#### CT214H – Web Programming Fundamentals

# Chapter 2 Cascading Style Sheet (CSS)

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# Introduction to CSS

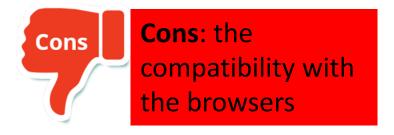
# Why CSS?

- HTML markup: used to represent
  - **Semantic**: e.g. <h1> means top-level heading
  - Presentation: <h1> elements look a certain way (bold and big)
- It is advisable to separate semantics from presentation:
  - It's easier to present documents on multiple platforms (browser, cellphone, ...)
  - It's easier to generate documents with consistent look
  - Semantic and presentation changes can be made independently of one another

HTML was NEVER intended to contain tags for formatting a web page!

## What is CSS?

- A language that describes the style of an HTML document describes how HTML elements should be displayed
- CSS removed the style formatting from the HTML page
- CSS benefits:
  - Easier to maintain and update
  - Greater consistency in design
  - More formatting options
  - Lightweight code
  - Faster download times
  - Ease of presenting different styles to different viewers, etc.



#### What is CSS?

#### Web page = HTML (structure) + CSS: presentation)

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
    <head>
    </head>
    <body>
        <h1>My First CSS Example</h1>
        This is a paragraph.
        </body>
</html>
```

#### **My First CSS Example**

This is a paragraph.

```
<style>
   body {
      background-color: lightblue;
  h1 {
      color: white;
      text-align: center;
   p {
      font-family: verdana;
      font-size: 20px;
</style>
```



#### **My First CSS Example**

This is a paragraph.



# CSS Levels and Syntax

#### 1. Inline:

- specified for a specific occurrence of a tag and apply only to that tag
- appear in the tag itself

#### 2. Internal (document):

- apply to the whole document in which they appear
- appear in the head of the document

#### 3. External:

- can be applied to any number of documents (entire website)
- defined in separate files

- 1. Inline: uses the style attribute of the HTML element
  - General form:

```
style="property1: value1; property_2: value2;..."
```

• Example:

- 2. Internal: defined in the <head> section of an HTML page, within a <style> element
  - General form:

```
<style>
   rule list <
</style>
```

• Example:

#### 3. External:

- CSS rules are defined in a separate file (.css file)
- To use an external style sheet, add a link to it in the <head>
   section of the HTML page
- Example:

CSS file

```
body {
   background-color: powderblue;
}
h1 {
   color: blue;
}
p {
   color: red;
}
```

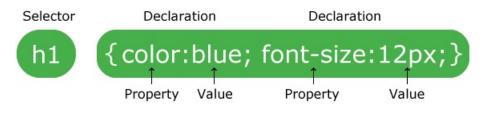
HT

#### - CSS conflict resolution:

- When more than one style sheet applies to a specific tag in a document, the lowest level style sheet has precedence
  - 1. Inline CSS
  - 2. Internal CSS
  - 3. External CSS
  - 4. Browser default format
- In the same level, the last CSS rule will be applied

## **CSS Syntax**

- A CSS block (internal) or CSS file (external) consists of CSS rules
- A **CSS rule** consists of a selector and a declaration block surrounded by a curly braces
- The **selector** "selects" HTML elements in the webpage
- A declaration block contains one or more declarations,
   separated by a colon
- Each declaration includes a CSS property name and a value



Select and style

# **CSS Selectors**

Used to select element(s) to style

#### **HTML-Element Selector**

```
    Selects all HTML elements based on element name (HTML tag)
    Syntax: HTML-tag { property: value; ... }
    Example:
    p {
        text-align: center;
        color: red;
      }
```

## Class Selector

- Selects elements with a specific class attribute

```
- Syntax: .classname { property: value; ... }
```

- Example:

