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Equal Column Height with jQuery

In this tutorial i will show you how to achieve equal height on multiple columns. There are a lot of ways to achieve this, one of them is with CSS but with jQuery it's peace of cake. Here is how…

So how are we gonna do that?

Really easy. The columns we want to make equal in height will have same CLASS (in this tutorial that's gonna be **equal_height**). The jQuery will simply check all of them and their's height and get the height of the tallest column, and that height will be set to the other columns. That's gonna make them all equal height… Let's make one example with 2 columns.

HTML

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```
01.  <div id='first' class='left equal_height'>
02.      <p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor inc
03.  </div>
04.
05.  <div id='second' class='left equal_height'>
06.      <p>Sed ut perspiciatis unde omnis iste natus error sit voluptatem accusantium doloremc
07.  </div>
```

As you can see in this example we have 2 columns where the second one has more content which makes it bigger.

CSS

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```
01.  .left { float:left; }
02.  #first { background : #ccc; width:70%;}
03.  #second { background: #eee; width:30%;}
04.  .equal_height p{ padding:10px;  }
```

No need to explain the CSS it's just for styling purposes, it's not involved in the process of making equal height. And this is what we got:

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Let's make them equal…

jQuery

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```
01.  $(document).ready(function(){
02.      //set the starting bigestHeight variable
03.      var biggestHeight = 0;
04.      //check each of them
05.      $('.equal_height').each(function(){
06.          //if the height of the current element is
07.          //bigger then the current biggestHeight value
08.          if($(this).height() > biggestHeight){
09.              //update the biggestHeight with the
10.              //height of the current elements
11.              biggestHeight = $(this).height();
12.          }
13.      });
14.      //when checking for biggestHeight is done set that
15.      //height to all the elements
16.      $('.equal_height').height(biggestHeight);
17.
18.  });
```

And that's it. Peace of cake. This is what we got:

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Slobodan Kustrimovic

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Comments

- Dale Watkins Oct 25th, 09

Great tip! I knew this was about to come up in a design I've been working so I'm excited the solution is right here.

Thanks!

- Boba Oct 25th, 09

Glad to help 😃

- Carsten Berggreen Nov 21st, 09

Hi there, resizing might introduce a little problem for some browsers. I am testing with latest Chrome and the text goes beyond the box when browser gets smaller. Could a onResize event be implementet perhaps? Another thing, why not make an outside DIV with display:block setting? wouldnt that do the trick too?

- Clarke Isackson Dec 21st, 09

This is an excellent and very useful example, not to mention the value of you whole site.

Keep up the great work.

- James Doc May 27th, 10

I'm using Chrome v5 to implement this code, and both columns are being resized to 410px high, chopping a lot of content. Is there a fix for this?

- admin May 28th, 10

well of course it is cutting content you are making the columns equal height! you can try oveflow:auto and it will add a scroller!

- Slobodan May 28th, 10

Actually it shouldn't chop anything. The way i made it is to get the tallest column height and make the rest of the columns that height.
James can you give me a link to the page so i can check it out.

- James Doc May 28th, 10

Sure, the testing site is at:
http://student.dc.lincoln.ac.uk/~u08107263/vilamaninga/index.htm

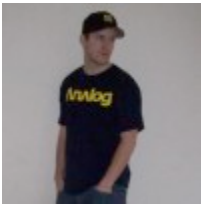So far I have only done testing in Chrome and FireFox

- vv Oct 13th, 10

I have a problems with chrome too, is there a fix ?

- [dselva](#) Oct 14th, 10

Great jquery snippet.. Thanks

- [Jamie Lomas](#) May 14th, 11

The problem is this script will find the tallest height and resize the columns but it doesn't recalculate on browser resize. You can force it to recalculate by placing the script also inside a window.resize function.

```
$(window).resize(function(){
$('.equal_height').height(biggestHeight);
});
```

Code not tested but i have used somthing like this on a few occasions.

Hope that helps

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