

Learn CSS By Use Cases

ebook by Joe Harrison



Properties overflow



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overflow

Properties

Intro

The overflow property defines what should happen when an element's content overflows. For this, there are two possible outcomes – clip the content or add scrollbars.

Syntax

The options for overflow are: visible, hidden, scroll or auto. Auto will apply scroll bars where applicable, scroll will show them invariably, visible is the default setting for all HTML elements and hidden will clip the contents. The overflow property will only work on block elements, for example an HTML div element.

overflow

Properties

Special Powers

As you'll see in the animations section of my source code, I often require overflow hidden being set to clip the content. Adding scrollbars to content blocks automatically is useful when confined to a particular amount of space.

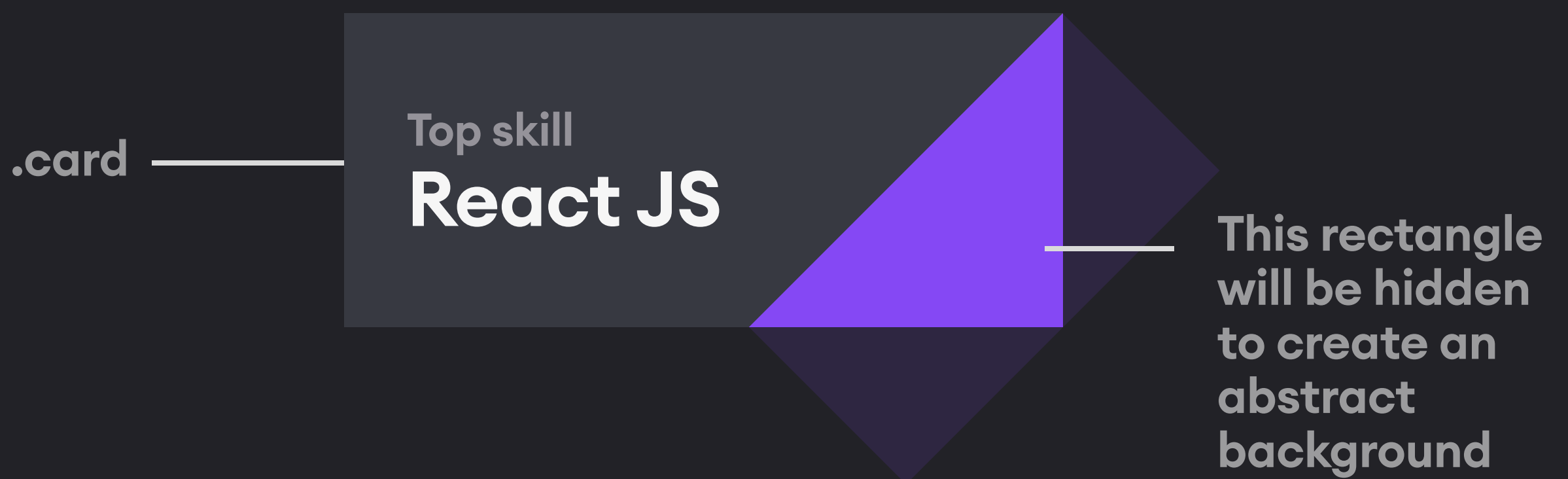
Tips



When setting overflow-x, we must set a width on the element and when setting overflow-y we must set a height. When working with overflow hidden and position absolute (clipping content) we must set the parent element to position relative. Place the overflow property at the top of CSS blocks.

