

Skills Bootcamp in Front-End Web Development

Lesson 2.1







Today's Objectives

By the end of class today, you will:



Create CSS Flexbox containers and set them to display as a row or a column.



Position CSS Flexbox items inside containers to create clean and fluid layouts.



Nest CSS Flexbox containers to control the elements contained inside them.



Apply CSS Flexbox skills in a coding activity called Jake's Eatery.





CSS Flexbox is a layout model that allows elements to align and distribute space between elements by using flexible widths and heights





What are the three layout methods we've already learned?

Layout Methods

Previously, we used the following display types for layout:

01

02

03

block

Has a specified dimensions (height and width)

Takes up a whole line

inline

nly Ouses auto height and width

Shares a line with other elements

inline-block

Has a specified height and width

Shares a line with other elements

Flexbox elements are flexible; they automatically flex to fill additional space and shrink to fit into smaller spaces.

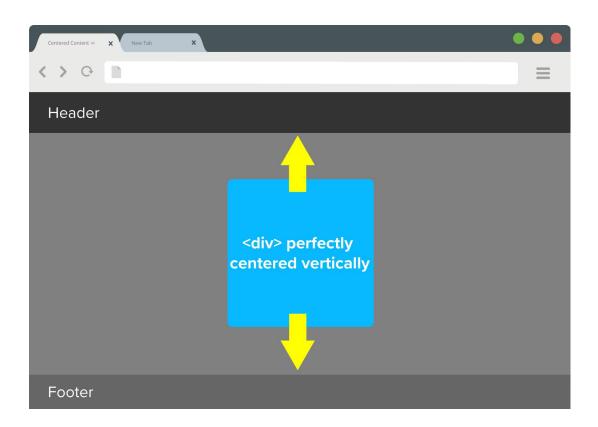


Simple Layout Requirements

Vertically centering elements.

margin: auto

(Using margin: 0 auto only works for horizontal centering.)



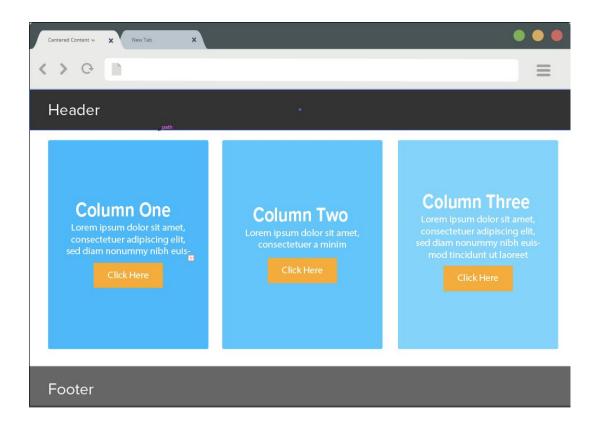
Simple Layout Requirements

Make all the children of a container take up an equal amount of the available width/height, regardless of how much width/height is available.



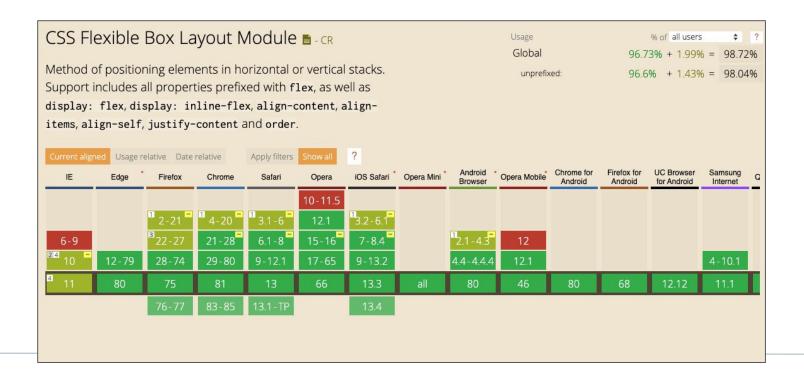
Simple Layout Requirements

Make all columns in the same container adopt the same height, even if they contain a different amount of content.



Why Learn CSS Flexbox?

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Flex Containers and Flex Items

To start using Flexbox, set display: flex onto any containing element to transform it into a flex container.

Any elements inside a flex container are considered **flex items**. These will automatically align themselves in a **responsive row**.



```
<section class="parentContainer">
      <div class="flexChild">
        "Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.
      </div>
      <div class="flexChild">
        "Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.
      </div>
      <div class="flexChild">
        "Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.
      </div>
    </section>
```



```
.parentContainer {
    display: flex;
    background-color: lightblue;
    padding: 15px;
}
6 - .flexChild {
    background-color: red;
    padding: 10px;
    margin: 10px;
    height: 200px;
11 }
```

What If We Want a Column?

