
Introduction to HTML and CSS

A Hands-on Course

Peter J. Jones
✉ pjones@devalot.com
🐦 @devalot
<http://devalot.com>
APRIL 3, 2018



DEVALOT

Copyright © 2018 Peter J. Jones
Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International
Public License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>
To license this work for use in a commercial setting contact Peter J. Jones.

Contents

Introduction to This Course	5
Source Code	5
Overview	5
Course Requirements	7
Web Browser	7
Text Editors or IDEs	7
Web Sites	7
1 Overview of HTML	9
1.1 Introduction to Markup Languages	9
1.2 Introduction to HTML	9
1.3 Most Commonly Used Tags	12
1.4 Semantic Tags to Structure Documents	15
1.5 Developer Tools	16
2 Selectors	17
2.1 Which Selectors Do You Already Know?	17
2.2 ID and Class Selectors	18
2.3 Siblings, Children, and Descendants	18
2.4 Pseudo Classes and Elements	20
2.5 Child Pseudo Selectors	22
2.6 Pseudo Classes that Take Values	23
2.7 The not Pseudo Class	25
2.8 Attribute Selectors	25
2.9 Form Styling with CSS	27
3 Inheritance, Cascading, and Specificity	29
3.1 Inheritance	29
3.2 The Cascade	30
3.3 Specificity	31
4 Fonts and Images	33
4.1 Advanced Font Tricks	33

CONTENTS

4.2 Using Images in CSS	34
5 CSS Layout	37
5.1 Block Layout	37
5.2 Floating Layouts	38
5.3 Flexible Boxes	39
5.4 Responsive Design	44
HTML and CSS Resources	47
Official Documentation	47
Books	47
Cheat Sheets	47
Training Videos from Pluralsight	47
References	49

Introduction to This Course

Source Code

The source code for this course can be found at the following URL:

<https://github.com/devalot/webdev>

Overview

This HTML and CSS course is delivered during a single day.

What's In Store

Before Lunch	After Lunch
HTML Syntax and Structure	Classes and Pseudo Classes
Semantic Tags and HTML5	Commonly Used Selectors
Most Commonly Used Tags	Background Images and Fonts
CSS Syntax and Structure	Flexible Box Layout
Basic Selectors and Properties	Responsive Design

CONTENTS

Course Requirements

Web Browser

Please ensure that the following software applications are installed on the computer you'll be using for this course:

- Google Chrome

Text Editors or IDEs

You will also need a text editor or IDE installed. If you don't have a preferred text editor you may be interested in one of the following:

- Visual Studio Code
- Atom
- Sublime Text

Web Sites

Finally, ensure that your network/firewall allows you to access the following web sites:

- Devalot.com
Handouts, slides, and course source code.
- GitHub.com
Class-specific updates to the course source code.
- JSFiddle
Fast prototyping and experimenting.

CONTENTS

- Mozilla Developer Network
Excellent documentation for HTML, CSS, and JavaScript

Chapter 1

Overview of HTML

1.1 Introduction to Markup Languages

1.1.1 Word Processors and WYSIWYG

- Many content creation tools are What You See is What You Get (WYSIWYG)
- Want some *emphasized* text? Select the text and click a button
- The tool will store your text with styling information

1.1.2 Markup Languages

- A markup language requires you to explicitly provide information along with the content:

```
<p>  
  This is a paragraph with <em>emphasized</em> text.  
</p>
```

1.2 Introduction to HTML

1.2.1 What is HTML?

- Hyper Text Markup Language
- Uses “<”, “>”, and “&” as *control* characters

1.2. INTRODUCTION TO HTML

- To use those characters in your text they need to be encoded:

```
<p>  
  2 &gt; 1  
</p>
```

- Failure to encode these characters will result in errors (best case) or very **serious security issues** (XSS)

1.2.2 Features of HTML

- HTML is very error tolerant (browsers are very forgiving)
- That said, you should strive to write good HTML
- All about content and structure
- Parsed as a tree of nodes (A.K.A. elements or tags)

1.2.3 HTML is Semantic

Example semantic tags:

- `<p>`: Paragraph
- `<table>`: Table
- ``: Unordered list

These tags tell you something about their content. This is *very* important for accessibility.

