

**Learn CSS By Use Cases**

ebook by Joe Harrison

# Properties Single Use Properties

Featuring

**line-height letter-spacing pointer-events**



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# Single Use Properties

## Properties

### Intro

These are properties that in my opinion, have just a single or very minimal number of use cases. Each one is equally important to know, but you will find that most are used rarely throughout your CSS code. I believe that many could reside in your reset.css file.

### Syntax

All of the properties have a very simple syntax, accepting single pre-defined keywords or lengths. Keywords will be specific to the property being used. The line-height property accepts a floating decimal which can exceed 1.

# Single Use Properties

Properties

## Special Power

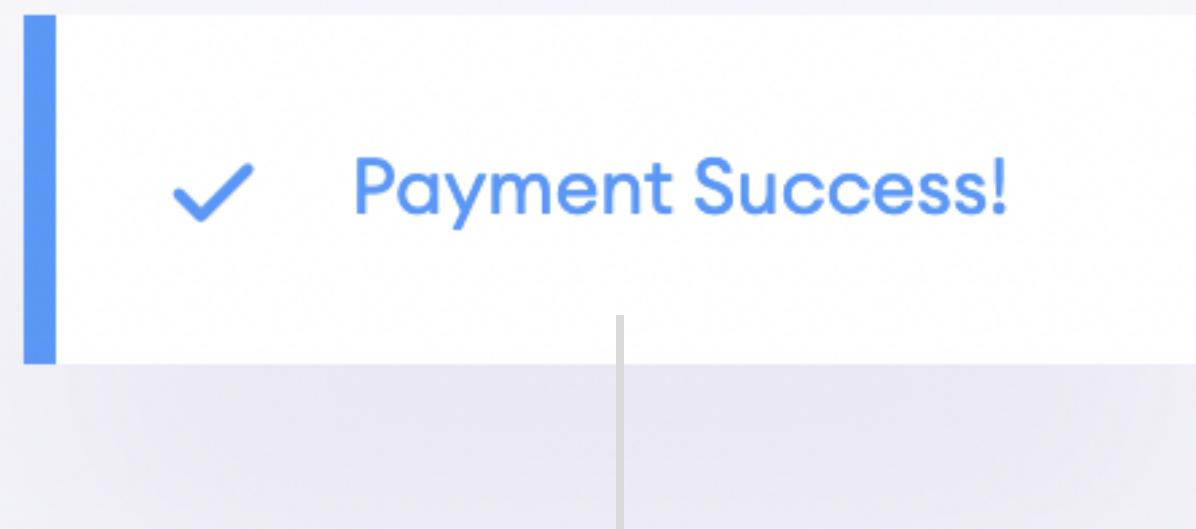
Although these properties are not critical requirements when building websites, they assist massively in giving your work that professional finish. Along with the hyphens property there are many things you can do with paragraphs of text in CSS - you'll find all of these in my source code.

## Tips

Like I previously mentioned, try adding some of these to your CSS reset. I like to reset paragraphs to line-height: 1.375 (137.5%), this height always seems to look nice to me.

# user-select

Prevent accidental selection



Add **cursor: default** too  
for that professional look

```
.alert { user-select: none; }
```

This alert text has no reason to be selected by the user



# line-height

Apply clean spacing to text



You must agree to our  
terms and conditions to  
access this application.



You must agree to our  
terms and conditions to  
access this application.

