

Chapter 4

Layout and Design

Head First Web Design





Design is about audience

RPM Records
needs our
help



audience with personas



Name: Ann

Age: 28

Internet Connectivity: DSL

Avg. time online/week for leisure: 15 hours

Browser of choice: Firefox

Operating System: Windows XP

Screen Resolution: 800x600

Occupation: Student

Details: Ann considers herself very tech-savvy. She actively participates in social networks and online communities. She also regularly shops online. Her laptop (which is a little old, but all she can really afford right now) is her primary computer-and where she does all of her web browsing.

Building two personas widens the audience you can build your site for

Name: Susan

Age: 30

Internet Connectivity: Cable

Music of Choice: Rap/Hip Hop

Browser of choice: Firefox

Operating System: Mac OS X

Screen Resolution: 1024x768

Occupation: Student

Details: Susan is grad student and spends a fair amount of time online outside school. She is very tech-savvy and likes to shop and buy music online for her MP3 player. Her PC is a laptop so she can easily take notes in class and study outside her apartment.



Name: Jon

Age: 24

Internet Connectivity: DSL

Music of Choice: Pop

Browser of choice: Internet Explorer

Operating System: Windows XP

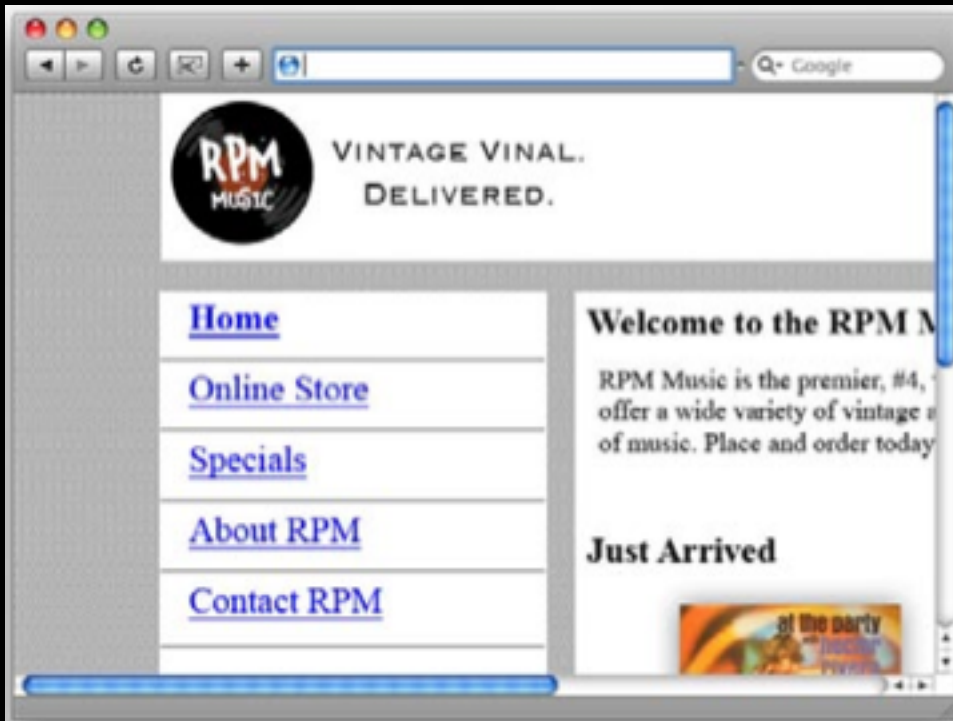
Screen Resolution: 800x600

Occupation: Architect

Details: Jon is a busy guy and only spends about an hour a day outside of work online. He uses the family computer to read news and a few architectural blogs online. Occasionally, he buys books and music from Amazon when he can't make it out to the store.



