Applying an ellipsis to multiline text

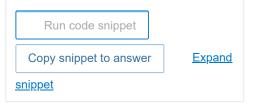
Ask Question

Is there a solution to add ellipsis on last line inside a div with a fluid height (20%)?

I found the -webkit-line-clamp function in CSS, but in my case the line number will be depending on window size.

```
p {
    width:100%;
    height:20%;
    background:red;
    position:absolute;
}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nulla sed dui felis. Vivamus vitae pharetra nisl, eget fringilla elit. Ut nec est sapien. Aliquam dignissim velit sed nunc imperdiet cursus. Proin arcu diam, tempus ac vehicula a, dictum quis nibh. Maecenas vitae quam ac mi venenatis vulputate. Suspendisse fermentum suscipit eros, ac ultricies leo sagittis quis. Nunc sollicitudin lorem eget eros eleifend facilisis. Quisque bibendum sem at bibendum suscipit. Nam id tellus mi. Mauris vestibulum, eros ac ultrices lacinia, justo est faucibus ipsum, sed sollicitudin sapien odio sed est. In massa ipsum, bibendum quis lorem et, volutpat ultricies nisi. Maecenas scelerisque sodales ipsum a hendreritLorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nulla sed dui felis. Vivamus vitae pharetra nisl, eget fringilla elit. Ut nec est sapien. Aliquam dignissim velit sed nunc imperdiet cursus. Proin arcu diam, tempus ac vehicula a, dictum quis nibh. Maecenas vitae quam ac mi venenatis vulputate. Suspendisse fermentum suscipit eros, ac ultricies leo sagittis quis. Nunc sollicitudin lorem eget eros eleifend facilisis. Quisque bibendum sem at bibendum suscipit. Nam id tellus mi. Mauris vestibulum, eros ac ultrices lacinia, justo est faucibus ipsum, sed sollicitudin sapien odio sed est. In massa ipsum, bibendum quis lorem et, volutpat ultricies nisi. Maecenas scelerisque sodales ipsum a hendrerit.



I have this JSFiddle to illustrate the issue. https://jsfiddle.net/96knodm6/

```
html css css3 ellipsis
```

edited Jul 12 '16 at 23:21

Michael_B

141k 45 225 335

asked Oct 10 '15 at 19:18

Bruno Landowsk

Bruno Landowski 660 1 7 16

Possible duplicate of <u>Limit text length to n lines using CSS</u> – user663031 Oct 24 '15 at 13:50

Did you search for other answers to this question? It's come up a bunch of times. In addition to the question suggested as a duplicate, have a look at stackoverflow.com/questions/29160687/.... – user663031 Oct 24 '15 at 13:51

Your solution doesn't works for fluid height as we don't know exactly the number of lines depending on screen sizes. The only solution I found is to add a blurry div at the bottom to middle hide the last line. — Bruno Landowski Oct 26 '15 at 9:31

20 Answers

If you want to apply ellipsis (...) to a single line of text, CSS makes that somewhat easy with the <u>text-overflow</u> property. It's still a bit tricky (due to all the requirements – see below), but text-overflow makes it possible and reliable.

If, however, you want to use ellipsis on *multiline text* – as would be the case here – then don't expect to have any fun. CSS has no standard method for doing this, and the workarounds are hit and miss.

Ellipsis for Single Line Text

With text-overflow, ellipsis can be applied to a single line of text. The following CSS requirements must be met:

- must have a width, max-width or flex-basis
- must have white-space: nowrap
- must have overflow with value other than visible
- must be display: block or inlineblock (or the functional equivalent, such as a flex item).

So this will work:

```
p {
  width: 200px;
  white-space: nowrap;
  overflow: hidden;
  display: inline-block;
  text-overflow: ellipsis;
  border: 1px solid #ddd;
  margin: 0;
This is a test of CSS <i>text-overf]
  This is a test of CSS <i>text-overf]
Run code snippet
                              Expand
  Copy snippet to answer
snippet
```

jsFiddle version

BUT, try removing the width, or letting the overflow default to visible, or removing white-space: nowrap, or using something other than a block container element, AND, ellipsis fails miserably.

One big takeaway here: text-overflow: ellipsis has no effect on multiline text. (The white-space: nowrap requirement alone eliminates that possibility.)

Show code snippet

jsFiddle version

Ellipsis for Multiline Text

Because CSS has no property for ellipsis on multiline text, various workarounds have been created. Several of these methods can be found here:

- jQuery dotdotdot...
- <u>Line Clampin' (Truncating Multiple</u> <u>Line Text)</u>
- CSS Ellipsis: How to Manage Multi-Line Ellipsis in Pure CSS

 A pure CSS solution for multiline text truncation

edited Jan 6 '17 at 19:27

answered Oct 11 '15 at 2:50

335



- 1 Another method by Natalia Onischuk. –
 Dan Dascalescu Jun 13 '16 at 2:59
- 2 7kb for a jQuery plugin when all the user wants is ... added to their text?? Seriously, seems like someone needs to learn to design plugins to be more efficient. – AndroidDev Jun 10 '17 at 11:07
- @AndroidDev You need to know where to cut the text. Measuring text and clipping regions is not simple. Try to measure only the last line of a wrapped block of text. You can't do it easily. One technique is to append a 0-width inline element onto the end of the paragraph and get that element's x position. That's still not even precise, because there is space between the last character and the 0-width element. On top of that these plugins support multiple browsers, where the techniques to measure the text and boundaries are different. This isn't as simple as just adding "..." to the text. - Gavin Jun 20 '17 at 16:44
- 1 +1 CSS Ellipsis: How to Manage Multi-Line Ellipsis in Pure CSS Best crossbrowser solution as of this writing. – gfullam Sep 29 '17 at 20:56

Lodash also has a very nice truncate method that will add ellipsis to multi-line text. – user Mar 1 at 12:10

Please check this css for ellipsis to multi-line text

```
body {
  margin: 0;
```

```
padding: 50px;
/* mixin for multiline */
.block-with-text {
 overflow: hidden;
 position: relative;
 line-height: 1.2em;
 max-height: 6em;
 text-align: justify;
 margin-right: -1em;
 padding-right: 1em;
.block-with-text:before {
 content: '...';
 position: absolute;
 right: 0;
 bottom: 0;
.block-with-text:after {
 content: '';
 position: absolute;
 right: 0;
 width: 1em;
 height: 1em;
 margin-top: 0.2em;
 background: white;
```

The Hitch H on the subject of towels. A towel, it interstellar hitch hiker can have. Par around you for warmth as you bound acr it on the brilliant marble-sanded beac vapours; you can sleep under it beneat world of Kakrafoon; use it to sail a for use in hand-to-hand-combat; wrap i avoid the gaze of the Ravenous Bugblat it assumes that if you can't see it, i ravenous); you can wave your towel in yourself off with it if it still seems immense psychological value. For some discovers that a hitch hiker has his t is also in possession of a toothbrush, compass, map, ball of string, gnat spr Furthermore, the strag will then happi other items that the hitch hiker might think is that any man who can hitch th it, struggle against terrible odds, wi clearly a man to be reckoned with.

Run code snippet

Copy snippet to answer

Hide results

Full page

The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy has a few things to say on the subject of ... answered Mar 16 '17 at 12:16



Sawan mishra 299 1 3 9

I love this solution. Just an extra tweak to:before right: 1em; background-color: white; so that the ellipsis stays inside the box. — Hamid Mar 13 at 12:48

4 Source : hackingui.com/front-end/... – akmozo Apr 1 at 15:27

... and demo : codepen.io/natonischuk/pen/QbGWBa – akmozo Apr 1 at 15:28 🖍

that will work, but you need to check if text is overflowing container with javascript. Otherwise those 3 dots will be there even if your text doesn't exceeds container – nomak22 May 6 at 14:48 /*

I finally found a solution to do what I want. As p a paragraphe and article the wrapper. If you want to apply ellipsis to p depending on article height (which also depends on window height), you need to get the height of the article, the line-height of the p and then articleHeight/lineHeight to find the number of line-clamp that can be added dynamically then.

The only thing is the line-height should be declared in the css file.

Check the following code. If you change the height of the window, the line-clamp will change. Can be great to create a plug-in aiming to do that.

<u>jsfiddle</u>