```
.header {
    font-weight: bold;
}
```

- Combination of element and class selector:
  - Syntax: HTML-tag.class-selector (no space)
  - Selection: all HTML-tag elements that belong to the class specified by the class selector

## **ID Selector**

- Selects one unique element with a specific id attribute

```
- Syntax: #id { property: value; ... }
```

- Example:

```
#header {
    font-weight: bold;
}
```

#### **Attribute Selector**

- Selects elements that have specific attributes or attribute values
- Syntax:
  - [attribute]: selects elements with specified attribute
  - [attribute="value"]: selects elements with a specified attribute and value
  - [attribute~="word"]: selects elements with an attribute value containing a specified word (space-separated)
  - [attribute\*="value"]: select elements whose attribute value contains a specified value

## **Attribute Selector**

- Syntax (cont.):
  - [attribute|="word"]: selects elements with the specified attribute starting with the specified word
  - [attribute^="value"]: selects elements whose attribute value begins with a specified value
  - [attribute\$="value"]: selects elements whose attribute value ends with a specified value
- **Note**: this selector can be combine with the element selector
  - Syntax: HTML-tag[attribute-selector]

# **Special Selectors**

- Descendant: select elements that are descendants of (inside)
   a specified element (ascendant element)
  - Syntax: ascendant-selector \_\_\_\_ descendant-selector
     white space character: space, tab, line feed, form feed, new line

Example:

```
ul li {
  color: blue;
}
```

 Note: use symbol > to select only the "direct" children of a specified element (also called child selector)

# **Special Selectors**

#### - Pseudo-classes:

- Selects special elements that are not in the document tree
- Prefixed with ":"

Pseudo	Selection	Example
:link	all unvisited links	a:link
:visited	all visited links	a:visited
:hover	element with the mouse pointer hovering	a:hover (hovered link)
:focus	element which has the focus input:focus (focusing	
:active	ctive the active element a:active (active link)	
:first-child	the first child of its parent	p:first-child (first child )

• Some others: <a href="https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css\_selectors.asp">https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css\_selectors.asp</a>

# Special Selector

- Universal selector:
  - Selects all elements in the webpage
  - Syntax: \*
  - Example: apply red color to all elements in the webpage

```
* {
   color: red;
}
```

## **Combine Selectors**

- A CSS selector can contain more than one simple selector
- Four CSS selector combinators:
  - Descendant selector (space)
  - Child selector (>)
  - Adjacent sibling selector (+)
  - 4. General sibling selector (~)
- Example:

```
div#header p em.required {
  color: white;
}
```



# **Group Selectors**

- Group selectors:
  - To share the same declaration to multiple selectors (to save space)
  - Syntax: use comma (,) to separate the grouped selector
  - Example:

