



# CSS Box Model

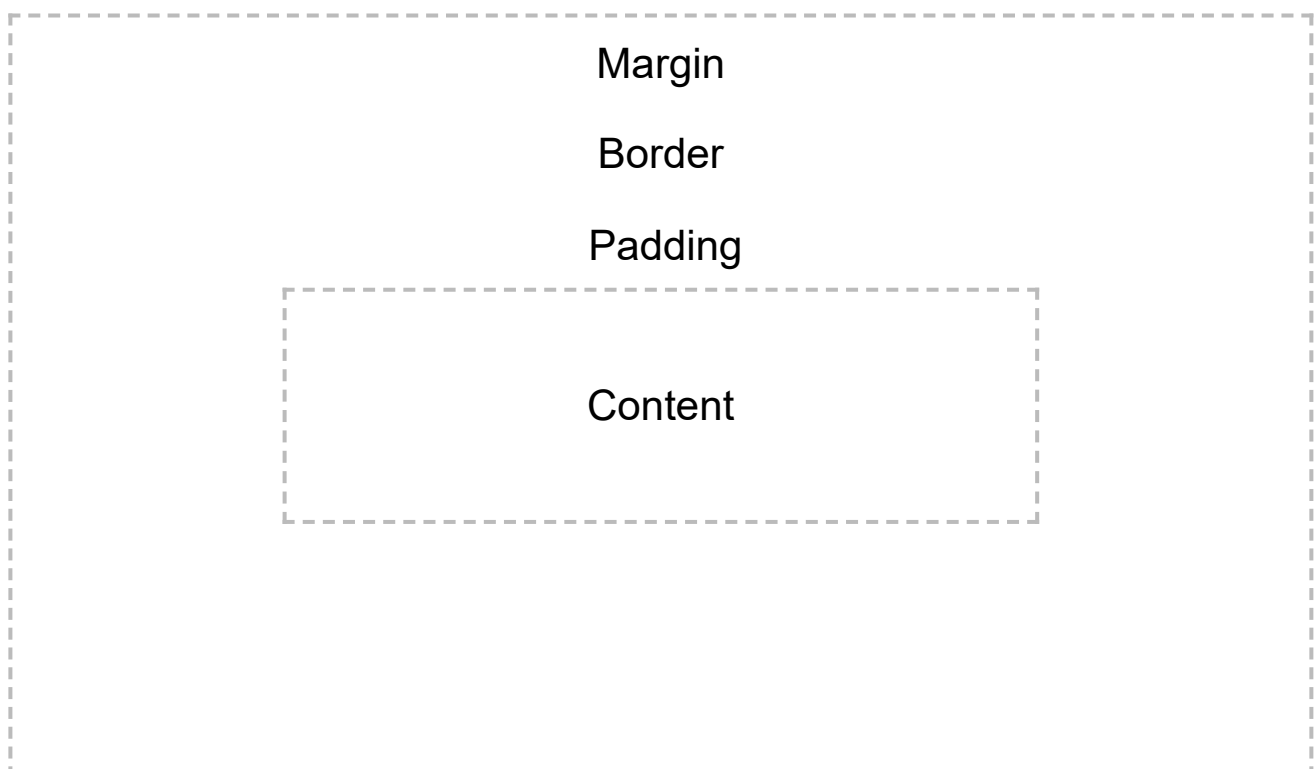
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All HTML elements can be considered as boxes.

## The CSS Box Model

In CSS, the term "box model" is used when talking about design and layout.

The CSS box model is essentially a box that wraps around every HTML element. It consists of: margins, borders, padding, and the actual content. The image below illustrates the box model:



Explanation of the different parts:

- **Content** - The content of the box, where text and images appear
- **Padding** - Clears an area around the content. The padding is transparent
- **Border** - A border that goes around the padding and content
- **Margin** - Clears an area outside the border. The margin is transparent

The box model allows us to add a border around elements, and to define space between elements.

## Example

Demonstration of the box model:

```
div {  
  width: 300px;  
  border: 15px solid green;  
  padding: 50px;  
  margin: 20px;  
}
```

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## Width and Height of an Element

In order to set the width and height of an element correctly in all browsers, you need to know how the box model works.

**Important:** When you set the width and height properties of an element with CSS, you just set the width and height of the **content area**. To calculate the full size of an element, you must also add padding, borders and margins.

## Example

This <div> element will have a total width of 350px:

```
div {  
  width: 320px;  
  padding: 10px;  
  border: 5px solid gray;  
  margin: 0;  
}
```

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Here is the calculation:

```
320px (width)  
+ 20px (left + right padding)  
+ 10px (left + right border)  
+ 0px (left + right margin)  
= 350px
```

The total width of an element should be calculated like this:

Total element width = width + left padding + right padding + left border + right border + left margin + right margin

The total height of an element should be calculated like this:

Total element height = height + top padding + bottom padding + top border + bottom border + top margin + bottom margin

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## Test Yourself With Exercises

### Exercise:

Set the width of the <div> element to "200px".

```
<style>
    {
        :    ;
    }
</style>

<body>

<div>
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipiscing elit,
sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt
ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.
</div>

</body>
```

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