```
function lineclamp() {
  var lineheight = parseFloat($('p').c
  var articleheight = $('article').hei
  var calc = parseInt(articleheight/li
  $("p").css({"-webkit-line-clamp": "'
}

$(document).ready(function() {
    lineclamp();
});
```

```
$( window ).resize(function() {
        lineclamp();
});
article {
  height:60%;
  background:red;
  position:absolute;
p {
  margin:0;
  line-height:120%;
  display: -webkit-box;
  -webkit-box-orient: vertical;
  overflow: hidden;
  text-overflow: ellipsis;
<script src="https://ajax.googleapis.c</pre>
<article>
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, lacinia a justo sed, porttitor vulputa nisl. Duis suscipit volutpat sollicitu mollis. Pellentesque habitant morbi tr turpis egestas. Nulla sollicitudin sar eu sem aliquam tempus nec ut leo. Quis massa ut sem egestas imperdiet. Sed sc placerat lobortis ante, id ultrices ip gravida ipsum nec sapien pellentesque egestas. Nullam scelerisque purus inte accumsan ut posuere eu, vehicula conse imperdiet vel in mi. Cras leo orci, f€ libero. Phasellus a volutpat diam. Ut vitae. Suspendisse quis lorem facilisi varius nulla et enim malesuada fringil adipiscing elit. Quisque lorem ligula, non feugiat risus. Sed vitae urna nis] massa elementum massa condimentum moll et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis dapibus. Pellentesque sed nisl eu sem aliquam placerat. Fusce a massa ut sen egestas malesuada. Quisque placerat lo </article>

Run code snippet

Copy snippet to answer

Hide results

Full page

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quisque lorem ligula, lacinia a justo sed, porttitor...

answered Dec 14 '16 at 13:45



This <u>man</u> have the best solution. Only css:

```
.multiline-ellipsis {
    display: block;
    display: -webkit-box;
    max-width: 400px;
    height: 109.2px;
    margin: 0 auto;
    font-size: 26px;
    line-height: 1.4;
    -webkit-line-clamp: 3;
    -webkit-box-orient: vertical;
    overflow: hidden;
    text-overflow: ellipsis;
}
```

edited Jul 24 '17 at 11:56



Bugs

4,149 9 25 36

answered Apr 3 '17 at 13:50



Lukasz Kurzynski

? 87 1 1

- 4 It didn't work for me. cmoran92 Aug 23 '17 at 10:40
- 1 This is a non standard feature that is no longer supported. – Wojciech Maj Dec 29 '17 at 13:06
- 1 line-clamp only works in chrome <u>caniuse.com/#feat=css-line-clamp</u> – <u>sij_a Feb 23 at 11:46</u>

Unfortunately no with current state of affairs in CSS.

Ellipsis rendering has prerequisite white-space:nowrap that effectively means: ellipsis are drawn on single line text containers only.

answered Oct 11 '15 at 3:34



c-smile

20.2k 4 41 66

1 Also haven't found one solution in css

ınaı works well. II s all nacky and ugiy. peresisUser Feb 4 '16 at 13:25

Just increase the -webkit-line-clamp:

4; to increase the number of lines

```
p {
    display: block;
    display: -webkit-box;
    max-width: 200px;
    -webkit-line-clamp: 4;
    -webkit-box-orient: vertical;
    overflow: hidden;
    text-overflow: ellipsis;
}
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, novum n
conclusionemque. Ne qui atomorum perio
nulla pro ne, ponderum invidunt eu duc
ad fastidii consequat definitionem.</pr
     Run code snippet
                              Expand
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snippet
```

Edit 02/05/2018

Line clamp is a proprietary and undocumented CSS (webkit): https://caniuse.com/#feat=css-lineclamp, so it currently work on only few browsers.





