GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GRIDS AND TYPOGRAPHY

Front-End Web Development

AGENDA 2

- Quiz
- Homework Review
- Grid based-design
- Typography and Fonts
- In-class project time (HTML/CSS project)

QUIZ 3

The 960 grid is included (before OR after) our style.css stylesheet?

1. “alpha” and “omega” classes:
   a.) are used to add empty spaces between columns
   b.) cancel the horizontal margins set by grid_xx
   c.) are a CSS class to create Roman numerals on a list element
   d.) do not exist in the 960 grid system

2. When using a 12 column grid, which class would you place on your container div?
   a.) container - 12 b.) container12 c.) col-12 d.) col_12

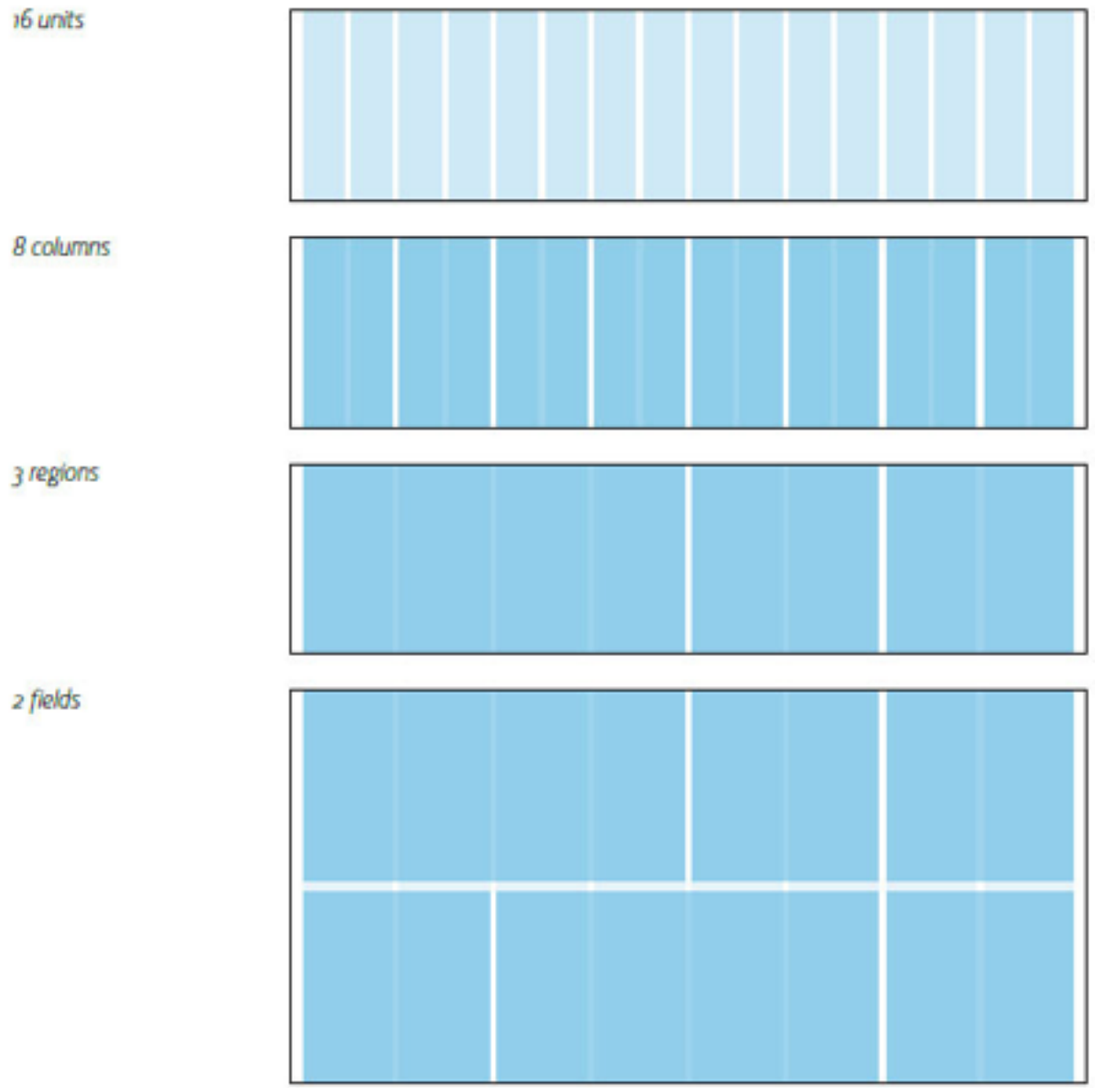
3. A 16 column container grid has 4 columns inside of it. Each of those 4 columns receives the class name “_____”.

4. TRUE OR FALSE? It is possible to include more than 1 class value on an HTML element. (ex. class=”home redtext background-element”)

GRID BASED DESIGN

DIVIDE AND CONQUER

- Aligning makes design look more professional
- To align elements horizontally the whole page as a fixed number of “bars”
- Usually the grid is 960 pixels divided into 12 parts (or units)



TERMINOLOGY (SEE PICTURE ON LAST SLIDE)

- Units: A unit is the smallest vertical division of the page.
- Columns: Columns are groups of units, combined together to create workable areas for the presentation of content.
- Regions: Regions are groupings of similar columns that form parts of the page. For example, in a four-column grid, the first three columns from the left might make up a single region for the display of one kind of content, and the remaining column might form another region.
- Fields: Fields are horizontal divisions of the page that help a designer to visually pace the placement of elements on the Y-axis.

SOLUTIONS FOR MAKING THE GRID

- In our exercise we will use http
- For less features but responsive /w.getskeleton.com/
- There are many, many fancier s
- It's not that complicated, so fee source!

Have students code along with the "MyFirstGrid" exercise, as you define the terminology and important elements for 960 grid.

.. BUT DO NOT USE THE BOX MODEL HACK GLOBALLY!

- Most solutions for grids online are made for maximum browser compatibility but the Box Model Hack only works on < IE8
- Thus the solutions have not been designed with the Box Model Hack in mind, and enabling it will blow things up quite bad
- If you really want to use the global Box Model Hack, you can make a custom grid system quite easily: see for instance http://css-tricks.com/dont-overthink-it-grids/
- What you can do instead, is to make the Box Model Hack apply only to parts of your code, but not the grid elements

TYPOGRAPHY & FONTS ON THE WEB

THE PROBLEM(S)

- Web browsers were not designed by designers, but engineers
- By default the browsers only use the fonts installed on the user's computer
- Different computer systems have different fonts installed!
- Web-safe fonts are quite limited for nice designs
- Images for pictures are hard to maintain and the text is not selectable

THE PREVIOUS SOLUTIONS

- sIFR: Flash-based rendering
- Cufon: JavaScript-based rendering
- Read more at http://www.solidstategroup.com/what-we-think/a-comparison-between-sifr-cufon-and-font-face

THE RECOMMENDED SOLUTION

- @font-face
- CSS technique that downloads a font file an ne font properly
- Easiest way is to go to Google Web Fonts ar t http://www.google.com/webfonts

Show students how to use Google Web Fonts using the typography exercise in GitHub.

Show them how to use downloaded fonts using the @font-face property. Have them try to figure it out on their own after showing them a few examples.

.. PROBLEMS WITH THE RECOMMENDED SOLUTION

- Font copyrights (when not using Google Web Fonts or the like)
- Limited support in IE