```
<style>
  a:hover, a:focus {
    background-color: green;
  }
  a:hover { color: red; }
  a:focus { color: yellow; }
  </style>
```

## Cascade Rule

- Used to solve the conflicts occurring when there are two or more values for the same property on the same element
- Sources of conflict:
  - Conflicting values between levels of style sheets
  - Within one style sheet (overlapped selectors)
  - Inheritance can cause conflicts
  - Property values can come from style sheets written by the document author, the browser user, and the browser defaults

## Cascade Rule

- Cascade (specificity precedence) rules:
  - ids are more specific than classes
  - classes are more specific than element names
  - Style rules that directly target elements are more specific than style rules that are inherited
  - If elements have the same specificity, the later rule wins

# **CSS** Declaration

Used to apply styles to selected elements

#### **CSS** Declaration

- CSS declaration: { property: value; ...}
- CSS properties:
  - CSS3: more than 70 properties
  - CSS4: 129 properties
  - Categories (vary):
    - Fonts, lists, alignment, margins, colors, backgrounds, borders, positioning, etc.
    - Animations, backgrounds, box model, flexbox, grid, positioning, transitions, typography, etc.

## **CSS** Declaration

- CSS property values: vary in forms
  - Keywords: left, right, small, large, etc.
  - Number (with no space)
  - Unit: px (pixel), in (inches), cm, mm, pt (points), pc (picas, 12 pts), em (height of the letter 'm'), ex (height of the letter 'x'), % (percentage), vw (view port width)
  - Color:
    - Name (140 color names)
    - Hex values, RGB (red, green, blue), RGBA (A: alpha channel), HLS (hue, saturation, lightness), HLSA
  - Special values: normal (default value of the property), inherit (from parent element), auto (browser default value)

# **CSS Basic Properties**

Font, background, text, list, table

## Font

Property	Description
font	Setting all properties for font in one declaration (font-style, font-variant, font-weight, font-size/line-height, font-family, etc.)
font-family	A prioritized list of [generic] font family names for an element
font-size	Sets the size of a font (absolute or relative), default: 16px/1em
font-style	Sets the style (normal   italic   oblique) for a text
font-variant	Specifies whether a text should be displayed in small-cap (normal   small-caps)
font-weight	Sets the thickness of a font (normal   bold   bolder   lighter   <u>number</u> )

Some other font properties: font-size-adjust (Firefox only), font-stretch

# Background

Property	Value	
background	bg-color bg-image position/bg-size bg-repeat bg-origin bg-clip bg-attachment (e.g. background:url(smiley.gif) 10px 20px/50px 50px;)	
background-color	color-value (color name   rgb   rgba   hsl   hsla)	
background-image	image-url	
background-position	position-name (e.g. left top   left center   etc.)   x% y% (relative)   xpos ypos (absolute)	
background-size	auto (origin size)   <u>length</u> (width height)   cover   contain	
background-repeat	repeat   repeat-x   repeat-y   no-repeat	
background-origin	padding-box   border-box   content-box	
background-clip	Painting area: <b>border-box</b>   padding-box   content-box	
background-attachment	<b>scroll</b> (with the page), fixed, local (scroll with the element content)	

## Text

Property	Value
color	color-value (color name   rgb   rgba   hsl   hsla)
text-align	left   right   center   justify
text-decoration	line (none   underline   overline   line-through) color style (solid   double   dotted   dashed   wavy)
text-indent	length (fixed or relative)
text-justify	auto   inter-word   inter-character   none
text-overflow	clip   ellipsis   <u>string</u> (to represent the clipped text)
text-shadow	h-shadow v-shadow [blur-radius] color (e.g. 2px 2px 1px black)
text-transform	none   capitalize   uppercase   lowercase

- Other properties: direction, line-height, letter-spacing, word spacing, etc.

# List

Property	Values
list-style	list-style-type list-style-position list-style-image
list-style-type	none   disc   circle   square   decimal   decimal-leading-zero   lower-roman   upper-roman   lower-alpha   upper-alpha   etc.
list-style-position	inside   outside
list-style-image	none   url()
maker-offset	auto   length

# Table

Property	Values
border	border-width border-style border-color
border-width	top right bottom left (name or value, e.g. thin medium thick 10px;)
border-style	top right bottom left (none   hidden   dotted   dashed   solid   double   groove   ridge   inset   outset)
border-color	top right bottom left
border-collapse	separate   collapse
border-spacing	length   h-length v-length
caption-side	top   bottom
empty-cell	show   hide
table-layout	auto (cells' width belongs to the content)   fixed (equal column width if the column width is not set; otherwise, uses the width of the 1st row)

# Inheritance

### Inheritance

- CSS styles are inherited from parent to child

Instead of selecting all elements individually

You can style the parent and the children will inherit the styles

You can style the parent and the children will inherit the styles

```
a, h1, p, strong {
   font-family: Helvetica;
}
```

```
body {
    font-family: Helvetica;
}

h2, h3 {
    font-family: Consolas;
}
```

### Exception in Inheritance

- While many CSS styles are inherited from parent to child, not all CSS properties are inherited

- There's no rule for what properties are inherited or not: the inheritance behavior defined in the CSS specification



## **User Agent Styles**

