Trainer guide
Examples and exercises
CSS-1 – Responsive CSS

Contents

CSS-1a | Example: Media queries

This example demonstrates how media queries can be used to change which CSS rules are applied depending on factors such as screen width.

styles.css

- By default, the background is a lavender colour.
- *Change the width of the page to demonstrate the background colour changing.*
- This is achieved with a media query.
- This is how the media query is structured:
    - **@media** rule: used to create any media query.
    - **screen**: this is the "media type". In this case, we are specifying that this style targets screens.
    - **and**: used to combine the media type with any media features that we want to specify.
    - **(max-width: 450px)**: this specifies that this style will only come into effect when the screen is up to 450 pixels wide.

- Although changing the background colour isn't a very common use for media queries, this example demonstrates that we can apply different styles depending on the screen size of the device that we're using.
- This is extremely important when we want to make our websites responsive.
- We will practice using media queries to create a responsive layout in the following exercise.

CSS-1b | Exercise: A responsive layout

Link to environment

This exercise gives learners practice on using media queries to create a responsive layout.

- Here is the home page for a recipe website.
- *Shrink the window to demonstrate that the page does not look good on small devices.*

exercise.css

- *Change the value of flex-direction to "column" to demonstrate the page changing to use a vertical layout.*
- *Change the value back to "row" to demonstrate the page changing to use a horizontal layout.*

Exercise

- Your task is to make this page responsive.
- On smaller screens (up to 500px wide), a vertical layout should be displayed.
- On larger screens, a horizontal layout should be displayed.

Solve the exercise live before moving on.

Solution reference