1.2.4 Tags That Are Not Semantic

Compare the semantic tags to these:

- `<div>`: Generic block division
- ``: Generic inline content

These tags tell us nothing about their content.

1.2.5 Current Version: HTML5

- Introduced a lot of new semantic tags
- Focus on content and not style
- Simplified the developer experience

1.2.6 Anatomy of an HTML Element

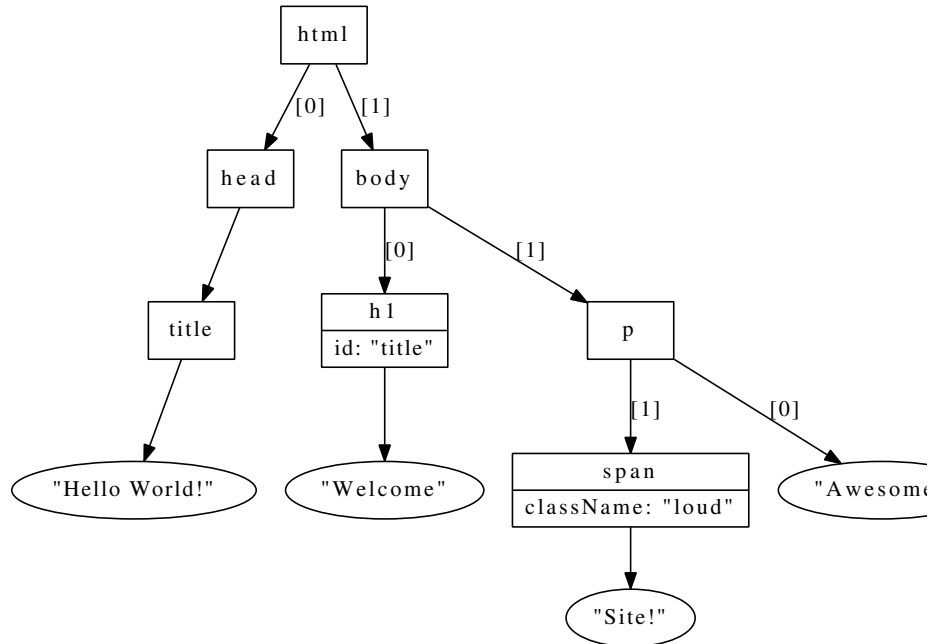
Also known as: nodes, elements, and tags:

```
<element key="value" key2="value2">  
  Content or children of element.  
</element>
```

1.2.7 Example HTML Document

```
<html>  
  <head>  
    <title>Hello World!</title>  
  </head>  
  
  <body>  
    <h1 id="title">Welcome</h1>  
  
    <p>  
      Awesome <span class="loud">Site!</span>  
    </p>  
  </body>  
</html>
```

1.2.8 HTML Parsed into a Tree Structure



1.2.9 Exercise: Writing Some HTML

1. Open the following file:
`src/www/html/body.html`
2. Let's write some HTML!

1.3 Most Commonly Used Tags

1.3.1 Ordered Lists

List items are displayed as sequentially numbered items.

```
<ol>
  <li>Write an HTML document
  <li>Upload it to a web server
  <li>Ask friends to visit site
</ol>
```

See: `src/examples/html/ordered-list.html`

1.3.2 Unordered Lists

List items are displayed as bullet points.

```
<ul>
  <li>Lemon Juice
  <li>Hydrogen Peroxide
  <li>Latex Gloves
</ul>
```

See: `src/examples/html/unordered-list.html`

1.3.3 Tables

```
<table>
  <caption>History of HTML
  <thead>
    <tr>
      <th>Version
      <th>Year
    </tr>
  <tbody>
    <tr>
      <td>1.0
      <td>1991
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td>2.0
      <td>1995
    </tr>
  </tbody>
</table>
```

See: `src/examples/html/table.html`

1.3.4 Forms

```
<form action="https://www.google.com" method="get">
  <label>
    Search: <input type="search"
                  name="q"
                  placeholder="Type Here"
                  required>
  </label>

  <input type="submit" value="Search">
</form>
```

See: `src/examples/html/form.html`

1.3.5 Form Input Types

- button
- checkbox
- color
- date
- datetime-local
- email
- file
- hidden
- image
- month
- number
- password
- radio
- range
- reset
- submit
- tel
- text
- time
- url
- week

See the HTML spec for details on the input types.