```
<h1>Chocolate</h1>
                                             Chocolate
>
                                                                 <a>>
  <a href="...">CSS</a> is wonderful
                                                                inherits
CSS is wonderful
                                                                font-family,
body {
                                                                but not the
                                             Chocolate
    color: red:
                                                                color!
    font-family: Helvetica;
                                             CSS is wonderful
}
```

- This is because the browser has its own default styles
  - Browser loads its own default stylesheet on every webpage

### **User Agent Styles**

- So, to style the <a> links, we need to override the browser default style by explicitly setting a color:

```
<h1>Chocolate</h1>
                                            Chocolate
>
  <a href="...">CSS</a> is wonderful
CSS is wonderful
                  +
body {
    color: red;
    font-family: Helvetica;
                                            Chocolate
}
                                            CSS is wonderful
a {
    color: red;
}
```

# The Layout

Block vs. inline elements, element grouping, overflow, display modes, visibility, floating and positioning

### **Block and Inline Elements**

- The browser treats every element as a box
- There are 2 types of boxes: block and inline

#### - Block elements:

- Always start on a new line
- Fill up the vertically from top to bottom on the page
- Example: , <h1> to <h6>, <div>, , , , etc.

#### - Inline elements:

- Doesn't start on a new line, i.e. one can sit next to others
- Doesn't respect to the top and bottom margins/paddings
- Example: <img>, <a>, <input>, <span>, etc.

### Inline and Block Elements

```
<html>
  <body>
    Text and image <img src="figures/birds.jpg" width="100"/>
       and a button <input type="button" value="Click me!">
       and a link to <a href="list.html">
       an example</a>
       and a
                                                  \Theta \Theta \Theta
                                                          block-inline-elements. ×
     <h3>heading</h3>
    and another text
                                                  Text and image
    and another
                                                  Click me! and link to an example and a
    p>paragraph
                                                  heading
    and text after paragraph.
                                                  and another text and another
    >
                                                  paragraph
  </body>
                                                  and text after paragraph.
</h+m1>
```

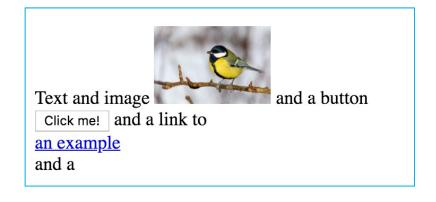
### Inline and Block Elements

- To change the display mode of an element:
  - Use the 'display' property:

```
display: block | inline
```

• Example:

```
a {
    display: block;
}
```



```
Text and image <img src="figures/birds.jpg"/>
and a button <input type="button" value="Click me!">
and a link to <a href="list.html">an example</a>
<</p>
```

### **Grouping Elements**

- Grouping elements lets us style multiple elements as a whole
- Container elements are used to group elements:

  - <div>: block container

```
<div>Hello <a href="...">World</a>!</div>
```

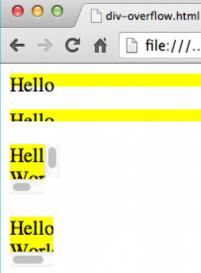
 Width and height properties can be used to resize the block and <img> elements

### Overflow

- The content of an element may overflows (bigger) its container
- The overflow, overflow-x, overflow-y properties are used to specify what happens
- Possible values for these properties:
  - visible: the overflow is not clipped and rendered outside the element's box
  - hidden: the overflow is clipped, the rest content is visible
  - scroll: the overflow is clipped but a scrollbar is added
  - auto: if the overflow is clipped, a scrollbar will be added

### Overflow

