junior web design

STEP IT ACADEMY

Lesson #5

Creating a Blog. Part One. Design

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The concept of a site template

Site template *is HTML code with a ready-made design and layout for one web page (or a series of similar ones) that is used to create the site.*

Creating a website through a template is the replacement of the general data with the information that the user needs (for example, company or product data).

Design and layout for the template are developed by professional designers, web designers, developers and webmasters, and users already change them to their taste.

Simple HTML templates are used to create basic static HTML sites that do not require frequent updates, for example, a representation website (*online business card*).

To develop a site using CMS, templates (*themes*) are used. Such templates are already more complex and consist of a series of images for different parts of the site, a CSS file, files for building site functional blocks, and attachable files.

Tabular layout

Using tables with an invisible border is a method of layout creation, which was previously used on all sites. Such a table is similar to a grid, where it is convenient to place individual elements of a web page. Simplicity and speed of layout development, good appearance in all browsers are the main advantages of tabular layout.

It was so for a long time, until the tables were replaced with layers.

Here is an example of ***tabular layout***.

The HTML code looks like this:

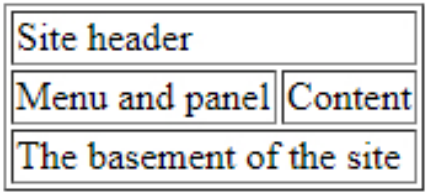
```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
    <head>
        <title>Table layout</title>
        <meta charset="utf-8">

        <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="Style/Main.css"
    </head>
    <body>
        <table id="main_table" border=1px>
            <tr id="header_row">
                <td id="header_box" colspan="2">Site header</td>
            </tr>
            <tr id="body_row">
                <td id="menu_box">Menu and panel</td>
                <td id="content_box">Content</td>
            </tr>
            <tr id="footer_row">
                <td id="footer_box" colspan="2">The basement of the site</td>
            </tr>
        </table>
    </body>
</html>
```

but the CSS code, however:

```css
/* Main table*/
#main_table{
    width: 100%;
    height: 600px;
}
/* Rows styles*/
#header_row{
    vertical-align: top;
    height: 150px;
}
#body_row{
    height: 100%;
}
#footer_row{
    height: 50px;
}
/* Cell styles */
#menu_box{
    width: 200px;
}
#content_box{
    min-height: 1000px;
}
```

Result:



Block layout

Block layout (layers) is the main way of layout development today.

In contrast to the tabular one, block layout:

- separates the element styles from the html code;
- allows you to overlay one layer on another.
- provides faster loading of elements one by one;
- allows creating visual effects easier (drop-down menus, lists, tooltips).

The main drawback of block layout is different perception of the same code by different browsers.

An example of ***block layout***.

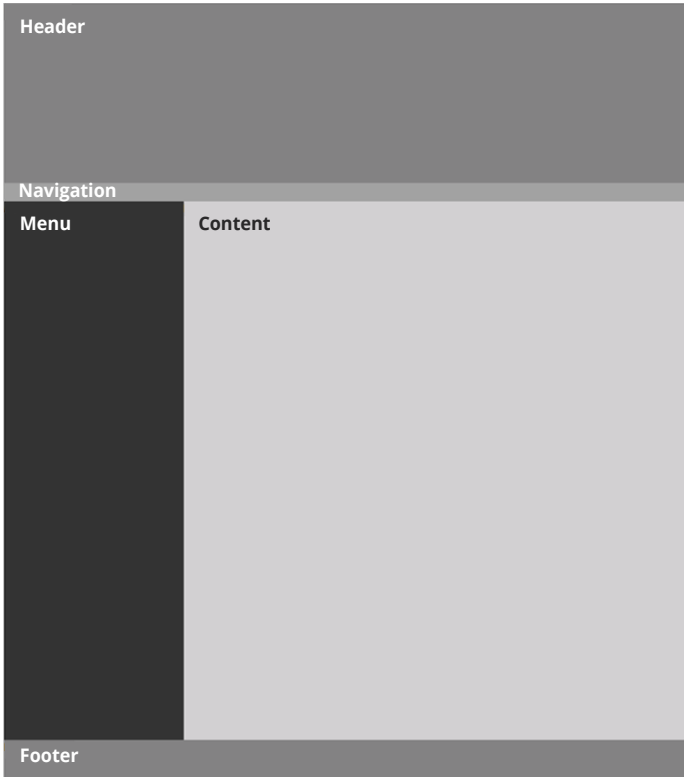
HTML code:

```
<html>
    <head>
        <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />
        <title>Block layout</title>
        <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="Style/Main.css" />
    </head>
    <body>
    <div id="container">
        <div id="header">Site header
        </div>
        <div id="navigation">Navigation block
        </div>
        <div id="menu">Menu
        </div>
        <div id="content">Content
        </div>
        <div id="clear">
        </div>
        <div id="footer">The basement of the site
        </div>
    </div>
    </body>
</html>
```