Jobincs 144 1 7

Works well in Chrome, but not in Internet Explorer – Detilium Feb 2 at 19:57

I have just been playing around a little bit with this concept. Basically, if you are ok with potentially having a pixel or so cut off from your last character, here is a pure css and html solution:

The way this works is by absolutely positioning a div below the viewable region of a viewport. We want the div to offset up into the visible region as our content grows. If the content grows too much, our div will offset too high, so upper bound the height our content can grow.

```
HTML:
```

```
<div class="text-container">
  <span class="text-content">
    PUT YOUR TEXT HERE
    <div class="ellipsis">...</div> // '
  </span>
</div>
CSS:
.text-container {
    position: relative;
    display: block;
    color: #838485;
    width: 24em;
    height: calc(2em + 5px); // This is
little extra space is for characters the
    overflow: hidden;
    white-space: normal;
}
.text-content {
  word-break: break-all;
  position: relative;
  display: block;
  max-height: 3em;
                         // This preven
much. It should be 1 line height greater
.ellipsis {
  position: absolute;
  right: 0;
  top: calc(4em + 2px - 100%); // Offse
extends below the viewport, as content
max-height of the content
  text-align: left;
  background: white;
```

I have tested this in Chrome, FF, Safari, and IE 11.

You can check it out here: http://codepen.io/puopg/pen/vKWJwK

You might even be able to alleviate the abrupt cut off of the character with some CSS magic.

EDIT: I guess one thing that this imposes is word-break: break-all since otherwise the content would not extend to the very end of the viewport. :(

edited Jul 12 '16 at 18:50

answered Jul 12 '16 at 18:21



puopg **185** 2 13

You don't need to include word-break: break-all if you don't mind the floating ellipsis. At this time you have to make a choice between the lesser of those two offenses. Someday when this is supported by default with some standard CSS rule, we'll all look back and have a good laugh. – gfullam Sep 29 '17 at 21:13

user this formula:

```
overflow: hidden;
display: -webkit-box;
-webkit-box-orient: vertical;
-webkit-line-clamp: 2; //put number of
```

answered Nov 8 at 15:28



Anton Rifco Susilo

/* styles for '...' */ .block-with-text { width: 50px; height: 50px; /* hide text if it more than overflow: hidden; /* for set '...' in absolute position: relative; /* use this value to count line-height: 1.2em; /* max-height = line-height max-height: 3.6em; /* fix problem when last vi. text-align: justify; /* place for '...' */
margin-right: -1em; padding-right: 1em; } /* create the ... */ .block-with-text:before { /* points in the end */ content: '...';

/* absolute position */
position: absolute;

```
/* set position to righ
                right: 0;
                bottom: 0;
            /* hide ... if we have text
            .block-with-text:after {
                /* points in the end */
                content: '';
                /* absolute position */
                position: absolute;
                /* set position to righ
                right: 0;
                /* set width and height
                width: 1em;
                height: 1em;
                margin-top: 0.2em;
                /* bg color = bg color
                background: white;
    </style>
</head>
<body>
    <div class="block-with-text">g fdsf
asdflk jgnsdlfkgj nsldkfgjnsldkfjgn sld
dkfjnglsdfkjng lsdkfjgn sdfgsd</div>
    This is a paragraph.
</body>
</html>
```

answered Dec 5 '17 at 21:25



Anup Nair

I came up with my own solution for this:

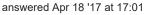
```
/*this JS code puts the ellipsis (...)
 st to use the multiline ellipsis on an \ensuremath{\,\cdot\,}
 * line-height:xxx
 * height:xxx (must line-height * number
 * overflow:hidden
 * and have the class js_ellipsis
//do all ellipsis when jQuery loads
jQuery(document).ready(function($) {put
//redo ellipsis when window resizes
var re_ellipsis_timeout;
jQuery( window ).resize(function() {
    //timeout mechanism prevents from co
    clearTimeout(re_ellipsis_timeout);
    re_ellipsis_timeout = setTimeout(fu
finishes"); put_ellipsisses(); }, 500);
//the main function
function put_ellipsisses(){
    jQuery(".js_ellipsis").each(functio
        //remember initial text to be a
        var object_data=jQuery(this).da
```

edited Apr 18 '17 at 17:22



Andrei Gheorghiu 31.7k 7 42 73

31.7K 7 42 73





Pierre-Verthume Larivière

41 2

After many tries, I finally ended up with a mixed js / css to handle multiline and single line overflows.

CSS3 code:

```
.forcewrap { // single line ellipsis
 -ms-text-overflow: ellipsis;
 -o-text-overflow: ellipsis;
 text-overflow: ellipsis;
 overflow: hidden;
 -moz-binding: url( 'bindings.xml#elli
 white-space: nowrap;
 display: block;
 max-width: 95%; // spare space for el
.forcewrap.multiline {
 line-height: 1.2em; // my line spaci
 max-height: 3.6em; // 3 lines
 white-space: normal;
.manual-ellipsis:after {
 content: "\02026";
                         // '...'
 position: absolute;
                         // parent con
 right: 10px;
                         // typical pa
 bottom: 10px;
                        // same reason
 padding-left: 5px;
                        // spare some
 background-color: #fff; // hide text |
```

and I simply check with js code for overflows on divs, like this:

```
function handleMultilineOverflow(div) {
     // get actual element that is overf
     var element = $(div).find('a');
     // don't know why but must get scro
    if ($(element).innerHeight() < $(element)</pre>
         $(element).addClass('manual-ell
     }
}
Usage example in html:
<div class="towrap">
   <h4>
     <a class="forcewrap multiline" href</pre>
  </h4>
</div>
           answered Mar 24 '16 at 9:40
```



Fabian 1 5

May be this can help you guys. Multi Line Ellipses with tooltip hover. https://codepen.io/Anugraha123/pen/W

OBdOb

```
<div>
    Lorem ipsu
Nunc aliquet lorem commodo, semper maur
amet leo malesuada imperdiet eu a augue
sem. Vivamus a felis id dui aliquam tem
     <span class="tooltip"></span>
</div>
```

edited Jul 18 '17 at 10:07



1,659 7 18

answered Jul 18 '17 at 9:21



Anugraha Acharya **49** 5

Well you could use the line-clamp function in CSS3.

```
p {
    overflow: hidden;
    text-overflow: ellipsis;
    display: -webkit-box;
    line-height: 25px;
    height: 52px;
    max-height: 52px;
    font-size: 22px;
    -webkit-line-clamp: 2;
```

```
-webkit-box-orient: vertical;
}
```

Make sure you change the settings like you're own.

answered Nov 16 '16 at 15:26



My solution that works for me for multiline ellipsis:

```
.crd-para {
    color: $txt-clr-main;
    line-height: 2rem;
    font-weight: 600;
    margin-bottom: 1rem !important;
    overflow: hidden;
    span::after {
        content: "...";
        padding-left: 0.125rem;
}
```

edited Oct 8 at 2:37



Pang 6,820 15 63 101

answered Oct 8 at 2:18



LoveAnimesh143 **4 11** 2

Pros:

- + Cross browser (IE11, Edge, Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc.)
- + Most natural looking

Cons:

- Adds lots of extra elements to the DOM

I wasn't satisfied with any of the workarounds I had seen. Most of them use line-clamp which is currently only supported in webkit. So I played around with it until I came up with a solution. This pure javascript solution should be compatible with IE10 and greater and all modern browsers. This

is untested outside of the stackoverflow example space below.