```
<div style="height:10px; background-color:yellow;">Hello</div>
 <br>
 <div style="width:40px; height:10px;</pre>
              background-color:yellow;
              overflow:hidden;"> Hello</div>
<br>
                                                          Hello
<div style="width:40px; height:40px;</pre>
                                                           Hallo
            background-color:yellow;
                                                           Hell
            overflow:auto;">Hello World</div>
                                                           Wat
<br>
                                                           Hello
<div style="width:40px; height:40px;</pre>
                                                           Work
            background-color:yellow;
            overflow-x:auto;
            overflow-y:hidden;">Hello World</div>
```



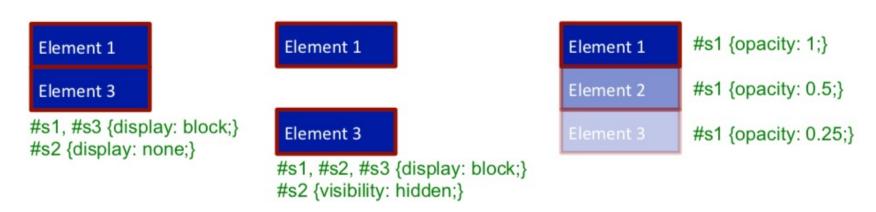
### Display

- The 'display' property specifies how how element is displayed
- Possible value: inline, block, list-item (same as block), etc.

```
<span id="s1">Element 1</span>
<span id="s2">Element 2</span>
                                                   Element 1
<span id="s3">Element 3</span>
                                                   Element 3
                                    #s1, #s3 {display: block;}
Element 1
                                          #s2 {display: none;}
Element 2
Element 3
                           Element 1
                                                   Element 3
                                       Element 2
                              #s1, #s2, #s3 {display: inline;}
#s1, #s2, #s3 {
  display: block;
```

## Visibility

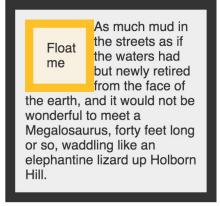
- The 'visibility' property specifies whether an element is visible
  - Value: visible, hidden, collapse (used only with table row/column)
- The 'opacity' property sets the opacity level for an element
  - Value: from 0.0 (fully transparent) to 1.0 (fully opaque)
- Note that, hidden elements (set with display property) still take up space on the page

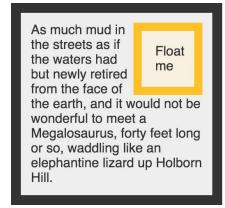


## Floating

- The 'float' property is used to float boxes on the sides of other boxes and the siblings will wrap around the floating element
- Values:
  - none (default): the element doesn't float
  - left: the element floats to the left of its container
  - right: the element floats to the right of its container

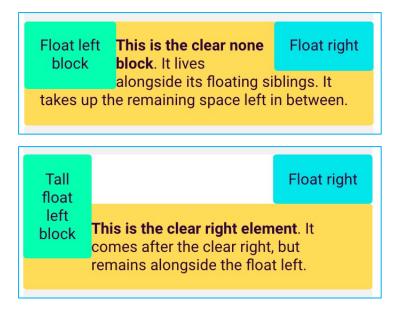


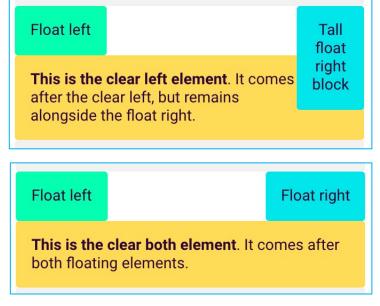




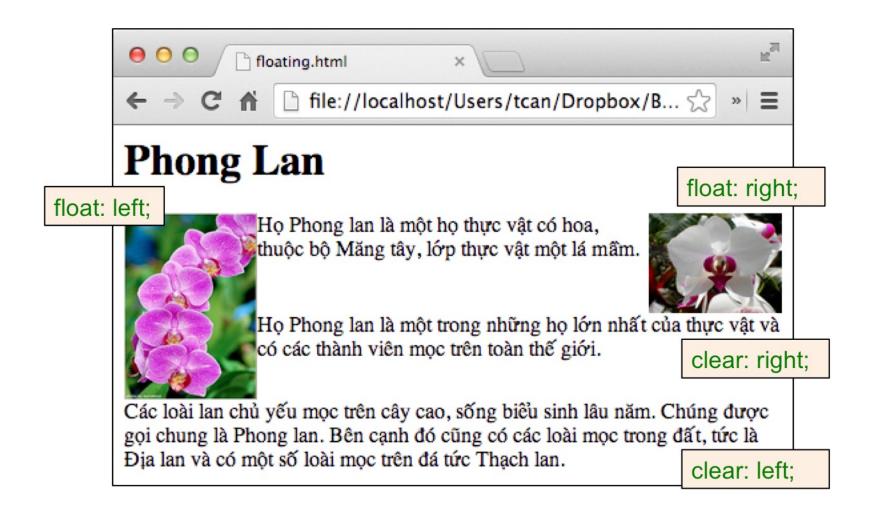
## Floating

- The 'clear' property is used to specify that an element should not wrap around above floated elements
- Value: **none** (wrap floating elements on both sides), left (doesn't wrap the left element), right (doesn't wrap the right element), both (doesn't wrap both left and right)





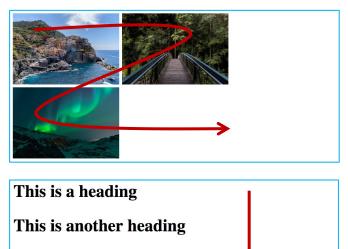
## Floating



</body>

### Positioning

- In normal flow (default),
  - inline elements flow from left to right, wrapping to the next line when needed
  - block elements flow from top to bottom (new line after every element)



Anh this is another heading

### Positioning

- The 'position' property can be used to specify the type of positioning method applied for an element
  - **static**: the element is positioned according to the normal flow (element's position isn't affected by the top, bottom, left, and right properties)
  - relative: the element is positioned relative to its normal position (using the top, bottom, left and right properties)
  - fixed: the element is positioned relative to the browser window
  - absolute: The element is positioned relative to its first positioned (not static) ancestor element (if there is no such element, <html> is used)
  - sticky: the element will be "stuck" when it position reaches a threshold value (top, bottom, left, or right)

### **Position**