1.3.6 Exercise: Writing Forms

1. Open the following file:

```
src/www/html/form.html
```

2. Let's write some HTML!

1.3.7 Audio

There is no standard audio format. You should provide various formats based on the browsers you support. See the MDN compatibility chart for more details.

```
<audio controls>
  Your browser doesn't support audio tags.
  <source src="audio.ogg" type="audio/ogg; codecs=vorbis">
  <source src="audio.mp3" type="audio/mpeg">
</audio>
```

See: <src/examples/html/audio.html>

1.3.8 Video

There is no standard video format. You should provide various formats based on the browsers you support. See the MDN compatibility chart for more details.

```
<video poster="../../www/css/images/haskell.png"
        width="640"
        height="450"
        controls>
  Your browser doesn't support the video tag.
  <source src="video.webm" type="video/webm">
  <source src="video.mp4" type="video/mp4">
  <source src="video.ogv" type="video/ogg">
</video>
```

See: `src/examples/html/video.html`

1.4 Semantic Tags to Structure Documents

HTML5 introduced many new semantic tags to help structure our documents. In this section we'll explore some of the most useful tags.

1.4.1 Sections

Separating the content in your HTML:

- `<article>`: Content that can stand alone
- `<main>`: Indicates the main content
- `<aside>`: Tangential content
- `<section>`: Generic section (useful in an `article`)

1.4.2 Headings

In addition to the existing `<h1>` through `<h6>` tags, HTML5 adds:

- `<header>`: Introduce a section header
- `<hgroup>`: Group headings or introduce subheadings/subtitles
- `<footer>`: Information about the containing section.
- `<address>`: Contact information for the containing article.

1.4.3 Navigation

```
<section>
  <header>
```

```
<hgroup>
  <h1>Geology</h1>
  <h2>A topic that rocks</h2>
</hgroup>
<nav>
  <ul>
    <li><a>Rocks, they're old</a>
    <li><a>Like your mom</a>
  </ul>
</nav>
</header>
<p>I love rocks.
</section>
```

See: `src/examples/html/nav.html`

1.5 Developer Tools

1.5.1 Viewing the Source Code of a Page

- Browsers allow you to see the source of a page using the *View Source* menu item
- This is the content the browser pulled from the server
- Does not reflect any changes made by JavaScript

1.5.2 Inspecting Elements

- Most modern browsers allow you to see a live view of the HTML using the *Inspect Element* menu item
- This provides a wealth of information, and even allows you to edit the HTML (internal to the browser only)

Chapter 2

Selectors

2.1 Which Selectors Do You Already Know?

2.1.1 Selector Quiz

What do these selectors match, and what's the difference between them?

```
p span { /* ... */ }
```

```
p, span { /* ... */ }
```

2.1.2 Selector Quiz

What does this selector match?

```
li.active.tracked span { /* ... */ }
```

2.1.3 Selector Quiz

What does this selector match?

```
ul li:first-child { /* ... */ }
```

2.1.4 Selector Quiz

What does this selector match?

```
li:nth-child(3n+1):not(:only-child) { /* ... */ }
```

2.2 ID and Class Selectors

2.2.1 The ID Selector

- HTML:

```
<section id="advertisement">
  <p>Buy now!</p>
</div>
```

- CSS:

```
#advertisement {
  font-weight: bold;
}
```

2.2.2 The Class Selector

- HTML:

```
<div class="info admin report">
  <p>Admin Report (blue).</p>
</div>

<div class="info report">
  <p>Normal Report (green).</p>
</div>
```

- CSS:

```
div.info.report {
  color: green;
}

div.info.admin.report {
  color: blue;
}
```