hidden

Clipping content

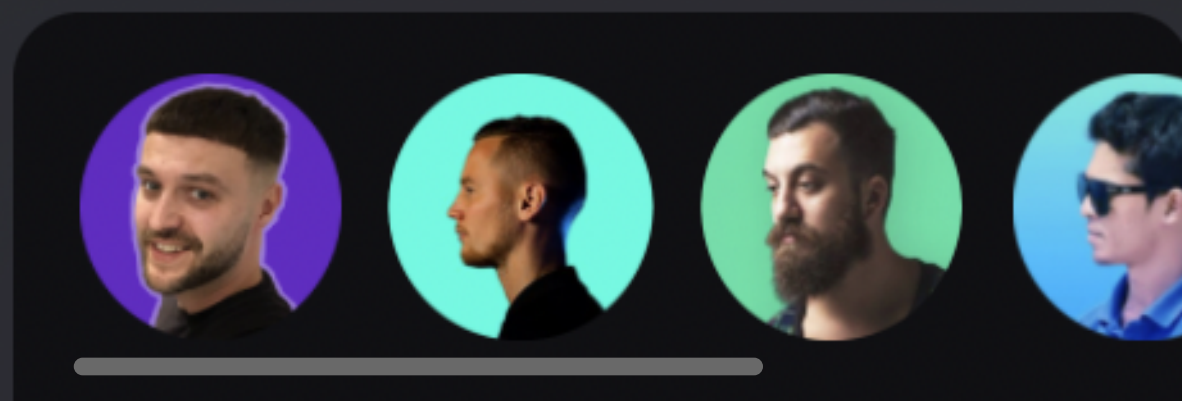


```
.card { overflow: hidden; }
```



overflow-x

Horizontal menus



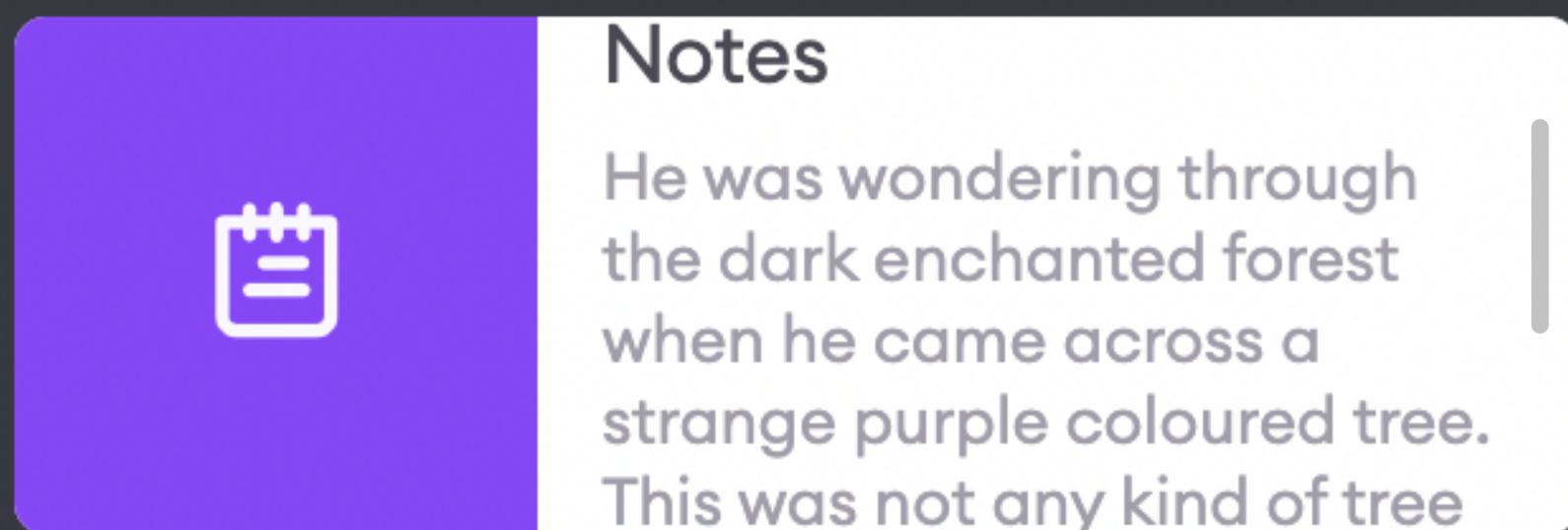
Scrollbar will be
present if content
overflows

```
.nav { overflow-x: auto; }
```



overflow-y

Vertical content



Scrollbar

```
.content { overflow-y: auto; }
```




scroll

Force both scrollbars

Title	Price	Unit
CSS Use Case [ebook]	£9	535
CSS Design Masterclass [video]	£3	-
CSS Animation Masterclass	£6	-
React Dashboard Masterclass	£3	-

```
.datatable { overflow: scroll; }
```

Setting scroll, will force scrollbars onto both x and y axis

overflow

Properties

Knowledge Gained



Overflow defines what should happen when an element's content overflows



Overflow can be used to show scrollbars



Overflow can be used to clip an elements content, very useful in animations



Different X and Y overflow behaviour can be set via longhand properties



Overflow scroll will show scrollbars invariably



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