```
div.relative {
  position: relative;
  left: 30px;
  width: calc(100% - 30px);
  border: 3px solid #73AD21;
}
```

```
div.relative {
   position: relative;
   width: 300px;
   height: 100px;
   border: 3px solid #73AD21;
}

div.absolute {
   position: absolute;
   top: 30px;
   right: 0;
   width: 150px;
   height: 50px;
   border: 3px solid #73AD21; }
```

#### position: relative;

An element with position: relative; is positioned relative to its normal position:

This element has position: relative;

#### position: absolute;

An element with position: absolute; is positioned relative to the nearest positioned ancestor (instead of positioned relative to the viewport, like fixed):

This div element has position: relative;

This div element has position: absolute;

## The Box Model

### The Box Model

- Each element can be considered as a box in the page layout
- The box model is essentially a box that wraps around an element consisting of margins, borders, paddings, and content



### The Box Model – The Margin

- The clears an area outside the border
- The margin is transparent
- The 'margin' property is used to set the size of the margin
  - margin: <top [<right> [<bottom> [<left>]]]>
  - margin-top/right/bottom/left: <value> | auto
- If the margin is auto and the box's width is fixed, the margin will be set as large as possible

### The Box Model – The Border

- A border goes around the padding and content
- A border has a color, style, and the thickness
- To set the border properties:
  - border: [thickness] <style> [color]
  - border-width: <value> | <top> [right] [bottom] [left]
  - border-style: none|hidden|dotted|dashed|solid|double
     |groove|ridge|inset|outset
  - border-color: <color> | <top> [right] [bottom] [left]

### The Box Model – The Border

width:340px; margin:auto; border-style: solid
width:340px; margin-left:auto; margin-right: 5px;
border-style:dashed; border-color:cyan yellow green blue;
border-style:groove;
border-style:outset;
border-style:inset;
border-style:ridge;

## The Box Model – The Padding

- Padding clears an area around the content
- The padding is transparent (affected by the content background color)
- To set the padding property:
  - padding: size | <top> [right] [bottom] [left]
  - padding-top/right/bottom/left: value

