

# AQUENT

## GYMNASIUM

RESPONSIVE WEB DESIGN

Lesson 6

# MATERIALS & ASSIGNMENT

## THIS LESSON'S CORE CONCEPTS

1. Grids as a concept add order to the chaos of information and have been used in human endeavors such as city planning, print design, and the web. Without them, we'd have a tough time making sense of anything. They help us know where to look for something and help us scan without having to see every detail.
2. A vertical rhythm is largely based on a baseline grid, which, on the web, is reduced to a typographic scale that is derived from the font-size multiplied by the line-height and expressed as a number, for example 1.3. The vertical rhythm only covers half of a grid, though, and we need to add structure for columns as well, which our typographic scale doesn't address.
3. Responsive columns and gutters are both fluid by default, and while there is significant benefit in having fluid content, many people feel that fluid gutters are visually distracting. Therefore, we can add fixed-width gutters to ensure a more consistent design when the user resizes a browser window.
4. CSS3 box-sizing allows us to switch the type of box-model being used. The "typical" box model is one in which adding padding and borders to a box will increase the \*true\* width and height. We refer to this box-sizing value as `content-box`. The other box-sizing value is `border-box`. This model always uses the width and height as the "true" value; padding and borders are added to the inside of the box. We use the border-box method in order to create easy-to-build, reliable, responsive columns, although we need to provide support to IE7 and below with a polyfill.

## READINGS

- <http://www.aiga.org/200-years-on-the-grid/>  
This article primarily focuses on the importance of the grid from a city planning and architectural perspective, with an emphasis on Manhattan's grid structure.
- <http://alistapart.com/article/fluidgrids>  
This is Ethan Marcotte's 2009 article that laid the groundwork for the subsequent Responsive Design article.
- <http://elliotjaystocks.com/blog/a-better-photoshop-grid-for-responsive-web-design/>  
Eliot Jay Stocks provides a free Photoshop template for responsive grids replete with an explanation on how to use it.

## WEBSITES MENTIONED IN THE PRESENTATION

- <http://www.subtraction.com/2007/03/19/oh-yeeeahh>
- <http://caniuse.com/#search=boxsizing>
- <http://html5please.com/#box-sizing>
- <https://github.com/Schepp/box-sizing-polyfill>

## ASSIGNMENTS

### 1. Quiz

### 2. Read Paul Irish's article on box-sizing:

<http://paulirish.com/2012/box-sizing-border-box-ftw/>

a. Open the Demo File “index.html” located in the “fluid-fixed” folder in your lesson files.

This is a simplified file showing a fluid grid that becomes fixed and centered at a certain width.

Be sure you understand how it is working. Ask questions on the Forum if you do not.

### 3. Add fixed gutters to your Portfolio-in-Progress.

Using box-sizing, add fixed gutters to your own page. Be sure to experiment with the gutter width and margins in order to find an ideal layout for you.