2.3 Siblings, Children, and Descendants

2.3.1 Descendant Selector

- HTML:

```
<article>
  <ul><li>...</li></ul>
```

```
<section>
  <ul><li>...</li></ul>
</section>
</article>
```

- CSS:

```
article ul { /* ... */ }
```

- Match all `` decedents of `<article>`

2.3.2 Child Selector

- HTML:

```
<article>
  <ul><li>...</li></ul>
  <section>
    <ul><li>...</li></ul>
  </section>
</article>
```

- CSS:

```
article > ul { /* ... */ }
```

- Match `` decedents of `<article>` that are direct children

2.3.3 Sibling Selector

- HTML:

```
<h2>Hello There!</h2>
<p>Paragraph 1.</p>
<p>Paragraph 2.</p>
```

- CSS:

```
h2 + p { /* ... */ }
```

- Match the `<p>` elements that immediately follow a `<h2>` (next sibling)

2.3.4 General Sibling Selector

- HTML:

```
<p>Hello!</p>
<ul><li>...</li></ul>
<ol><li>...</li></ol>
```

- CSS:

```
p ~ ol { /* ... */ }
```

- Match all `` siblings that come after a `<p>`

2.3.5 Exercise: Siblings, Children, and Descendants

1. Open (and edit) the following file in your text editor:

```
src/www/css/selectors/part-01.css
```

2. Review (but don't edit) the following file:

```
src/www/css/selectors/index.html
```

3. Follow the directions in the CSS file
4. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

2.4 Pseudo Classes and Elements

2.4.1 Pseudo What?

- Advanced selectors that use the element's state or relative location
- Can also select non-elements (e.g., paragraph text)
- Begin with a colon (:) instead of a dot (.)
- (Pseudo elements now start with two colons (::))

2.4.2 Pseudo Class Example

```
input:focus {
  border: 3px solid blue;
}
```

- Pseudo classes act like the browser is adding and removing classes on elements when the state of the browser changes
- When an input has the keyboard focus it will match the `:focus` pseudo class

2.4.3 Pseudo Element Example

```
/* First (visible) line: */
p::first-line {
  color: red;
}

/* First character: */
p::first-letter {
  font-size: 4em;
  font-weight: bold;
}
```

- Allows you to select things that are not actually elements
- This includes the text in a paragraph, and the space before and after other elements.

2.4.4 Partial List of Pseudo Classes and Elements

Classes	Elements
:link	::first-line
:visited	::first-letter
:active	::after
:checked	::before
:focus	::selection
:hover	
:enabled	
:disabled	
:root	

2.4.5 Exercise: Pseudo Classes and Elements

1. Open (and edit) the following file in your text editor:

```
src/www/css/selectors/part-02.css
```

2. Review (but don't edit) the following file:

```
src/www/css/selectors/index.html
```

3. Follow the directions in the CSS file
4. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

2.5 Child Pseudo Selectors

2.5.1 Selecting the First or Last Child

- HTML:

```
<ul>
  <li>First</li>
  <li>Second</li>
  <li>Third</li>
  <li>Forth</li>
</ul>
```

- CSS:

```
li:first-child, li:last-child {
  background-color: #eee;
}

li:only-child {
  color: #f00;
}
```

2.5.2 Selecting First or Last Based on Type

- HTML:

```
<section class="products">
  <header><h2>Products</h2></header>
  <p>First</p>
  <p>Second</p>
  <p>Third</p>
</section>
```

- CSS:

```
.products p:first-of-type {
  border-top: 1px solid #ddd;
}

.products p:last-of-type {
  border-bottom: 1px solid #ddd;
}
```

2.5.3 Exercise: Child Pseudo Selectors

1. Open (and edit) the following file in your text editor:

```
src/www/css/selectors/part-03.css
```

2. Review (but don't edit) the following file:

```
src/www/css/selectors/index.html
```

3. Follow the directions in the CSS file
4. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

2.6 Pseudo Classes that Take Values

Some pseudo classes can act like functions that take values. The selector changes its behavior based on the value given.

```
:name(value) { /* ... */ }
```

Example selectors that take values:

- `nth-child`
- `nth-last-child`
- `nth-of-type`
- `nth-last-of-type`
- `not`

2.6.1 Selecting Any Grouping of Children

```
:nth-child(value) { /* ... */ }
```

Example uses of `nth-child`:

- Select even or odd children
- Select every third child
- Select the first 5 children
- Select the last 8 children

2.6.2 Even or Odd Children

```
li:nth-child(even) { /* ... */ }  
li:nth-child(odd) { /* ... */ }
```

(The first child is odd.)