```
.box1 {
   background-color: lightgrey;
   width: 200px;
   border: 20px solid green;
   padding: 15px;
   margin: 20px;
}
```

```
Demonstrating the Box Model

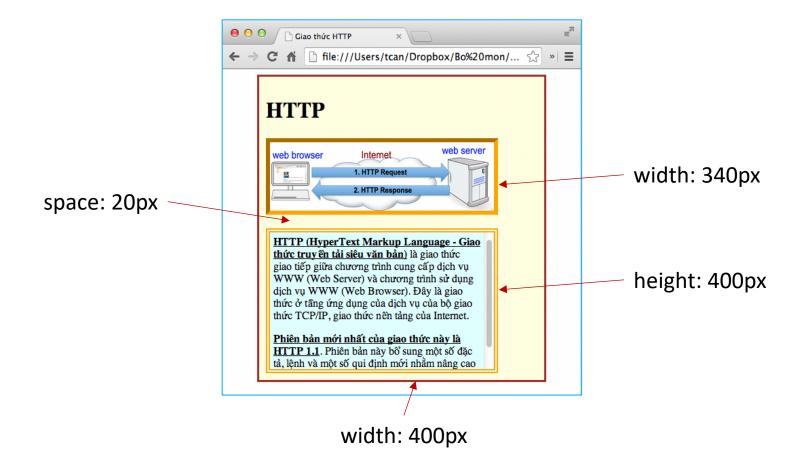
Box 1

Box 2
```

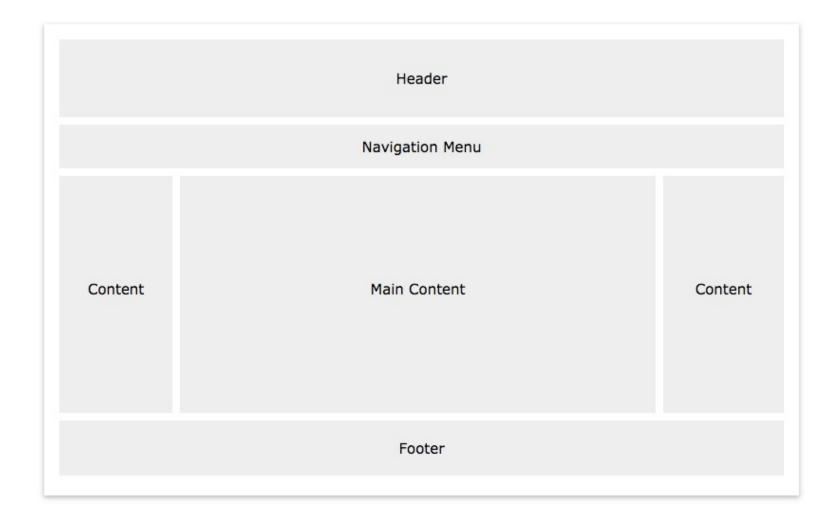
```
.box2 {
    background-color: lightgrey;
    width: 200px;
    border: 10px solid green;
    padding: 5px;
    margin: 10px;
}
```

### The Box Model – Exercise

- Design the following webpage:



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```
<div class="topnav">
                                                                                   <a href="#">Link</a>
 <div class="header">
                                                                                   <a href="#">Link</a>
    <h1>Header</h1>
                                                                                   <a href="#">Link</a>
    Resize...
                                                                                   <a href="#" class="navright">Link</a>
                                                                Header
</div>
                                                                                </div>
                                                  Resize the browser window to see the responsive effect.
                       Link
                              Link
                                     Link
                                                                                                                  Link
                      Side
                                               Main Content
                                                                                                Side
                      Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
                                               Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit.
                                                                                                Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
                      consectetur adipiscing elit ..
                                               Maecenas sit amet pretium urna. Vivamus venenatis velit nec
                                                                                                consectetur adipiscing elit..
                                               neque ultricies, eget elementum magna tristique. Quisque
                                               vehicula, risus eget aliquam placerat, purus leo tincidunt eros,
                                               eget luctus quam orci in velit. Praesent scelerisque tortor sed
                                               accumsan convallis.
                                                                                                     <div class="column side">
                                               Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit.
                                               Maecenas sit amet pretium urna. Vivamus venenatis velit nec
                                                                                                        <h2>Side</h2>
                                               neque ultricies, eget elementum magna tristique. Quisque
                                                                                                        Lorem ipsum ...
