In CSS, **padding** and **margin** are used to control spacing around elements.

**Padding**

* **Definition**: Padding is the space **inside** an element, between the content and the border.
* **Usage**: It increases the **inner** spacing but does not affect surrounding elements.
* **Syntax**:
* padding: 10px; /\* Applies 10px padding on all sides \*/
* padding: 10px 20px; /\* 10px top & bottom, 20px left & right \*/
* padding: 10px 15px 20px; /\* 10px top, 15px left & right, 20px bottom \*/
* padding: 10px 15px 20px 25px; /\* Top, Right, Bottom, Left \*/

**Margin**

* **Definition**: Margin is the space **outside** an element, between the element and neighboring elements.
* **Usage**: It increases the **outer** spacing and affects surrounding elements.
* **Syntax**:
* margin: 10px; /\* 10px margin on all sides \*/
* margin: 10px 20px; /\* 10px top & bottom, 20px left & right \*/
* margin: 10px 15px 20px; /\* 10px top, 15px left & right, 20px bottom \*/
* margin: 10px 15px 20px 25px; /\* Top, Right, Bottom, Left \*/

**Key Differences**

| **Feature** | **Padding** | **Margin** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | Inside the element (between content and border) | Outside the element (between element and others) |
| **Affects Size?** | Yes, increases total size | No, does not affect the element size |
| **Can Collapse?** | No | Yes, adjacent vertical margins can collapse |

Would you like a practical example with a code snippet? 🚀