I think this is a good solution. The one big caveat is that it creates a span for each word inside the container, which will impact layout performance, so your mileage may vary.

```
//This is designed to be run on page l
a function and addEventListener and cα
var $container = document.querySelecto
//optional - show the full text on how
$container.title = $container.textCont
$container.textContent.trim().split('
  //create a span for each word and ap
 var newWordSpan = document.createEle
 newWordSpan.textContent = word;
 $container.appendChild(newWordSpan);
  if (newWordSpan.getBoundingClientRed
$container.getBoundingClientRect().bot
    //it gets into this block for the
bottom of the container
   //get the last visible element
    var containerChildNodes = $contair
    var lastVisibleElement = container
    //replace this final span with the
    newWordSpan.textContent = '\u2026'
   //if the last visible word ended \
wrapped to the next line, so we need t
   while (lastVisibleElement.textCont
newWordSpan.getBoundingClientRect().bc
     lastVisibleElement.style.marginF
     lastVisibleElement.textContent =
    //using .some() so that we can sho
added
    return true;
});
.multi-line-container {
 border: 1px solid lightgrey;
 padding: 4px;
 height: 150px;
  width: 300px;
.ellipses-container {
  display: inline-flex;
 flex-wrap: wrap;
  justify-content: flex-start;
  align-content: flex-start; /* optior
don't like the extra space at the bott
  overflow: hidden;
  position: relative;
.ellipses-container > span {
 flex: 0 0 auto;
  margin-right: .25em;
```

```
.text-body {
  display: none;
<div class="multi-line-container ellir</pre>
  <div class="text-body ellipses-text"</pre>
elit. Pellentesque luctus ut massa eg€
iaculis nec vitae turpis. Sed pharetra
Praesent venenatis pulvinar lectus, at
elementum faucibus bibendum vitae, ege
condimentum imperdiet sit amet mattis
imperdiet. Mauris tempus rutrum metus,
potenti. Praesent et mi enim. Orci var
montes, nascetur ridiculus mus.
  </div>
</div>
     Run code snippet
                               Expand
  Copy snippet to answer
snippet
```

edited Oct 12 at 22:17

answered Oct 12 at 21:52

Matt L

169 1 7

To bad CSS doesn't support crossbrowser multiline clamping, only webkit seems to be pushing it.

You could try and use a simple Javascript ellipsis library like Ellipsity on github the source code is very clean and small so if you do need to make any additional changes it should be quite easy.

https://github.com/Xela101/Ellipsity

answered Jun 7 '17 at 23:47



```
p{
line-height: 20px;
width: 157px;
white-space: nowrap;
overflow: hidden;
```

```
text-overflow: ellipsis;
}
```

or we can restrict the lines by using and height and overflow.

answered May 23 at 6:22



After looking all over the internet and trying a lot of these options, the only way to make sure that it is covered correctly with support for i.e is through javascript, i created a loop function to go over post items that require multi line truncation.

*note i used Jquery, and requires your post__items class to have a fixed max-height.

```
// Loop over post items
$('.post__items').each(function(){
   var textArray = $(this).text().splice
   while($(this).prop('scrollHeight')
        textArray.pop();
        $(this).text(textArray.join(' '
    }
});
```

answered Mar 2 at 5:08



If you also have multiple elements and you want a link with read more button after ellipsis, take a look on https://stackoverflow.com/a/51418807/10104342

If you want something like this:

Every month first 10 TB are are not charged. All other traffic... Read more

answered Jul 19 at 9:21



Try this Simple way. I have also jsfiddle link here.

Here is -webkit-line-clamp has an important role. The value of this property decides how much lines are visible.

CSS PART

```
h3{
      text-align: center;
      overflow: hidden;
      text-overflow: ellipsis;
      margin: 0px 30px;
      display: -webkit-box;
      -webkit-line-clamp: 3;
      -webkit-box-orient: vertical;
```

HTML PART

<h3>Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of Ipsum has been the industry's standard printer took a galley of type and scram survived not only five centuries, but a remaining essentially unchanged. It was Letraset sheets containing Lorem Ipsum publishing software like Aldus PageMake

answered Jan 5 at 9:41

