

Exercise1: Three-column fluid layout

We've seen a lot of examples so far of two- and threecolumn layouts using floats, in both fluid and fixedwidth layouts. I think it is time you try some of these techniques out using the three-column fluid layout we just looked at as a starting point. The file for this exercise, *mountolympus-ex1.html*

The outline styles are included, but you can "comment them out" (wrap them in `/*` and `*/` to hide them) if you want to turn the outlines off and see the layout without them. First, rearrange the side columns so that **#links** is on the right and **#news** is on the left. You don't need to change the markup, only a few style values. (Hint: think float direction.) Be sure to adjust the left and right margins on the side columns and clear the **#footer**.

Next, convert this fluid design into a centered, fixed-width design. This time you will need to add some markup (see the two-column fixed example if you need help). The resulting page is shown in the following [Figure](#)



Exercise2: Using negative margins

Now that you know the strategy, you should be able to write the styles that position the **#news** content in the left column and the **#links** on the right. This exercise is based on the same HTML source order as the previous example. Note, however, that the column width values have changed (to make things interesting). As before, put 20 pixels of space between columns.

The material is the *mountolympusex2.html* document. Remember, the key is to move **#news** to the left, using a negative margin, by the total width of the elements that precede it in the source.

```
#main {
```

```

float: left;
width: 400px;
/* write your margin declarations below */
}
#news {
float: left;
width: 300px;
/* write your margin declarations below */
}
#links {
float: left;
width: 220px;
/* write your margin declarations below */
}

```

The resulting layout should look like the one shown in following [Figure](#)