2.6.3 The Nth Child

Select the third (and only the third) child:

```
li:nth-child(3) { /* ... */ }
```

2.6.4 Every Nth Child

Select the third child and every third child after that:

```
li:nth-child(3n) { /* ... */ }
```

2.6.5 Every Nth Child Starting at X

Select every third child, starting at the first child:

```
li:nth-child(3n+1) { /* ... */ }
```

2.6.6 Selecting All Previous or Following Children

Select all children after (and including) the second child:

```
li:nth-child(n+2) { /* ... */ }
```

Select all child before (and including) the second child:

```
li:nth-child(-n+2) { /* ... */ }
```

2.6.7 Nth Child Variations

:nth-last-child: Starts from the bottom of the child list.

:nth-of-type: Filters the child list by a type selector.

:nth-last-of-type: :nth-of-type + :nth-last-child

2.7 The not Pseudo Class

2.7.1 Negating a Selector

```
ul:not(.products) {  
    background-color: #eee;  
}
```

2.7.2 Simple Selectors

The `:not` pseudo-class can only be used with *simple selectors*:

- Type selector
- Universal selector
- Attribute selector
- Class and pseudo-class selectors
- ID selector

Type selector example:

```
.products:not(ul) {  
    background-color: #f00;  
}
```

2.7.3 Exercise: Pseudo Classes that Take Values

1. Open (and edit) the following file in your text editor:
`src/www/css/selectors/part-04.css`
2. Review (but don't edit) the following file:
`src/www/css/selectors/index.html`
3. Follow the directions in the CSS file
4. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

2.8 Attribute Selectors

2.8.1 Selecting Based on Arbitrary Attributes

Writing a selector for the `id` or `class` attributes is easy. What about the other attributes?

2.8. ATTRIBUTE SELECTORS

```
/* Attribute exists */
input[placeholder] {
  color: #eee;
}

/* Attribute has exact value */
input[type="number"] {
  border: none;
}

/* Attribute contains substring */
a[href*="salesforce.com"] {
  font-weight: bold;
}
```

2.8.2 Available Operators

Operator	Description	Example
=	Exact match	[type="text"]
~=	Contains word	[class~="foo"]
=	Prefix before dash	[lang ="en"]
^=	Begins with	[href^="http://"]
\$=	Ends with	[href\$=".pdf"]
=	Contains substring	[href="salesforce.com"]

For more information and more complete examples, see (Tantek Çelik and Williams 2011).

2.8.3 Exercise: Attribute Selectors

1. Open (and edit) the following file in your text editor:

```
src/www/css/selectors/part-05.css
```

2. Review (but don't edit) the following file:

```
src/www/css/selectors/index.html
```

3. Follow the directions in the CSS file
4. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

2.9 Form Styling with CSS

2.9.1 Form Validation in the Browser

Validation attributes:

- **max**: Maximum number or date
- **maxlength**: Maximum number of characters
- **min**: Minimum number or date
- **minlength**: Minimum number of characters
- **pattern**: Regular expression **value** must match
- **required**: Input must have a value
- **title**: Describe the **pattern** conditions

CSS Pseudo Classes:

- **:valid**: Element's value is valid
- **:invalid**: Element's value is invalid
- **:optional**: No value is required
- **:required**: A value is required