                                               vehicula, risus eget aliquam placerat, purus leo tincidunt eros,
                                               eget luctus quam orci in velit. Praesent scelerisque tortor sed
                                                                                                     </div>
   <div class="column middle">
                                               accumsan convallis.
     <h2>Main Content</h2>
     Lorem ipsum ....
                                                                                                     <div class="footer">
     Lorem ipsum ...
                                                                                                        <h2>Footer</h2>
                                                                  Footer
   </div>
                                                                                                     </div>
```

```
/* Style the header */
.header {
   background-color: #f1f1f1;
   padding: 20px;
   text-align: center;
}
/* Style the right top nav links */
a.rightnav{
   float: right;
}
```

```
/* Style the top navigation bar */
.topnav {
   overflow: hidden;
   background-color: #333;
}
/* Style the topnav links */
.topnav a {
   float: left;
   display: block;
   text-align: center;
   padding: 14px 16px;
   text-decoration: none;
}
/* Change color on hover */
.topnav a:hover {
    background-color: #ddd;
    color: black;
}
```

```
/* Create three unequal columns */
.column {
    float: left;
    padding: 10px;
}
/* Left and right column */
.column.side {
    width: 25%;
}
/* Middle column */
.column.middle {
    width: 50%;
}
```

```
/* Clear floats after the columns */
.row:after {
    content: "";
    display: table;
    clear: both;
}

/* Footer */
.footer {
    padding: 20px;
    text-align: center;
    background: #ddd;
    margin-top: 20px;
}
```

## **CSS Convention**

### **Coding Convention**

- A CSS rule can be written as follow:

```
selector { property: value; ... }
```

- However, it is recommended to use the following style:

```
selector {
  property: value;
  ...
}
```

Using comments in CSS is also recommended:

```
/* comment (multiple lines) */
```

```
/* Style the header */
.header {
   background-color: #f1f1f1;
   padding: 20px;
   text-align: center;
}
```

### **Naming Convention**

- Class name or ID should describe the semantic, not format
  - Example: use warning instead of redbox
- Names are written in lowercase
- Words are separated by a hyphen (-)
  - Example: header-info (instead of headerInfo)
- Use prefix for subclass:
  - Example: footer footer-logo, footer-copyright

# Appendix

## **Further Readings**

- SCSS (CSS extension language: https://sass-lang.com) = CSS + ...
  - ... variables
  - ... nesting
  - ... partial files + import
  - ... Operators
  - ... etc.
- CSS properties (more advanced properties)
- CSS Animation
- Flexbox (\* CSS4)

### Resources

- CSS tutorial:
  - https://www.w3schools.com/css/default.asp
  - https://www.tutorialspoint.com/css/
  - https://sass-lang.com/guide: SCSS basics
- CSS references:
  - https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/default.asp
  - https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/Reference
- CSS tools:
  - <a href="https://html-css-js.com/css/generator/">https://html-css-js.com/css/generator/</a>: CSS code generator
  - https://webcode.tools/css-generator/

## Question?

Chapter 2 – Cascading Style Sheet