line-height: 1

.line-height

```
p { line-height: 1.375; }
```

decimal fraction  
that can exceed 1

# letter-spacing

## Styling capitalized text

MORE INFO >

letter-spacing: normal

MORE INFO > 

Looks cleaner

```
.button { letter-spacing: 3px; }
```

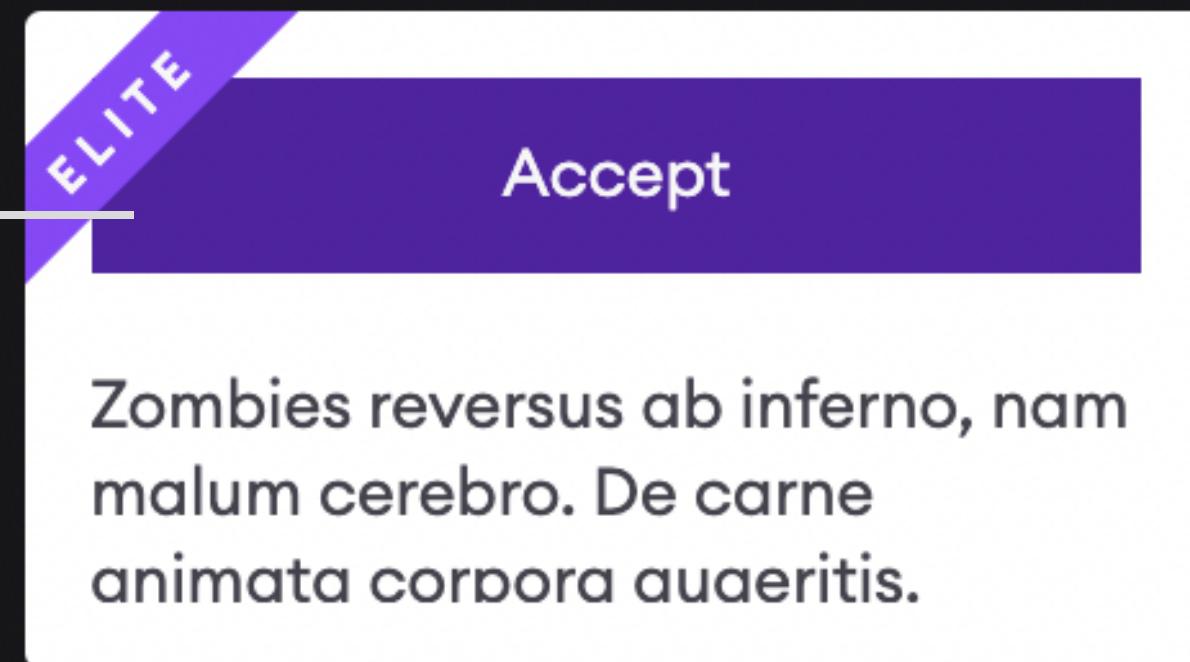
Negative lengths are allowed too



# pointer-events

## Click through elements

You can  
still click  
the button  
through  
.ribbon

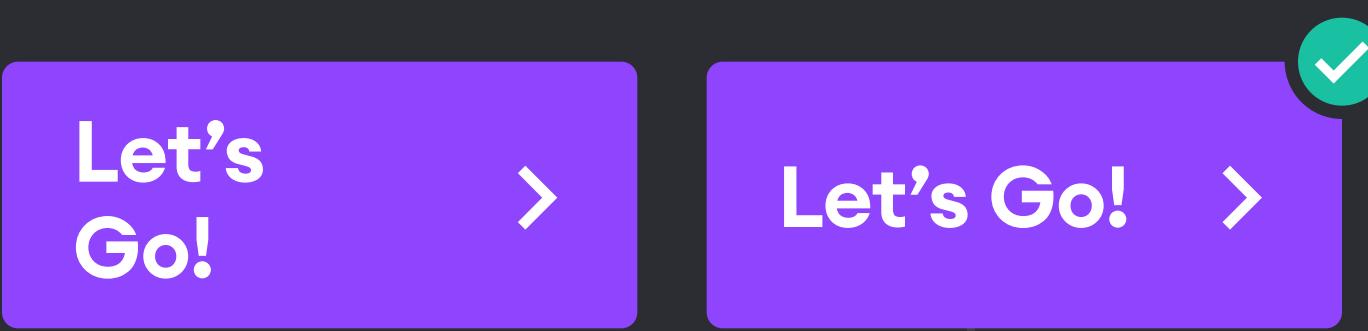


```
.ribbon { pointer-events: none; }
```

Do NOT use this to make  
elements disabled

# white-space

## Force text formatting



Prevent text from wrapping

```
.button { white-space: nowrap; }
```

Useful when default wrapping isn't needed

# vertical-align

## Align table cell content

User	Age
 <b>John Smith</b> Developer <span>Active</span>	32
 <b>Elvis Harris</b> Designer <span>Active</span>	24

User	Age
 <b>John Smith</b> Developer <span>Active</span>	32
 <b>Elvis Harris</b> Designer <span>Active</span>	24

```
td {  
  vertical-align: middle;  
}
```

```
td {  
  vertical-align: top;  
}
```

My only use case for it nowadays is aligning text or table cell content. This is mainly due to the introduction of flexbox

# hyphens

Format text in small spaces

Counterprogramm  
ing is the  
scheduling of  
programs by



Counterprogramm- — Hyphen  
ing is the  
scheduling of  
programs by



```
.card { hyphens: auto; }
```

Useful in paragraphs when dealing with horrible long words



# display: block

Convert inline elements to block



span.badge

```
span.badge { display: block; }
```

Empty span tags will not appear unless converted from inline to block

# Single Use

## Properties

## Knowledge Gained

- 🏆 Single use properties will add professional finishing touches to your work
- 🏆 We apply clean and consistent spacing to text blocks by setting line-height
- 🏆 Do not use pointer-events to make elements disabled
- 🏆 We can force text to display always on one line using the white-space property
- 🏆 Align table cell content with vertical-align



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