2.9.2 Exercise: Form Styling

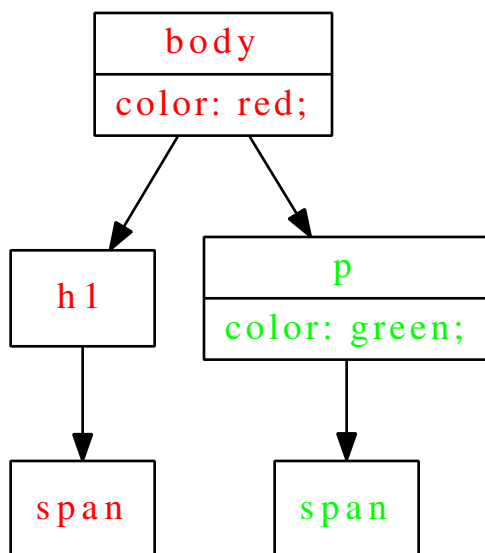
1. Open (and edit) the following files in your text editor:
 - `src/www/css/form/form.css`
 - `src/www/css/form/index.html`
2. Follow the directions in the CSS file
3. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

Chapter 3

Inheritance, Cascading, and Specificity

3.1 Inheritance

3.1.1 Inheriting Styles from Ancestors



3.2. THE CASCADE

3.1.2 Inheritable Properties

An (incomplete) list of inheritable properties

- line-height
- color
- text-align
- letter-spacing
- font-family
- font-style
- font-variant
- font-weight
- font-size

3.1.3 Forcing Inheritance

You can inherit any value from a parent as long as it's set on the parent and you use the `inherit` value keyword:

```
/* Set the value on the parent: */
p      { border: 1px solid blue; }

/* Inherit from the parent: */
p > span { border: inherit; }

/* Or change the property's behavior */
*      { border: inherit; }
```

3.2 The Cascade

3.2.1 Conflicting Properties

What happens when properties conflict?

- HTML:

```
<div id="main" class="fancy">
  What color will this text be?
</div>
```

- CSS:

```
#main {color: red;}

#main.fancy {color: blue;}

div.fancy {color: green;}
```

3.3 Specificity

3.3.1 Specificity Chart

Selector	Points	Examples
Universal selector	0	<code>*</code>
Type selectors	1	<code>p</code> , <code>a</code> , <code>h1</code> , etc.
Pseudo elements	1	<code>::before</code> , <code>::after</code> , etc.
Classes	10	<code>.sidebar</code>
Pseudo classes	10	<code>:nth-child</code>
Attribute selectors	10	<code>[type="number"]</code>
ID selectors	100	<code>#main</code>

- Inline styles add 1,000 points.
- Tie breaker: last defined style wins.
- Force highest specificity with `!important`.

This method for calculating specificity is an approximation that works most of the time. For the full story see (Tantek Çelik and Williams 2011) .

3.3. SPECIFICITY

Chapter 4

Fonts and Images

4.1 Advanced Font Tricks

4.1.1 Specifying Fonts

```
html {  
  font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;  
  font-size: 16px;  
}
```

- To see the difference between serif and sans-serif fonts, take a look at the `examples/serif.html` file.

4.1.2 Using Web Fonts

```
/* Create a new font-family */  
@font-face {  
  font-family: "My Font Name";  
  src: url(/fonts/myfont.woff);  
}  
  
/* Then use it */  
html {  
  font-family: "My Font Name";  
}
```

4.1.3 Web Font Services

Example using Google Fonts:

- HTML:

```
<link
  href="https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Indie+Flower"
  rel="stylesheet">
```

- CSS:

```
html { font-family: "Indie Flower"; }
```

4.2 Using Images in CSS

4.2.1 Background Image Properties

background-image: The URL of the image.

Examples:

- `background-image: url(image.jpg);`
- `background-image: none;`

background-position: Absolute or relative position of background.

Examples:

- `background-position: 50% 50%;`
- `background-position: top;`

background-origin: Controls where the background image is initially placed.

That is,
it's upper-left origin.

Examples:

- `background-origin: border-box;` Extend background to (and underneath) the border.
- `background-origin: padding-box;` Extend background to the outside edge of the padding space. (Default value.)
- `background-origin: content-box;` Clip the background to the content box.

background-size: Constrain the size of an image, or scale the image up or down.

Examples:

- `background-size: 50%;` (Uniform scale.)
- `background-size: 25% 50%;` (Scale on x and y.)
- `background-size: contain;` (Fit image.)
- `background-size: cover;` (Clip image.)

background-repeat: How to tile images smaller than the container.