Resolution impacts design and layout



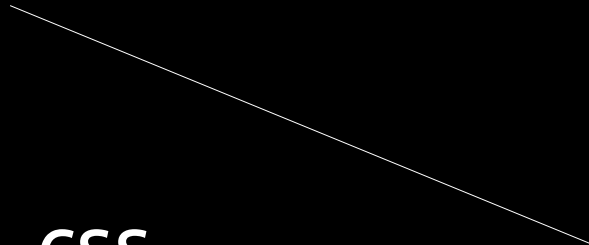
640x480



1280x800

«resolution» methods

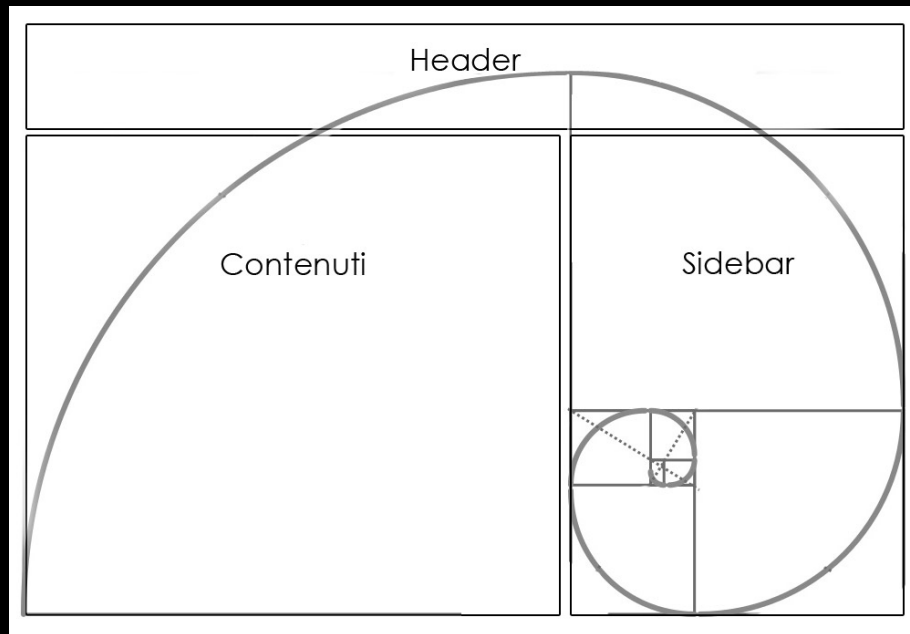
- JavaScript
- Html
- JavaScript+ css



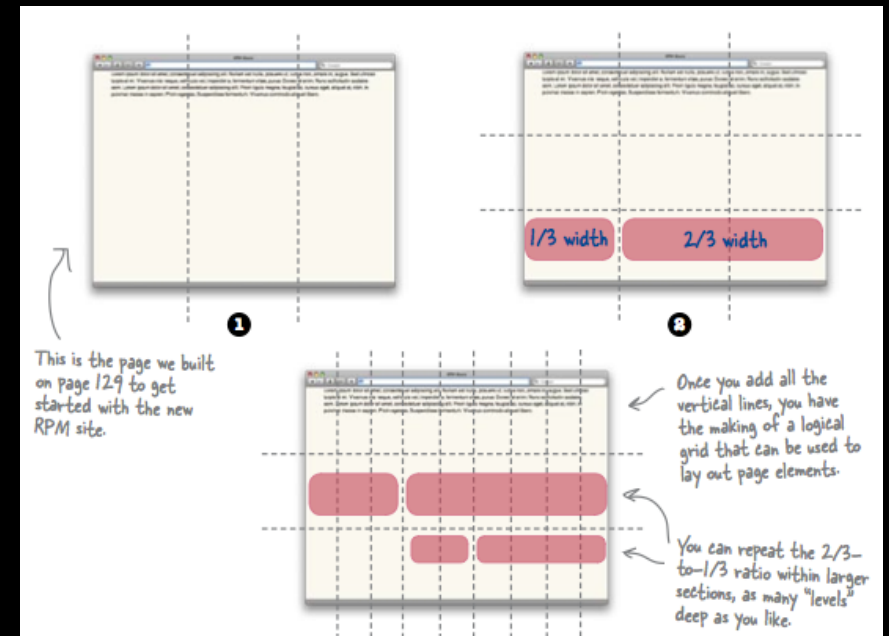
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window.screen.availHeight  
window.screen.availWidth
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Grid

