

Navigation Bar Exercise

Navigation Bar

Before you begin this exercise, make sure that your balloon has 4 pages, and each of those pages has an unordered list of links to all of the pages on the website. The unordered list should have a class attribute with the value: *navigation*

We are going to transform that list of links into something that is more appropriate for a website's *primary navigation*.

Note, as you work your way through this document, preview your pages frequently so that you can see the effect of the CSS rules you will write.

There is a screenshot in Moodle showing what the end result should look like.

Remove the list styling

The first step is to remove the default list styles (bullets and indents). In *balloons.css* we add a new rule for the *navigation* class:

```
.navigation {  
}
```

Inside this rule, we set:

- the **list-style-type** to **none**
- the **margin** to **0** (zero)
- the **padding** to **0** (zero)

Preview your page and check that the bullets are not displayed and that the text is no longer indented on the left side.

Decorate the “bar”

First, add a *background-color* declaration to the *.navigation* rule. The value should be **#D9EECE** (pale green).

Next we will add some borders to the “bar”. The borders will:

- be **1px** wide
- have **#4c0072** as their colour
- have the **solid** style
- only be present on the left, right and bottom sides (i.e. no border on the top)

Choose one of the many ways we saw that this can be achieved and implement it in the *.navigation* rule.

Position the Links

Because the *li* elements are *block* elements, they sit one above each other in the document, which is not what we want.

There are several ways to change this default behaviour and make the items display on the same line. We will use Flexbox which is highly appropriate for scenarios like this.

To make the list items appear on the same line, all we have to do is add a single declaration to their *parent* element's CSS rule (i.e. the *ul*)

- The property is **display** •
- The value is **flex**

```
.navigation {  
    /* other styles omitted... */  
    display: flex;  
}
```

If you preview your page now, you should see all the links displayed side-by-side.

Style the links

The links in the nav bar are using the same styles as the other links on the site, which does not look great. We will apply new styles for these links to override or replace the existing link styles.

Add a new rule to your stylesheet. The selector should be: **.navigation a** (i.e. a descendant selector). i.e. **a** tags that are *descendants* of an element with the **navigation** class

Add declarations to achieve the following:

- Remove the underline (use the *text-decoration* property) • Set the colour to **#226800**
- Make the text bold

Preview your page and check that the rule is being applied (i.e. bold green text with no underline).

The next step is to manipulate the *box model properties* of the link elements. However, we first need to address the fact that the *a* tag is an *inline* element, and as we saw previously, inline elements behave oddly when certain properties are set.

We can use the *display* property to achieve this, but this time its value should be **block**

```
.navigation a {  
    /* other styles omitted... */  
    display: block;  
}
```

Now we can safely set the *padding* for *.navigation a*, with the values:

- **0.75em** for the top and bottom •
- 1em** for the left and right

Finally, we will add a *hover* effect that changes the background colour of the links. To do this we need a new rule which targets our links, in their *hover* state:

```
.navigation a: hover {  
    background-color: #C4E8B1;  
}
```

Preview your page in the browser and try hovering on the links. Does the background colour change?

Reposition the bar

The final step is to remove the white-space between the *h1* and the navigation bar. This space is caused by a default bottom margin on the *h1* element that is being applied by the browser.

To remove the space, we must *reset* the bottom margin to *0*.

Locate the rule in your stylesheet that targets the *h1* and add a declaration setting *margin-bottom* to *0*.

Preview your page in the browser. Does it look like the provided screenshot?

