

## “Web Design DeCal” Hands-On Session 2 (Design) Spacing

### I. Warmup with Buttons

One of the easiest ways to practice using spacing in your user interface is to make flat ui buttons like Twitter Bootstrap 3. With some knowledge of CSS box model and just the right amount of spacing, you won't have to ever use Bootstrap for making buttons!

- A. In buttons.html, you will see three divs: submit, cancel, and confirm. These will have green, red, and blue color respectively. Other than color, each will have same styles. This means that we can use different id to differentiate colors and apply same class to have same css style among the three buttons.
- B. Background: Add “background: #3498db” for #confirm button, “background: #1abc9c” for #submit button, “background: #de6868” for #cancel button. This will add different backgrounds for different buttons.
- C. Padding: Add “padding: 10px 15px” to .button class. This will add 10px of **inner** spacing left and right, and 15px of inner spacing top and bottom.
- D. Typography: Change font size to 12px, and font weight to 700. Generally, buttons look great with bold typography. And of course, change the font color to white. White goes well with colored backgrounds. Again, apply these changes to .button class.
- E. Margin: Add “margin-right: 10px” to .button class. This will add **outer** spacing *to the right of* each of these buttons so that the buttons look like three distinct buttons.
- F. Embellishments: Add “border-radius: 3px;” to .button class to make it look more like Twitter Bootstrap buttons ;)

### II. A Simple, Sexy Blog

If you spend a lot of time on Tumblr or Wordpress, you might have seen really well designed blogs that feature very simplistic layout. Spacing really shines in these situations where you want to emphasize the content, such as imagery and text. We will make a very simple blog in this lab that looks beautiful with just some sprinkle of padding, margin, and line-spacing!

- A. First, let's give set a maximum width for the content. In a lot of websites, it's good to set a maximum width for the content and center it because: 1. your eyes can only take in a certain amount of information in one line (~ 960px) 2. it makes your website more responsive (imagine what will happen to the content on a 27" iMac.)
  - a. Set the width of your #container div 800px
  - b. Center #container using “margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;”
- B. Right now, the content is touching the top of the viewport. Adjust the vertical inner spacing of the body by adding “padding: 90px 0px;” to body.

- C. It seems that the content is just floating on top of the body. Let's give some contrast (You will learn more about this in 2 weeks!) by:
  - a. Add "background: white;" to #container
  - b. Add "padding: 40px;" to #container
- D. How does it look? Still quite bad. It's probably because of spacing. Let's tackle the spacing issue one by one:
  - a. #info is really close to #title. Add "margin-top: 5px;" to #info to separate the two.
  - b. #cover is almost touching #info. Add "margin-top: 15px;" to #cover to separate the two.
  - c. #content needs some vertical inner spacing. Add "padding: 10px 0px;" to #content
  - d. h1 could be better if it separated itself from the paragraphs a bit more. Add "margin: 20px 0px;" to h1.
  - e. Here's where the magic happens. Right now, the paragraph text look really munched up together. Let's give it some room to breath by adding "line-spacing: 28px;" to p.