

How can I make a link inside a div fill the entire space inside the div?

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I have a `div` that has a set width and it is wrapped around a link. I want the link inside to fill the entire space of the `div` so that when I click anywhere inside the `div` (which I have styled to look like a button) it goes to the link. This is what I have tried, but `.link_class` doesn't do what I want. Any suggestions?

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HTML:

```
<div class="button_class">
  <a class="link_class" href="http://www.my_link.com">My Link</a>
</div>
```

CSS:

```
.button_class {
  width:150px;
  padding:5px 7px;
  color:#fff;
  text-align:center;
  -webkit-border-radius:3px;
  -moz-border-radius:3px;
  border-radius:3px;
}

.link_class {
  width:100%;
  height:100%;
}
```

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asked May 15 '13 at 2:09



Nancy Collier

539 4 12 20

you can use `display:block` in your `.link_class` it will works – [The Mechanic](#) May 15 '13 at 5:35

6 Answers



This should do the trick:-

53

By default `a` is an inline element and width does not affect them. So change it to inline-block to have it take the width you specify.



```
.link_class {  
  display:inline-block;  
  width:100%;  
  height:100%;  
}
```

[Fiddle](#)

answered May 15 '13 at 2:11



PSL

114k 16 228 232

This helped, but the link only extends out to the padding on the div. – [Nancy Collier](#) May 15 '13 at 2:23

Yes what do you expect? I mean it extends out to the padding?
– [PSL](#) May 15 '13 at 2:25

1 I want it to fill the entire div, not the entire div minus the

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13 '17 at 14:09

This is good, but if I give my div a height, the link is stuck at the top. How can I vertically align it to center? padding-top is rough because the div's height could change. — [Nikhil VJ](#) Apr 8 '18 at 10:29



Here is the [Solution](#).

6

The HTML:



```
<div class="button_class">
  <a class="link_class" href="http://www.my_link.com">My
</div>
```

The CSS:

```
.button_class {
  width:150px;
  color:#fff;
  text-align:center;
  -webkit-border-radius:3px;
  -moz-border-radius:3px;
  border-radius:3px;
  background:blue;
}

.link_class {
  display:block;
  color:#ffffff;
  overflow:auto;
  padding:5px 7px;
}
```

Hope this helps.

answered May 15 '13 at 5:40

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I hope this solution has satisfied your purpose - @Nancy Collier – Nitesh May 15 '13 at 6:14

I like this, but I don't understand why it works. Is this trick that the padding in link_class fills the entire button_class div (assuming it does)? And the overflow auto makes sure that nothing overflows, ever? – codenoob Feb 9 at 12:30

@codenoob - Its display:block that is making it work. – Nitesh Feb 25 at 1:38



2



This worked. The key was to explicitly set the `div` height and then use `line-height` on the link.

```
.button_class {
  width:150px;
  height:30px;
  color:#fff;
  text-align:center;
  -webkit-border-radius:3px;
  -moz-border-radius:3px;
  border-radius:3px;
}

.link_class {
  display:inline-block;
  width:100%;
  line-height:30px;
}
```

answered May 15 '13 at 3:22



Nancy Collier

539 4 12 20

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link and show your link as a button. That will simplify your problem.



```
.link_class{width:150px;height:30px;color:#fff;text-align:center;
-webkit-border-radius:3px; -moz-border-radius:3px;
/*some other styles*/}
```

Check this demo: [Fiddle](#)

edited May 15 '13 at 5:44

answered May 15 '13 at 5:21



[Abhijeetchindhe](#)

350 2 14



You need to make the link a block level element.

0



```
.link_class {
  display: block;
}
```

answered May 15 '13 at 2:11



[Brandon Durham](#)

2,590 7 42 65

Thanks, but that didn't work. – [Nancy Collier](#) May 15 '13 at 2:21

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to do this.



The answer today is:

HTML:

```
<a class="link_class" href="http://www.my_link.com">
  <div class="button_class">My Link</div>
</a>
```

CSS stays the same, except you don't need .link_class anymore.

answered Apr 16 '18 at 20:03



ScottM

199 1 11

This changes the original HTML. – rovr138 Jun 22 '18 at 21:44



Yes it does. And it works this way. css-tricks.com/snippets/jquery/make-entire-div-clickable – ScottM
Jul 5 '18 at 20:28

1 Thank you! This may or may not have been what op was looking for, but it was just what I needed. – Carl Shiles Feb 19 at 5:54
