Paragraph

Web Component | [Figma UI KIT](#)

> Our commitment to service is demonstrated in everything we do.
>
> ```
> <Paragraph>Our commitment to service is demonstrated in
> everything we do.</Paragraph>
> ```

Introduction

Paragraph renders a block of text as an HTML `<p>` paragraph element.

[Follow the appropriate instructions](#) to add this component in to your app.

Guidance

All body text on Web should be contained in a **Paragraph**, regardless of length.

Spacing

Paragraphs have a default spacing of one line applied above and below, unless they are the first or last child in a container.

This ensures that body text is neatly spaced without distorting the height or padding of a container.

> Space after but not before this initial paragraph.
>
> One line of space around the first middle paragraph.
>
> One line of space around the second middle paragraph.

> ## This blockquote doesn't set any space around itself
>
> The space comes from the paragraphs before and after

Space before but not after this final paragraph.

```
<Card variant={{ padding: 'compact' }}>
  <Paragraph>Space after but not before this initial paragraph.
</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph>One line of space around the first middle
paragraph.</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph>One line of space around the second middle
paragraph.</Paragraph>
  <BlockQuote additionalInfo="The space comes from the
paragraphs before and after">
    This blockquote doesn't set any space around itself
  </BlockQuote>
  <Paragraph>Space before but not after this final paragraph.
</Paragraph>
</Card>
```

`linesBetween` prop

This default spacing may be overridden with the prop `linesBetween` (default: `1`). This should only be used in unusual cases, for example, to set the spacing to 0 if a sibling has its own spacing, or if a design requires wider spacing than usual.

Paragraph spacing uses [CSS margin collapsing](), so in cases where adjacent paragraphs have different lines between set, the wider will apply.

Zero lines around this paragraph - no gap between it and the divider.

Default of one line is applied around this paragraph.

> This paragraph's two lines collapse the previous paragraph's one
> line.

```
<Card variant={{ padding: 'compact' }}>
  <Paragraph linesBetween={0}>
    Zero lines around this paragraph — no gap between it and the
divider.
  </Paragraph>
  <Divider variant={{ decorative: true }} />
  <Paragraph>Default of one line is applied around this
paragraph.</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph linesBetween={2}>
    This paragraph's two lines collapse the previous paragraph's
one line.
  </Paragraph>
</Card>
```

Accessibility

Semantic tag

Paragraph renders a semantic `<p>` paragraph tag. Assistive technology tools may have features specific to paragraphs, such as tools to help navigate multiple-paragraph passages of text.

Text alignment

Paragraph has an `align` prop, but for the vast majority of cases it should not be used: text is most readable in the default alignment.

In particular, aligning body text with "justify" should be avoided because it usually increases the difficulty for readers to visually track text.

See W3C guidance for more details.

Platform considerations

This component is currently only supported on web.

`<p>` tags and first/last-child styling are not supported in React Native Web, so this component uses a web-only implementation. See Typography for cross-

platform themed text using React Native's `<Text>` .

Props

Name	Type	Platform	Default	Description
linesBetween	number	web only	1	How much space between consecutive paragraphs, or between a paragraph and its siblings, in CSS `em` units: 1 gives space equal to one line of paragraph text, 0.5 would be half a line, etc. @default 1
children.*	node	web only		
testID	string	web only		Adds a `data-testid` attribute to the element for testing purposes
align	'auto' | 'left' | 'right' | 'center' | 'justify'	web only		Sets the alignment style for the paragraph. Same options as Typography's `align` prop. 'justify' should be avoided as it

Name	Type	Platform	Default	Description
				usually reduces ease of reading.
tokens	tokens	web only		System tokens prop, see tokens for more details
variant	variant	web only		System variant prop, see variants for more details

Tokens

As Paragraph uses the Typography theme, it accepts the same tokens as Typography.

Variants

Paragraph has the same theme variants as Typography, but without header-like sizes or compact.

Size

Paragraph with variant size large text.

Paragraph with default size medium text.

Paragraph with variant size small text.

Paragraph with variant size micro text.

```
<>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'large' }}>Paragraph with variant
size large text.</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph>Paragraph with default size medium text.
</Paragraph>
```

```
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'small' }}>Paragraph with variant
size small text.</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'micro' }}>Paragraph with variant
size micro text.</Paragraph>
</>
```

Inverse

As with Typography, inverse variant must be used on dark backgrounds.

Inverse paragraph with variant size large text.

Inverse paragraph with default size medium text.

Inverse paragraph with variant size small text.

Inverse paragraph with variant size micro text.

```
<>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'large', inverse: true }}>
    Inverse paragraph with variant size large text.
  </Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ inverse: true }}>
    Inverse paragraph with default size medium text.
  </Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'small', inverse: true }}>
    Inverse paragraph with variant size small text.
  </Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'micro', inverse: true }}>
    Inverse paragraph with variant size micro text.
  </Paragraph>
</>
```

Secondary colour

Secondary paragraph with variant size large text.

Secondary paragraph with default size medium text.

Secondary paragraph with variant size small text.

Secondary paragraph with variant size micro text.

```
<>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'large', colour: 'secondary' }}>
    Secondary paragraph with variant size large text.
  </Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ colour: 'secondary' }}>
    Secondary paragraph with default size medium text.
  </Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'small', colour: 'secondary' }}>
    Secondary paragraph with variant size small text.
  </Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ size: 'micro', colour: 'secondary' }}>
    Secondary paragraph with variant size micro text.
  </Paragraph>
</>
```

Bold

Entirely bold paragraphs should usually be avoided. One exception is short, important paragraphs in long passages of many paragraphs.

It is usually more impactful to pick out a few choice words by nesting bold typography inside a paragraph.

This is a long passage of text.

It is a rare case where it is regrettably unavoidable that it contains a large number of paragraphs.

This line is especially important.

Bold must be used sparingly, else it becomes less impactful.

It is often better to pick out a **few choice words** in bold, rather than a whole paragraph.

```
<>
  <Paragraph>This is a long passage of text.</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph>
    It is a rare case where it is regrettably unavoidable that
it contains a large number of
    paragraphs.
```

```
  </Paragraph>
  <Paragraph variant={{ bold: true }}>This line is especially
important.</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph>Bold must be used sparingly, else it becomes less
impactful.</Paragraph>
  <Paragraph>
    It is often better to pick out a{' '}
    <Typography variant={{ bold: true }} tag="strong">
      few choice words
    </Typography>{' '}
    in bold, rather than a whole paragraph.
  </Paragraph>
</>
```

Feedback

- Spotted a problem with this component? Raise an [issue on GitHub](#)

- See any [existing issues](#) for this component

- Contact the team on slack in [#ds-support](#)