CSS tips and tricks

You may already know what a ribbon is and how it looks. Nowadays, the ribbon effect is a web design trend. It's cool and it can help you by adding a 3D effect to your design.

In this article you'll learn how to create CSS ribbons, without any images and minimal HTML markup.

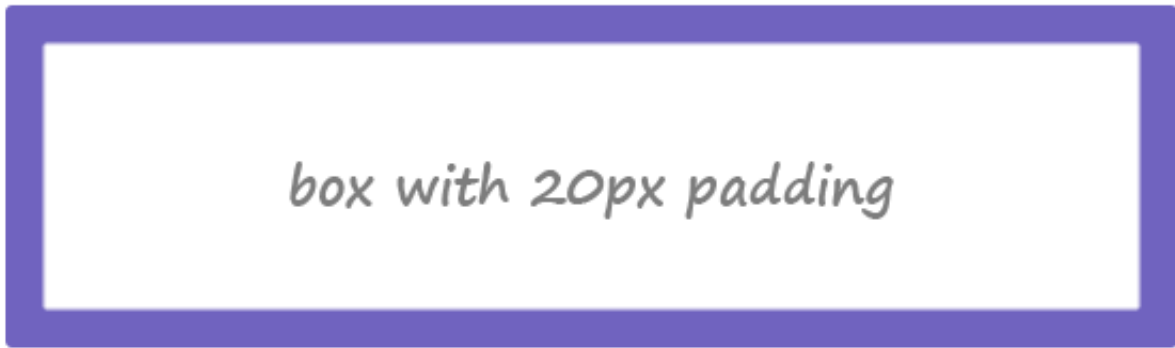
Why would I need CSS ribbons?

As a matter of fact, you could just use images for your ribbons. But, using CSS to create the ribbons has the following advantages:

- No images, no extra HTTP requests
- Flexibility
- Easy to update: color, size, etc
- Spice up the ribbons with CSS3 and you'll love them

View demo

CSS ribbon structure

Initially, let's say you have a wrapper with `padding: 20px`. What is about with this `padding`? Usually, you need a spacing for your box and you'll see below why this matters when it's about ribbons.

Now let's add the element that will become our ribbon. For that, you will need just one element, like a `h1` for example:

H1 element with some styling

Remember the above `20px` padding value? In order to build your ribbon, you need the heading to overcome the box sides:

```
h1
{
  margin: 0 -30px; /* top:0, right:-30px, bottom:0, left:-30px */
}
```

Further, to add the corners, we'll use CSS triangles made with pseudo-elements.

```
    h1{
        text-align: center;
        position: relative;
        color: #fff;
        margin: 0 -30px 30px -30px;
        padding: 10px 0;
        text-shadow: 0 1px rgba(0,0,0,.8);
        background: #5c5c5c;
        background-image: -moz-linear-gradient(rgba(255,255,255,.3), rgba(255,255,255,
0));
        background-image: -webkit-linear-gradient(rgba(255,255,255,.3), rgba(255,255,2
55,0));
        background-image:  linear-gradient(rgba(255,255,255,.3), rgba(255,255,255,0));
        -moz-box-shadow: 0 2px 0 rgba(0,0,0,.3);
        -webkit-box-shadow: 0 2px 0 rgba(0,0,0,.3);
        box-shadow: 0 2px 0 rgba(0,0,0,.3);


    }

    h1:before, h1:after
    {
        content: '';
        position: absolute;
        border-style: solid;
        border-color: transparent;
```

Original URL:

http://www.red-team-design.com/css-ribbons