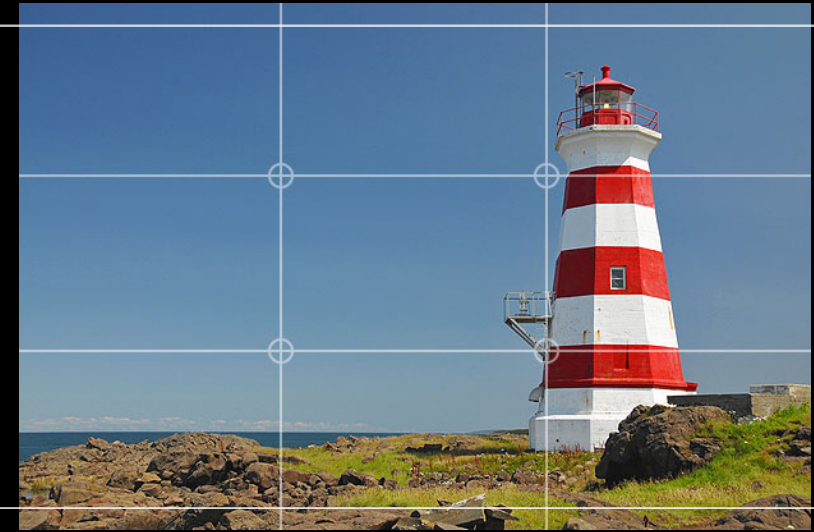
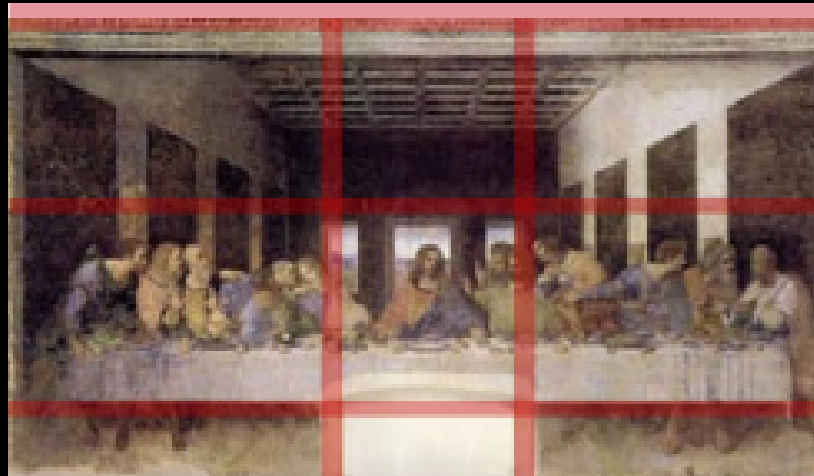
golden ratio



