

## Margin collapsing in CSS :

The top and bottom margins of blocks are sometimes combined (collapsed) into a single margin whose size is the largest of the individual margins (or just one of them, if they are equal), a behavior known as **margin collapsing**. Note that the margins of floating and absolutely positioned elements never collapse.

**Margin collapsing occurs in three basic cases :**

- 1. Adjacent siblings**

The margins of adjacent siblings are collapsed ( except when the latter sibling needs to be cleared past floats ) .

- 2. No content separating parent and descendants**

If there is no border, padding, inline part, block formatting context created, or *clearance* to separate the margin-top of a block from the margin-top of one or more of its descendant blocks; or no border, padding, inline content, height, or min-height to separate the margin-bottom of a block from the margin-bottom of one or more of its descendant blocks, then those margins collapse. The collapsed margin ends up outside the parent.

- 3. Empty blocks**

If there is no border, padding, inline content, height, or min-height to separate a block's margin-top from its margin-bottom, then its top and bottom margins collapse.

Let's say we had elements stacked on top of each other, one with a bottom margin and one with a top margin:

```
.module {  
  display: block;  
  width: 100%;  
  height: 150px;  
}
```

```
.module__top {  
  margin-bottom: 25px;  
  background-color: #f38a6d;  
}
```

```
.module__bottom {  
  margin-top: 50px;  
  background-color: #3bbfef;  
}
```

If the modules above are placed next each other in the HTML markup, then we might expect there to be 75px (25px from the top module plus 50px from the bottom module) between them vertically.

in this edition of CSS Survival of the Fittest, we only get 50 of those pixels. It's like the bigger margin straight up ate the other one and left nothing behind.

**Something to note :**

- When negative margins are involved, the size of the collapsed margin is the sum of the largest positive margin and the smallest (most negative) negative margin.
- When all margins are negative, the size of the collapsed margin is the smallest (most negative) margin. This applies to both adjacent elements and nested elements.
- Collapsing margins is only relevant in the vertical direction.

**Reference:**

[https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/CSS\\_Box\\_Model/Mastering\\_margin\\_collapsing](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/CSS_Box_Model/Mastering_margin_collapsing)

<https://css-tricks.com/what-you-should-know-about-collapsing-margins/#top-of-site>

<https://css-tricks.com/the-rules-of-margin-collapse/>