



CSS Horizontal Navigation Bar

[< Previous](#)[Next >](#)

Horizontal Navigation Bar

[Home](#)[News](#)[Contact](#)[About](#)

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

```
li {  
  display: inline;  
}
```

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Example explained:

- **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:

Example

```
li {  
  float: left;  
}  
  
a {  
  display: block;  
  padding: 8px;  
  background-color: #dddddd;  
}
```

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Example explained:

- **float: left;** - use float to get block elements to slide next to each other
- **display: block;** - Displaying the links as block elements makes the whole link area clickable (not just the text), and it 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:

Example

```
ul {  
  background-color: #dddddd;
```

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Horizontal Navigation Bar Examples

Create a basic horizontal navigation bar with a dark background color and change the background color of the links when the user moves the mouse over them:

[Home](#) [News](#) [Contact](#) [About](#)

Example

```
ul {  
  list-style-type: none;  
  margin: 0;  
  padding: 0;  
  overflow: hidden;  
  background-color: #333;  
}  
  
li {  
  float: left;  
}  
  
li a {  
  display: block;  
  color: white;  
  text-align: center;  
  padding: 14px 16px;  
  text-decoration: none;  
}  
  
/* Change the link color to #111 (black) on hover */  
li a:hover {  
  background-color: #111;  
}
```

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Active/Current Navigation Link

Add an "active" class to the current link to let the user know which page he/she is on:

Home News Contact About

Example

```
.active {  
  background-color: #4CAF50;  
}
```

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Right-Align Links

Right-align links by floating the list items to the right (`float:right;`):

Home News Contact About

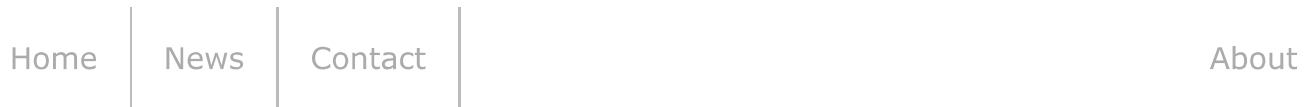
Example

```
<ul>  
  <li><a href="#home">Home</a></li>  
  <li><a href="#news">News</a></li>  
  <li><a href="#contact">Contact</a></li>  
  <li style="float:right"><a class="active" href="#about">About</a></li>  
</ul>
```

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Border Dividers

Add the `border-right` property to `` to create link dividers:



Example

```
/* Add a gray right border to all list items, except the last item (last-child) */
li {
  border-right: 1px solid #bbb;
}

li:last-child {
  border-right: none;
}
```

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Fixed Navigation Bar

Make the navigation bar stay at the top or the bottom of the page, even when the user scrolls the page:

[Home](#) [News](#) [Contact](#)

Fixed Top Nav

The navigation bar will stay at the top of the page while scrolling

Some text some text some text some text..

Fixed Top

```
ul {  
  position: fixed;  
  top: 0;  
  width: 100%;  
}
```

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Fixed Bottom Nav

The navigation bar will stay at the bottom of the page while scrolling

Some text some text some text some text..

[Home](#) [News](#) [Contact](#)

Fixed Bottom

```
ul {  
  position: fixed;  
  bottom: 0;  
  width: 100%;  
}
```

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Note: Fixed position might not work properly on mobile devices.

Gray Horizontal Navbar

An example of a gray horizontal navigation bar with a thin gray border:



Home News Contact About

Example

```
ul {  
  border: 1px solid #e7e7e7;  
  background-color: #f3f3f3;  
}  
  
li a {  
  color: #666;  
}
```

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Sticky Navbar

Add `position: sticky;` to `` to create a sticky navbar.

A sticky element toggles between relative and fixed, depending on the scroll position. It is positioned relative until a given offset position is met in the viewport - then it "sticks" in place (like position:fixed).

Scroll Down

Scroll down to see the sticky effect.

Home News Contact

Sticky Navigation Example

Example

```
ul {  
  position: -webkit-sticky; /* Safari */  
  position: sticky;  
  top: 0;  
}
```