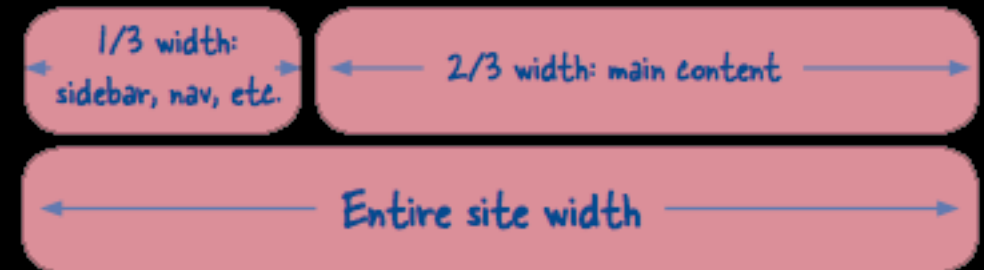
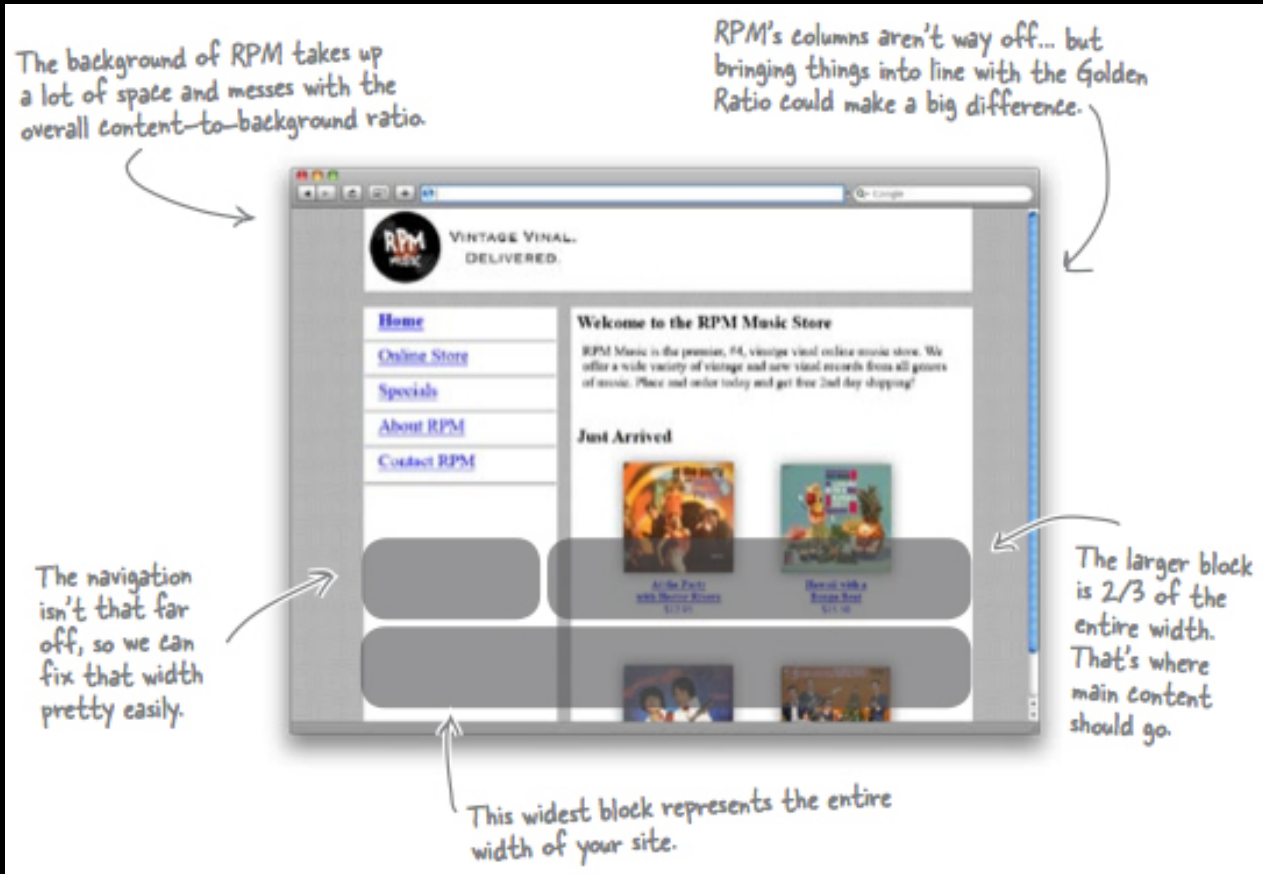
the rule of thirds