If we want a column instead of a row, we can add the flex-direction property. Note that row is the default value, so this is only necessary for flex columns.

The column value stacks the flex items vertically (from top to bottom):

```
.flex-container {
  display: flex;
  flex-direction: column;
}
```

The row value stacks the flex items horizontally (from left to right):

```
.flex-container {
  display: flex;
  flex-direction: row;
}
```





Activity: Your First CSS Flexbox Layout

In this activity, you'll make **two** CSS Flexbox containers using the **flex-direction** property.



Suggested Time:

CSS

15 minutes



Let's Review: Your First CSS Flexbox Layout



Why do we use flex?



What kind of layouts would use flex? One-dimensional or two?



What does it mean to create a one-dimensional layout?



Alignment with CSS Flexbox

Being able to align content in flex is one of the most attractive features of Flexbox. We'll discuss the following two CSS properties:

01

align-items

02

justify-content



The align-items property defines the default behavior of flex items as they fill the container and specifies their layout within that container along the cross axis (top-bottom).

The align-items Property

The following five values are used often:

1 flex-start aligns items at the beginning of the container (or top).

102 flex-end aligns items at the end of the container (bottom).

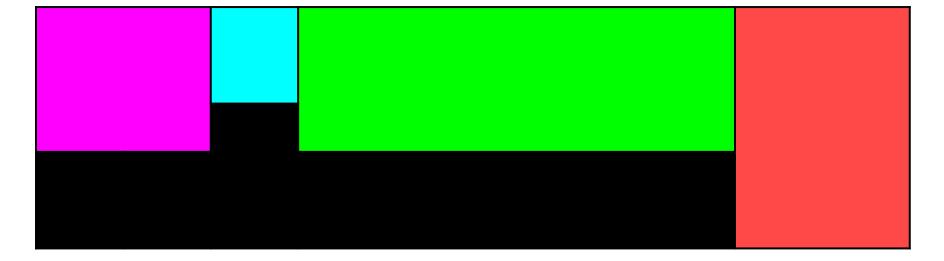
center centers content vertically in its parent container.

baseline aligns items so that their baselines align.

stretch items stretch to fill the container top—bottom or left—right.

flex-start

```
.flex-container {
    align-items: flex-start;
}
```



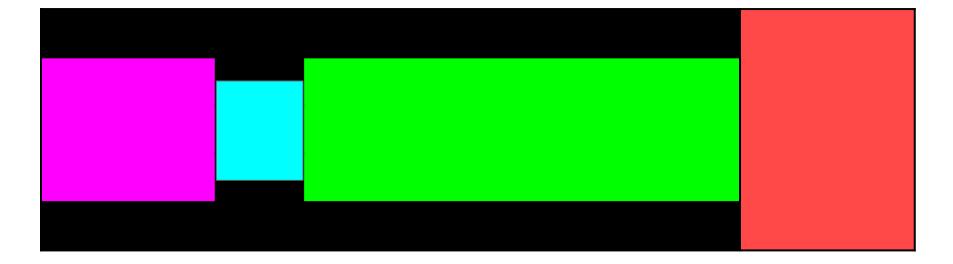
flex-end

```
.flex-container {
    align-items: flex-end;
}
```



center

```
.flex-container {
    align-items: center;
}
```



baseline

```
.flex-container {
    align-items: baseline;
}
```

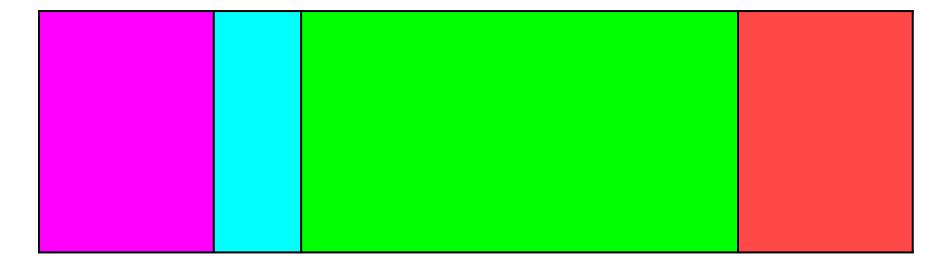


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stretch

```
₹...} css
```

```
.flex-container {
    align-items: stretch;
}
```