CSS code:

```
body {
            background: #f3f2f3;
            color: #000000;
            font-family: Trebuchet MS, Arial, Times New Roman;
            font-size: 12px;
}
#container {
            background: #FFFFFF;
            margin: 30px auto;
            width: 900px;
            height: 1000px;
}
#header {
            background: #838283;
            height: 200px;
            width: 900px;
}
#navigation {
            background: #a2a2a2;
            width: 900px;
            height: 20px;
}
#menu {
            background: #333333;
            float: left;
            width: 200px;
            height: 600px;
}
#content {
            background: #d2d0d2;
            float: right;
            width: 700px;
            height: 600px;
}
#clear {
            clear:both;
}
#footer {
            background: #838283;
            height: 180px;
            width: 900px;
}
```

Result:

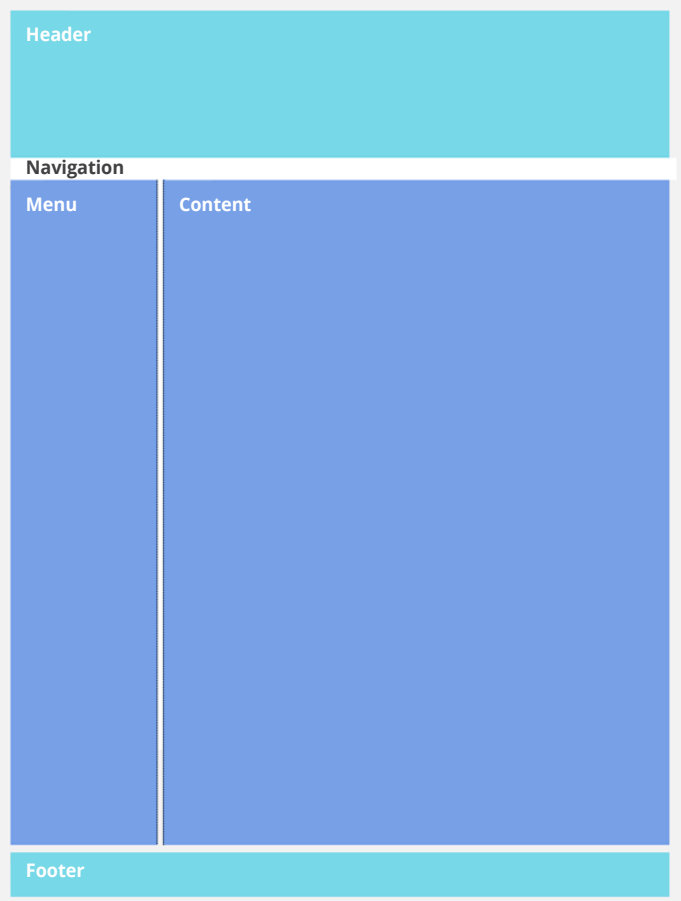


Creating a template for a blog

Creating a template block layout

Let's take an example of block layout as a basis for a blog template.

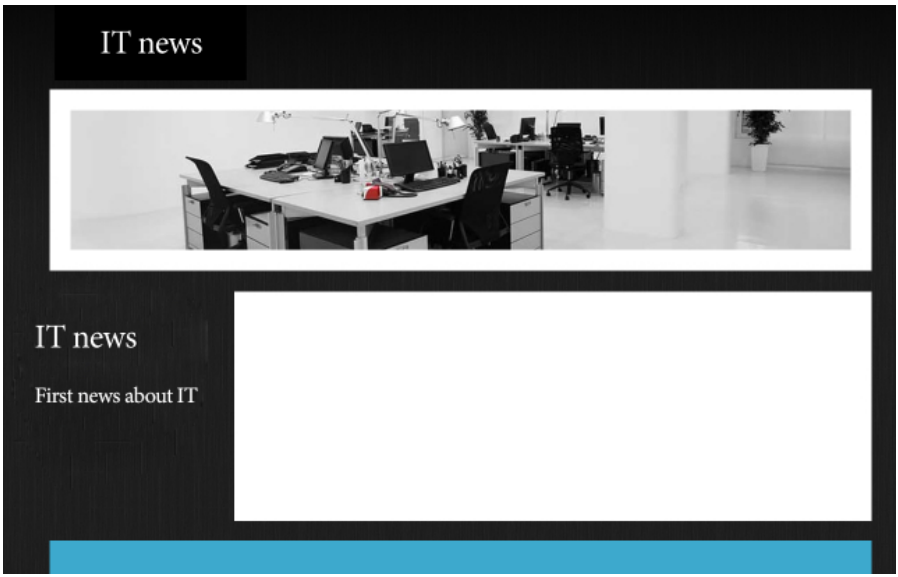
Edit the colors at your discretion. For example, as follows:



Styling the template

The topic of your blog can be *Modern Technology*. The created template should be stylized for the selected topic.

Let's add images, inscriptions and other elements.



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