Examples

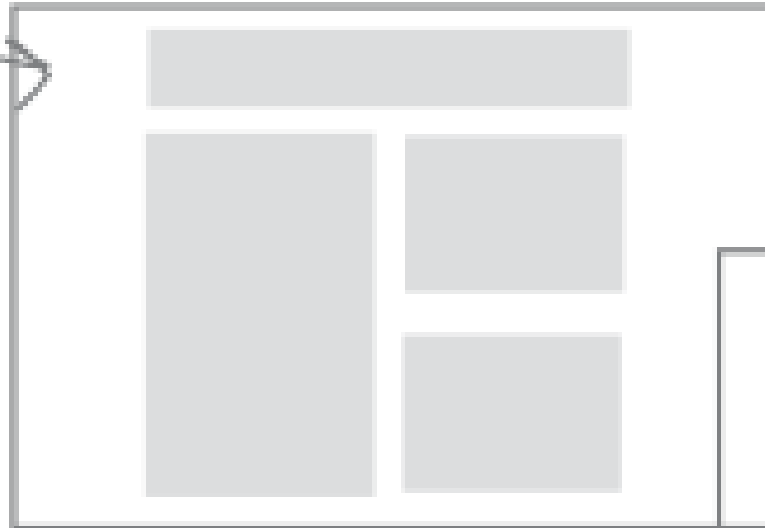


the Golden Ratio: An (anti) case study

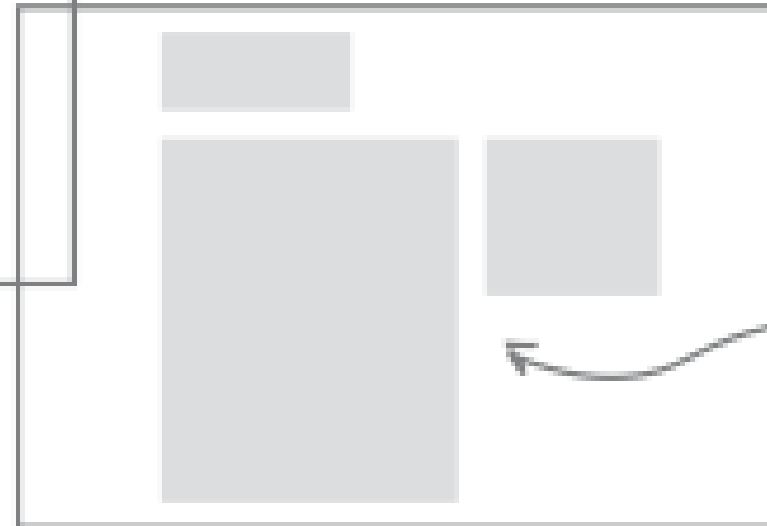


layout

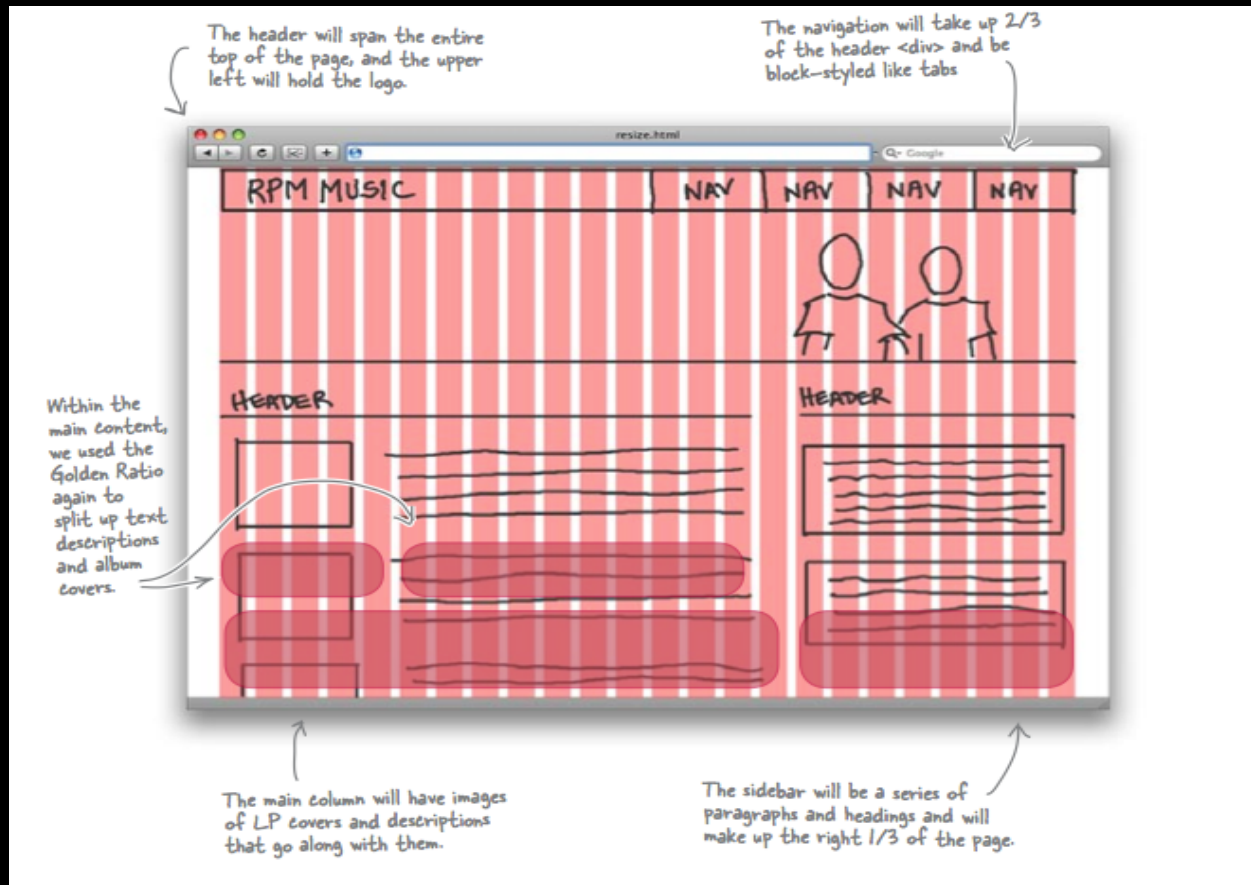
The page elements in this example feel balanced on the left and right side.



Because of the heavy weight in the left column, this example seems disproportionate.



our new layout





link