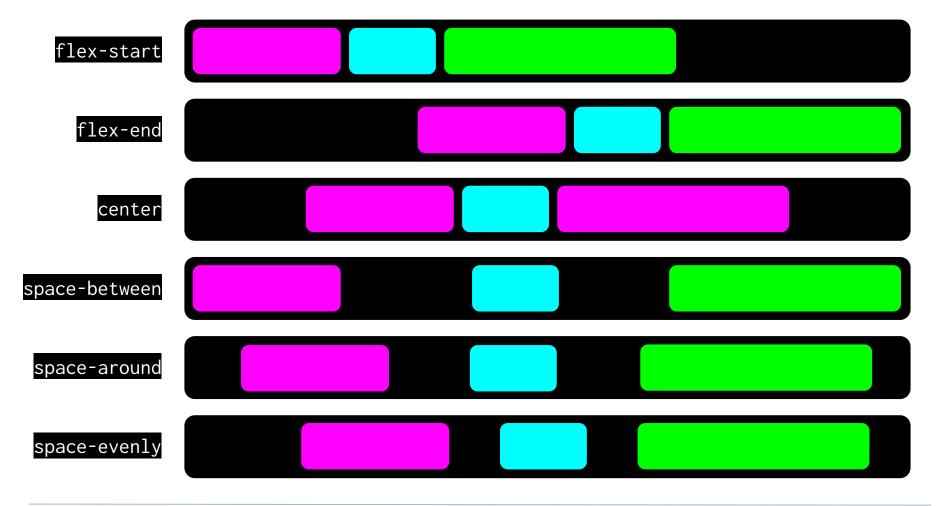
The CSS property justify-content is used to distribute content across the left and right sides of containers, very similar to margin-left: auto, or margin: 0 auto;

The justify-content Property

justify-content positions elements left-right, as opposed to top or bottom.

There are six values:

- flex-start flex items are aligned at the start line (this is default).
- flex-end flex items are aligned at the end of the flex container.
- center flex items are aligned in the center of the container similar to margin: 0 auto;
- space-between items are evenly distributed in the line; first item is on the start line, last item on the end line.
- space-around items are evenly distributed in the line with equal space around them.
- space-evenly items are distributed so that the spacing is the same between any two
 adjacent alignment subjects, before the first alignment subject and after the last
 alignment subject.





Activity: Aligning CSS Flexbox Items

In this activity, you'll learn how easy it is to align items inside their parent containers using CSS Flexbox.



CSS

Suggested Time:

15 minutes



Let's Review: Aligning CSS Flexbox Items



What does the CSS property align-items do?



What does the CSS property justify-content do?



How are they different?

Common Misconceptions and FAQs

01

align-items and justify-content are applied to the parent container and control content contained inside.

02

Using align-items and justify-content, it is possible to achieve almost any layout that requires responsive alignment.



Nesting CSS Flexbox Containers

Flex containers can be nested inside each other to create more complex layouts.

You can create a "nested" flex container simply by applying display flex to a flex item that is already contained inside a flex container.



```
3  /* COLUMN STYLES */
4  .columnOne {
    display: flex;
    flex-direction: column;
    background-color: lightblue;
    height: 800px;
    padding: 50px;
10    margin: 15px;
11 }
```

css

Nesting CSS Flexbox Containers

Nested flex containers are mainly used to control the contents nested inside them using align-items and justify-content.

You can also use nested grids to create layouts composed of rows nested in columns or columns nested in rows.

```
Nested Column Styles */
.topRow {
 height: 50%;
 background-color: blue;
 display: flex;
 align-items: center;
 justify-content: center;
```

Flexbox Froggy

Coding classes can be dull sometimes.

Let's spice it up by playing a web game to help reinforce all the concepts we lectured about earlier.

https://flexboxfroggy.com/







Let's Review: CSS Flexbox Froggy

You nest flex containers inside each other in one of two scenarios:

01

If you want to control the children of a flex container with justify-content or align-items.

02

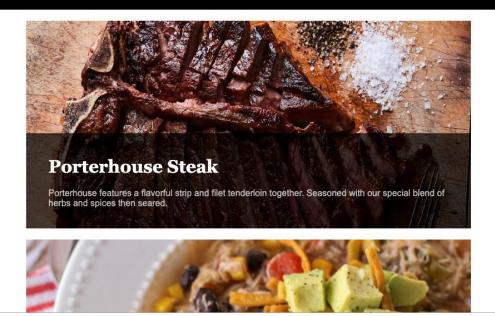
When you need a complex flex structure like a column with rows or vice versa.





JAKE'S EATERY

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Activity: Jake's Eatery

In this activity, you'll build Jake's Eatery from scratch, starting from the HTML up.

Suggested Time:

30 minutes



Let's Review: Jake's Eatery

- 01 What does it mean when we say that flex is a one-dimensional layout?
- 02 What does the CSS property align-items do?
- What does the CSS property justify-content do?
- 04 Why would you want to nest a flex container inside another?



Congratulations! Recap

Today, we learned:



CSS Flexbox nesting and alignment

We learned how to nest flex containers and align the children.





CSS Flexbox basics

We learned how to create flex containers and modify the children.





Building Jake's Eatery

We applied our flex skills by building a full design in under an hour!







