

# display-property-grouping

Even though you can define any group of properties together in a CSS rule, some of them will be ignored due to the **display** of the element. This leads to extra cruft in your CSS and misunderstandings around how a rule should work.

For **display: inline**, the **width**, **height**, **margin-top**, **margin-bottom**, and **float** properties have no effect because inline elements don't have a formal box with which to apply the styles. The **margin-left** and **margin-right** properties still work reliably for indentation purposes but the other margin settings do not. The **float** property is sometimes used as a fix for the [IE6 double-margin bug](#).

Other general rules based on **display** are:

- **display: inline-block** should not use **float**.
- **display: block** should not use **vertical-align**.
- **display: table-\*** should not use **margin** (and all variants) or **float**.

Removing the ignored or problematic properties decreases file size thereby improving performance.

## Rule Details

Rule ID: **display-property-grouping**

This rule is aimed at flagging properties that don't work based with the **display** property being used. The ultimate goal is to produce a smaller, clearer CSS file without unnecessary code. As such, the rule warns when it finds:

- **display: inline** used with **width**, **height**, **margin**, **margin-top**, **margin-bottom**, and **float**.
- **display: inline-block** used with **float**.
- **display: block** used with **vertical-align**.
- **display: table-\*** used with **margin** (and all variants) or **float**.

The following patterns are considered warnings:

```
/* inline with height */
.mybox {
  display: inline;
  height: 25px;
}

/* inline-block with float */
.mybox {
  display: inline-block;
  float: left;
}

/* table-cell and margin */
.mybox {
  display: table-cell;
  margin: 10px;
}
```

The following patterns are considered okay and do not cause warnings:

```
/* inline with margin-left */
.mybox {
  display: inline;
  margin-left: 10px;
}

/* table and margin */
.mybox {
```

```
display: table;  
margin-bottom: 10px;  
}
```

## Further Reading

- [The IE5/IE6 Doubled Float Margin Bug](#)