

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 CSS BACKGROUND

CSS background properties are used to define the background effects of an element.

CSS properties used for background effects:

- background-color
- background-image
- background-repeat
- background-attachment
- background-position

5.1 Background Color

The background-color property specifies the background color of an element.

The background color of a page is set like this:

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <style>
      body {
        background-color: #B0C4DE;
      }
    </style>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>My CSS web page!</h1>
```

```
        <p>Hello world! This is a iFarouq Tech example.</p>
    </body>
</html>
```

With CSS, a color is most often specified by:

- a HEX value - like "#FF0000"
- an RGB value - like "rgb(255,0,0)"
- a color name - like "red"

In the example below, the <h1>, <p>, and <div> elements have different background colors:

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
    <head>
        <style>
            h1 {
                background-color: #6495ed;
            }
            p {
                background-color: #e0ffff;
            }
            div {
                background-color: #b0c4de;
            }
        </style>
    </head>
    <body>
        <h1>CSS background-color example!</h1>
        <div>
            This is a text inside a div element.
```

```

        <p>This paragraph has its own background color.</p>
        We are still in the div element.
    </div>
</body>
</html>

```

5.2 Background Image

The background-image property specifies an image to use as the background of an element. By default, the image is repeated so it covers the entire element.

The background image for a page can be set like this:

Example

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <style>
      body {
        background-image: url("paper.gif");
      }
    </style>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Hello World!</h1>
  </body>
</html>

```

Below is an example of a bad combination of text and background image. The text is almost not readable:

Example

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

```

```

<head>
    <style>
        body {
            background-image: url("bgdesert.jpg");
        }
    </style>
</head>
<body>
    <h1>Hello World!</h1>
    <p>This text is not easy to read on this background image.</p>
</body>
</html>

```

5.3 Background Image - Repeat Horizontally or Vertically

By default, the background-image property repeats an image both horizontally and vertically. Some images should be repeated only horizontally or vertically, or they will look strange, like this:

Example

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
    <head>
        <style>
            body {
                background-image: url("gradient_bg.png");
            }
        </style>
    </head>
    <body>
        <h1>Hello World!</h1>
    </body>
</html>

```

If the image is repeated only horizontally (repeat-x), the background will look better:

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <style>
      body {
        background-image: url("gradient_bg.png");
        background-repeat: repeat-x;
      }
    </style>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Hello World!</h1>
  </body>
</html>
```

5.4 Background Image - Set position and no-repeat

Note: *When using a background image, use an image that does not disturb the text.*

Showing the image only once is specified by the background-repeat property:

Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <style>
      body {
        background-image: url("img_tree.png");
        background-repeat: no-repeat;
      }
    </style>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Hello World!</h1>
  </body>
</html>
```

```

        }
    </style>
</head>
<body>
    <h1>Hello World!</h1>
    <p>iFarouq Tech background image example.</p>
    <p>The background image is only showing once, but it is disturbing the
    reader!</p>
</body>
</html>

```

In the example above, the background image is shown in the same place as the text. We want to change the position of the image, so that it does not disturb the text too much.

The position of the image is specified by the background-position property:

Example

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
    <head>
        <style>
            body {
                h    background-image: url("img_tree.png");
                background-repeat: no-repeat;
                background-position: right top;
                margin-right: 200px;
            }
        </style>
    </head>
    <body>
        <h1>Hello World!</h1>
        <p>iFarouq Tech background no-repeat, set position example.</p>
        <p>Now the background image is only shown once, and positioned
        away from the text.</p>
    </body>
</html>

```

<p>In this example we have also added a margin on the right side, so the background image will never disturb the text.</p>

</body>

</html>

5.5 Background - Shorthand property

As you can see from the examples above, there are many properties to consider when dealing with backgrounds.

To shorten the code, it is also possible to specify all the properties in one single property. This is called a shorthand property.

The shorthand property for background is simply "background":

Example

<!DOCTYPE html>

<html>

<head>

<style>

body {

background: #ffffff url("img_tree.png") no-repeat right top;

margin-right: 200px;

}

</style>

</head>

<body>

<h1>Hello World!</h1>

<p>Now the background image is only shown once, and it is also positioned away from the text.</p>

<p>In this example we have also added a margin on the right side, so that the background image will not disturb the text.</p>

</body>

</html>

When using the shorthand property the order of the property values is:

- background-color
- background-image
- background-repeat
- background-attachment
- background-position

It does not matter if one of the property values is missing, as long as the ones that are present are in this order.

This example uses more advanced CSS. Take a look: [Advanced example](#)

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <style>
      body {
        margin-left: 200px;
        background: #5d9ab2 url("img_tree.png") no-repeat top left;
      }
      .container {
        text-align: center;
      }
      .center_div {
        border: 1px solid gray;
        margin-left: auto;
        margin-right: auto;
        width: 90%;
        background-color: #d0f0f6;
```



```

        text-align: left;
        padding: 8px;
    }
</style>
</head>
<body>
    <div class="container">
        <div class="center_div">
            <h1>Hello World!</h1>
            <p>This example contains some advanced CSS
            methods you may not have learned yet. But, we will
            explain these methods in a later chapter in the
            tutorial.</p>
        </div>
    </div>
</body>
</html>

```

5.6 How to set a fixed background image

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
    <head>
        <style>
            body {
                background-image: url("w3css.gif");
                background-repeat: no-repeat;
                background-attachment: fixed;
            }
        </style>
    </head>
    <body>
        <p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
        <p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
        <p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
    </body>
</html>

```

```
<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
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<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
<p>The background-image is fixed. Try to scroll down the page.</p>
<p>If you do not see any scrollbars, try to resize the browser
window.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

All CSS Background Properties

Property	Description
<u>background</u>	Sets all the background properties in one declaration
<u>background-attachment</u>	Sets whether a background image is fixed or scrolls with the rest of the page
<u>background-color</u>	Sets the background color of an element
<u>background-image</u>	Sets the background image for an element
<u>background-position</u>	Sets the starting position of a background image
<u>background-repeat</u>	Sets how a background image will be repeated