**Tables vs. <div> Elements for Layout**

**Tables:**

* **Originally intended for tabular data.**
* **Structure:** Rows and columns.
* **CSS styling:** Can be styled using CSS properties like border, padding, margin, width, and height.
* **Use cases:** Best suited for presenting tabular data, such as data from spreadsheets or databases.

**<div> Elements:**

* **Generic container elements.**
* **Structure:** Can be used to group content and apply styles to multiple elements at once.
* **CSS styling:** Highly flexible and can be styled using various CSS properties.
* **Use cases:** Suitable for general layout purposes, such as creating sections, headers, footers, and other structural elements.

**HTML Example:**

HTML

<!DOCTYPE html>

<html>

<head>

<title>Table and Div Layout</title>

<style>

table {

border-collapse: collapse;

width: 100%;

}

th, td {

border: 1px solid black;

padding: 8px;

}

.section {

border: 1px solid gray;

padding: 10px;

margin: 20px;

}

</style>

</head>

<body>

<h2>Table Layout</h2>

<table>

<tr>

<th>Name</th>

<th>Age</th>

<th>City</th>

</tr>

<tr>

<td>Alice</td>

<td>25</td>

<td>New York</td>

</tr>

<tr>

<td>Bob</td>

<td>30</td>

<td>Los Angeles</td>

</tr>

</table>

<h2>Div Layout</h2>

<div class="section">

<h3>Section 1</h3>

<p>This is the content of section 1.</p>

</div>

<div class="section">

<h3>Section 2</h3>

<p>This is the content of section 2.</p>

</div>

</body>

</html>

Use code [with caution.](/faq#coding)

**Explanation:**

* The table is used to present tabular data in a structured format.
* The div elements are used to create sections with a border and padding.

**When to Use Tables:**

* **Tabular data:** Tables are ideal for presenting data in rows and columns, such as spreadsheets, schedules, or inventories.
* **Complex layouts:** Tables can be used to create complex layouts with multiple rows and columns.

**When to Use <div> Elements:**

* **General layout:** <div> elements are versatile and can be used for various layout purposes.
* **Grouping content:** They can group related elements together and apply styles to them collectively.
* **Flexibility:** <div> elements offer more flexibility in terms of styling and customization compared to tables.