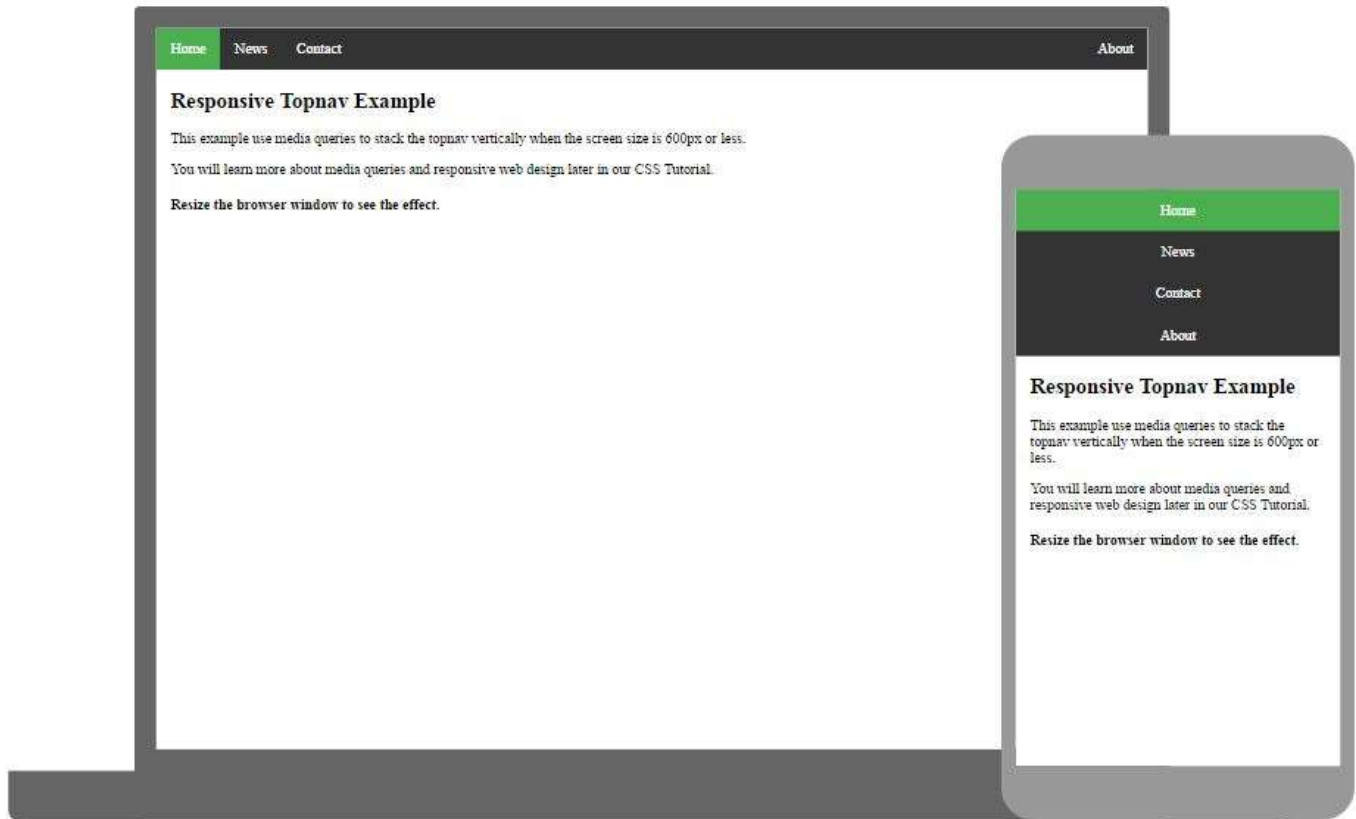
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Note: Internet Explorer, Edge 15 and earlier versions do not support sticky positioning. Safari requires a -webkit- prefix (see example above). You must also specify at least one of **top**, **right**, **bottom** or **left** for sticky positioning to work.

More Examples

Responsive Topnav

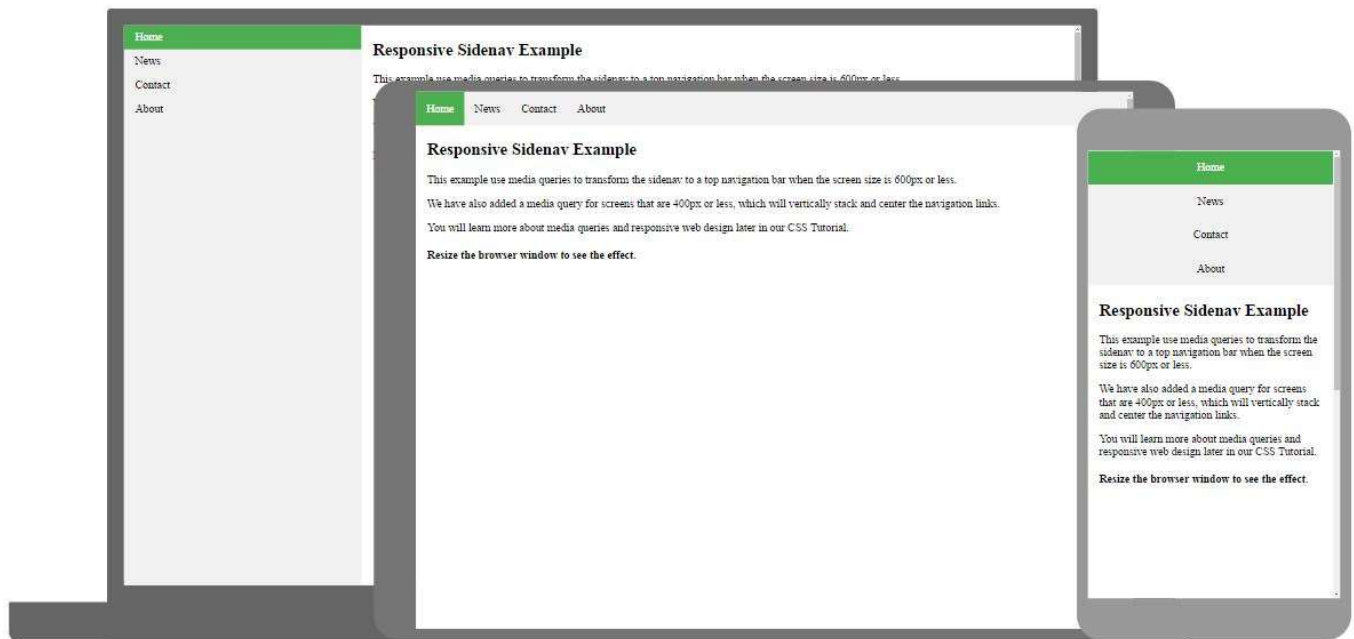
How to use CSS media queries to create a responsive top navigation.



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Responsive Sidenav

How to use CSS media queries to create a responsive side navigation.



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Dropdown Navbar

How to add a dropdown menu inside a navigation bar.

[Home](#) [News](#) [Dropdown](#)

Dropdown Menu inside a Navigation Bar

Hover over the "Dropdown" link to see the dropdown menu.

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[◀ Previous](#)

[Next ▶](#)



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Top Navigation
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Progress Bars
Parallax
Login Form
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Google Maps
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Tooltips
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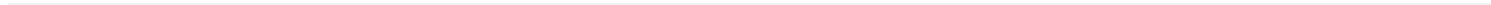
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