Examples:

- `background-repeat: repeat;` (Default value.)
- `background-repeat: repeat-x;` (Or `repeat-y.`)
- `background-repeat: no-repeat;`
- `background-repeat: space;` (Repeat without clipping.)
- `background-repeat: round;` (Stretch repeating.)

background-clip: Which bounding box the background (image or color) will be clipped to.

Examples:

- `background-clip: border-box;` (Default value.)
- `background-clip: padding-box;`
- `background-clip: content-box;`

background-attachment: Control image location when scrolling.

Examples:

- `background-attachment: scroll;` (Default value.)
- `background-attachment: fixed;` (Don't move with parent.)

4.2.2 Exercise: Background Images

1. Open (and edit) the following file in your text editor:

`www/background-image/index.css`

2. Review (but don't edit) the following file:

`www/background-image/index.html`

3. Modify the CSS so that your browser shows the same page as the one on the instructor's screen
4. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

4.2.3 Image Sprites

- Several images stored in a single file
- Size the parent element to the size of a single image

4.2. USING IMAGES IN CSS

- Changing `background-position` will change which image is show
- Can be animated with CSS or JavaScript

4.2.4 Exercise: Icons

1. Open (and edit) the following file in your text editor:

`www/icons/index.css`

2. Review (but don't edit) the following file:

`www/icons/index.html`

3. Make each `` show only it's designated icon.
4. Open the HTML file in your browser and confirm your changes

4.2.5 Isolating a Single Frame of the Spinner Sprite

```
.spinner {  
  /* The background image: */  
  background-image: url(../images/spinner.png);  
  
  /* Turn off image tiling: */  
  background-repeat: no-repeat;  
  
  /* Force the container size to a single frame: */  
  width: 156px;  
  height: 156px;  
  
  /* Move halfway between frames 1 and 2: */  
  background-position: 0 -78px;  
}
```

4.2.6 Embedded Images

Images can be encoded using Base64 and directly embedded in a CSS file:

```
.logo {  
  background-image:  
    url(data:image/png;base64,ENCODED-DATA-GOES-HERE);  
}
```

Chapter 5

CSS Layout

5.0.1 Layout Engines

CSS layout is concerned with moving HTML boxes around on the screen to make the site look the way you want. By default the browser will simply stack all the boxes on top of one another.

5.1 Block Layout

5.1.1 The Default: Block/Inline

- Elements are either block or inline
- Block elements stack on top of one another
- Inline elements flow inside a block element
- This is the default layout engine
- Good for articles, not so good for applications

5.1.2 Introduction to the Box Model

Open the following file in your web browser:

`www/box-model/index.html`

- Block elements have newlines before and after their content
- Inline elements flow in the content of a block element.

5.2 Floating Layouts

5.2.1 Floated Boxes

- Boxes can be floated so they are side-by-side with their siblings
- Sibling boxes will wrap around the floated box
- Boxes can be floated to the left or the right

5.2.2 Using the Floating Layout

Float boxes with the `float` property:

```
.sidebar {  
  float: left; /* left, right, or none */  
  width: 25%; /* remember to set width */  
  margin-right: 1em; /* Push the main content away */  
}
```

```
footer {  
  clear: both; /* Stop the floating */  
}
```

5.2.3 Problem: Float Drop

- Boxes are dropping below the floated box instead of side-by-side
- Set a width for all of the floated boxes
- Keep the box model in mind (border, margin, padding, etc.)
- You can also make the browser include the entire box in the width:

```
* {  
  box-sizing: border-box;  
}
```

5.2.4 Problem: Floating Siblings

- Floated boxes can escape their parent and continue to float other boxes (when the floated box is the biggest child)
- Make the parent enclose and clear the float:

```
.container::after {  
  content: " ";  
  display: table;  
  clear: both;  
}
```

5.3 Flexible Boxes

5.3.1 A Layout Engine for the Modern Web

- Easy to use with visually pleasing defaults
- Similar to a grid system, but easier to use
- No weird CSS tricks or class names to learn
- Universally supported (IE \geq 11)

