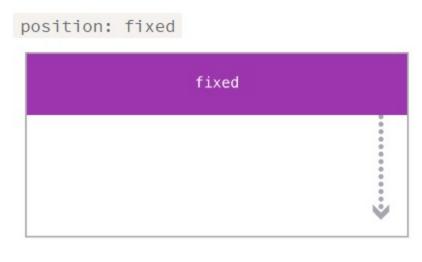


Move an element around based on coordinates.

position: relative

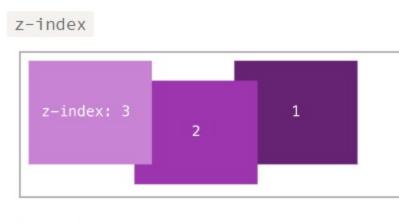


Added to a parent element to reset absolute child's coordinates.



scrolled.

Forces an element to not move when the page is



Control the stacking order of elements—higher number is closer.

Centering elements

text-align: center Works only on display: inline & inline-

text-align: center;

<div class="content">

block elements. Must be applied to the parent element.

<figure class="img-box"> <img src="images/argentinosaurus.jpg" alt</pre> <figcaption>The mighty Argentinosaurus</fi </figure>

.img-box {

<div class="box">Stegosaurus</div>

The element must have a width

margin: 0 auto

.box { width: 24em; /* Without a width `auto` wo margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; You can also specify just margin-left: auto and

margin-right: auto if you want margins on the

Works only on display: block elements.

top or bottom. Centering with float vertical-align: middle Works only on display: inline & inline-

block elements. ul>

Pteranodon Quetzalcoatlus ul li { display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;

Use transform & 50% coordinates to center an

Centering absolute

absolutely positioned element. <div class="banner">

<h1>Micropachycephalosaurus</h1> Longest dinosaur name ever! </div> </div> .banner { position: relative; .content { position: absolute; left: 50%; transform: translateX(-50%); Or vertical centering too...

```
.content {
position: absolute;
left: 50%;
top: 50%;
transform: translate(-50%, -50%);
```

You cannot center floated elements.

There's no float: center

Centering with flexbox

that are always applied to the parent. <div class="card">

Flex box has a bunch of different alignment classes—

<h2>Edmontosaurus</h2> See the bones! </div> .card { display: flex; flex-direction: column; justify-content: center; align-content: center; align-items: center; This will be completely centered within the box.

See the flexbox cheat sheet for more details.

Common code

Border box

Used to change layout math for width & padding. Put at the top of every CSS file.

html { box-sizing: border-box; *, *::before, *::after { box-sizing: inherit;

Clearfix for float Add to the parent elements of floats to force the parent

clear: both;

to surround the floated element. Can be used instead of overflow: hidden

.clearfix::after { content: " "; display: block;

Topics

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Flexible images

Use width & display to make images flex to their parent's size. img { display: block;

width: 100%;

Navigation >

Cheat sheets & checklists

← CSS grid cheat sheet

checklists & flowcharts on the website? Here it is!

Want a quick review with just a list of all the cheat sheets,

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See all the cheat sheets & checklists

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