

Margin, Padding, Height, Width & Size Customization in Tailwind CSS

Folder Structure (No Config File)

project/

└─ index.html

└─ styles/

│ └─ input.css (Tailwind base + custom styles)

│ └─ custom-spacing.css (Custom utility classes)

└─ dist/

│ └─ output.css (Compiled final CSS)

1 styles/custom-spacing.css

```
@layer utilities {
```

```
  /* Custom Margin */
```

```
  .m-72 {
```

```
    margin: 18rem;
```

```
  }
```

```
  /* Custom Padding */
```

```
  .p-72 {
```

```
    padding: 18rem;
```

```
  }
```

```
  /* Custom Width */
```

```
  .w-72 {
```

```
    width: 18rem;
```

```
  }
```

```
/* Custom Height */
```

```
.h-72 {
```

```
  height: 18rem;
```

```
}
```

```
/* Custom Size */
```

```
.size-72 {
```

```
  width: 18rem;
```

```
  height: 18rem;
```

```
}
```

```
/* Negative Margin */
```

```
.-m-72 {
```

```
  margin: -18rem;
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

2. styles/input.css

```
@tailwind base;
```

```
@tailwind components;
```

```
@tailwind utilities;
```

```
/* Include custom spacing */
```

```
@import './custom-spacing.css';
```

3 Compile with Tailwind CLI

In your project folder (make sure Tailwind is installed globally or locally):

```
npx tailwindcss -i ./styles/input.css -o ./dist/output.css --watch
```

This creates your compiled output.css with your **custom utilities** and **core Tailwind styles**.

4. index.html

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html lang="en">
```

```
<head>
```

```
<meta charset="UTF-8" />
```

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0" />
```

```
<title>Tailwind v4 - Custom Spacing</title>
```

```
<link href="./dist/output.css" rel="stylesheet" />
```

```
</head>
```

```
<body class="bg-gray-100 p-10 space-y-10 text-center">
```

```
<div class="bg-blue-500 text-white p-72 rounded">
```

```
  Custom Padding (p-72)
```

```
</div>
```

```
<div class="bg-green-500 text-white m-72 rounded">
```

```
  Custom Margin (m-72)
```

```
</div>
```

```
<div class="bg-yellow-500 text-white w-72 p-4 mx-auto rounded">
```

```
  Custom Width (w-72)
```

```
</div>
```

```
<div class="bg-red-500 text-white h-72 p-4 rounded">
```

Custom Height (h-72)

</div>

<div class="bg-purple-500 text-white size-72 p-4 rounded">



Custom Size (size-72)

</div>

</body>

</html>

Interview Questions & Answers

 Question	 Answer
How do you customize spacing without using tailwind.config.js?	Use @layer utilities in a separate CSS file and import it.
What if width is greater than max-width?	The element overflows unless you restrict it with max-w-* or overflow-hidden.
How to add negative margins?	Use -m-* or define .-m-xx classes manually.
What is size-* in Tailwind v4?	It applies both width and height together — useful for square boxes.
Is tailwind.config.js required in v4?	No! It's optional unless you want to customize or extend the default theme.