CSS Backgrounds

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The CSS background properties are used to define the background effects for elements.

In these chapters, you will learn about the following CSS background properties:

- background-color
- background-image
- background-repeat
- background-attachment
- background-position

CSS background-color

The `background-color` property specifies the background color of an element.

Example

The background color of a page is set like this:

```
body {
  background-color: lightblue;
```

```
}
```

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With CSS, a color is most often specified by:

- a valid color name - like "red"
- a HEX value - like "#ff0000"
- an RGB value - like "rgb(255,0,0)"

Look at CSS Color Values for a complete list of possible color values.

Other Elements

You can set the background color for any HTML elements:

Example

Here, the <h1>, <p>, and elements will have different background colors:

```
h1 {
  background-color: green;
}

div {
  background-color: lightblue;
}

p {
  background-color: yellow;
}
```

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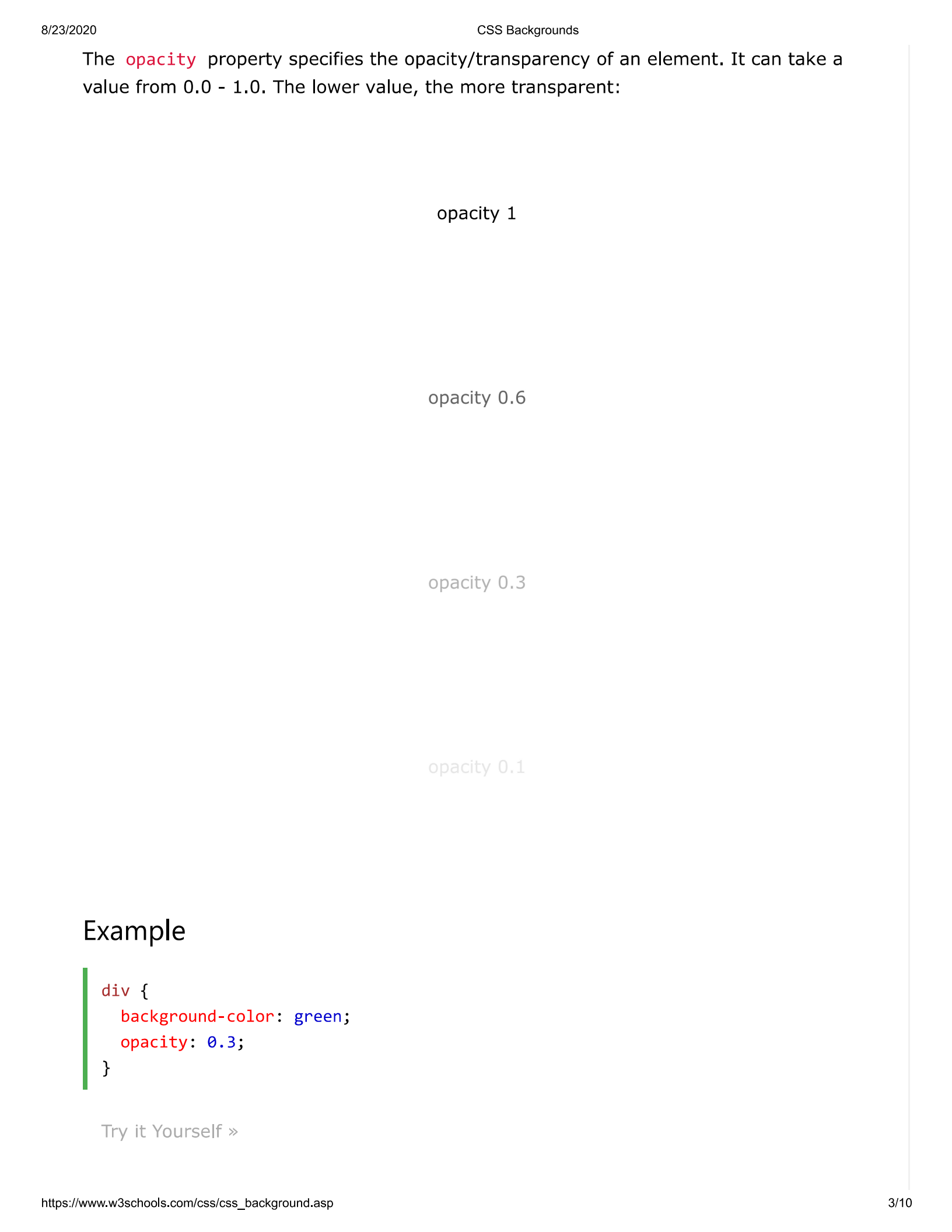
Opacity / Transparency

The `opacity` property specifies the opacity/transparency of an element. It can take a value from 0.0 - 1.0. The lower value, the more transparent:



Example

```
div {
  background-color: green;
  opacity: 0.3;
}
```

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Note: When using the `opacity` property to add transparency to the background of an element, all of its child elements inherit the same transparency. This can make the text inside a fully transparent element hard to read.

Transparency using RGBA

If you do not want to apply opacity to child elements, like in our example above, use **RGBA** color values. The following example sets the opacity for the background color and not the text:

100% opacity

60% opacity

30% opacity

10% opacity

You learned from our CSS Colors Chapter, that you can use RGB as a color value. In addition to RGB, you can use an RGB color value with an **alpha** channel (RGB**A**) - which specifies the opacity for a color.

An RGBA color value is specified with: rgba(red, green, blue, *alpha*). The *alpha* parameter is a number between 0.0 (fully transparent) and 1.0 (fully opaque).

Tip: You will learn more about RGBA Colors in our CSS Colors Chapter.

Example

```
div {
  background: rgba(0, 128, 0, 0.3) /* Green background with 30% opacity */
}
```

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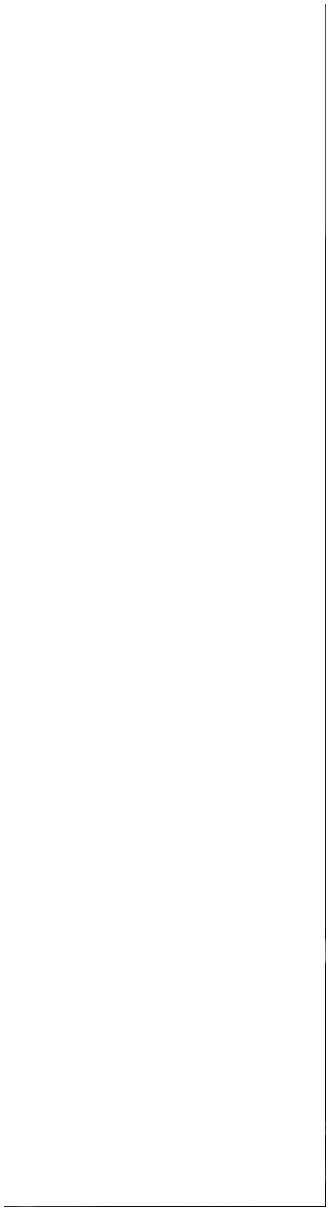

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