5.3.2 Flexible Boxes: The Basics

- Mark a container element as a flexible box:

```
.container { display: flex; }
```
- All children then become *flex items*
- Flex items can be laid out in rows or columns
- Wide range of alignment, sizing, and wrapping options

5.3.3 Flex Item Layout

- Items side-by-side, left to right (default):

```
.container {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: row; /* or row-reverse */  
}
```

- Items stacked top to bottom:

```
.container {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: column; /* or column-reverse */  
}
```

5.3.4 Flex Direction Orientation

Since flex can layout items in a row or a column it uses generic terms to refer to its axes:

- Main axis vs. cross axis
 - For row: main is horizontal, cross is vertical
 - For column: main is vertical, cross is horizontal
- Main start and end, vs. cross start and cross end
 - For row: main start is on the left
 - For row-reverse: main start is on the right

5.3.5 Flex Item Wrapping

- Items must all be on the same line (row):

```
.container {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-wrap: nowrap; /* This is the default */  
}
```

- Items are allowed to wrap onto the next line:

```
.container {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-wrap: wrap; /* or wrap-reverse */  
}
```

5.3.6 Flex Item Sizing

The `flex-grow`, `flex-shrink`, and `flex-basis` properties control the width of flex items relative to their siblings.

- Make all flex items the same width:

```
.container {  
  display: flex;  
  
  /* flex-grow flex-shrink flex-basis */  
  flex: 1 1 250px;  
}
```

- Make the second item take up twice as much space as the others:

```
.container { display: flex; }  
.container > * { flex: 1; }  
.container :nth-child(2) { flex: 2; }
```

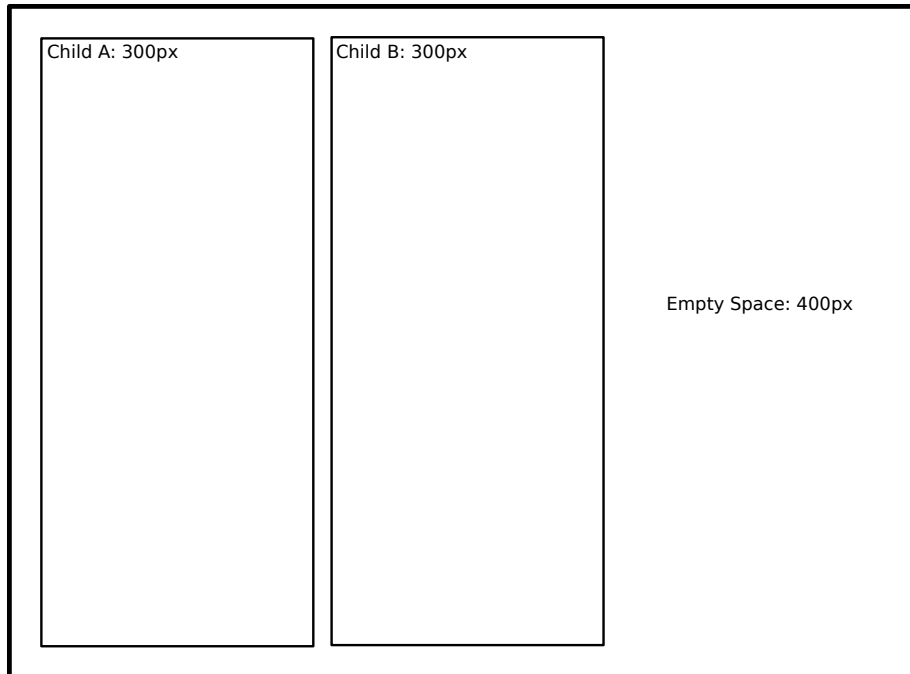

5.3.7 A Word About `flex-basis`

This property can be a bit tricky to understand. It's not your fault, it's complicated!

- Definition: The *initial* size of a flex item.
- The default value (today): `auto`
- Most common value: An absolute or relative measurement
- Future values: `min-content`, `max-content`, `stretch-fit`.

5.3.8 Flex Grow: Extra Space

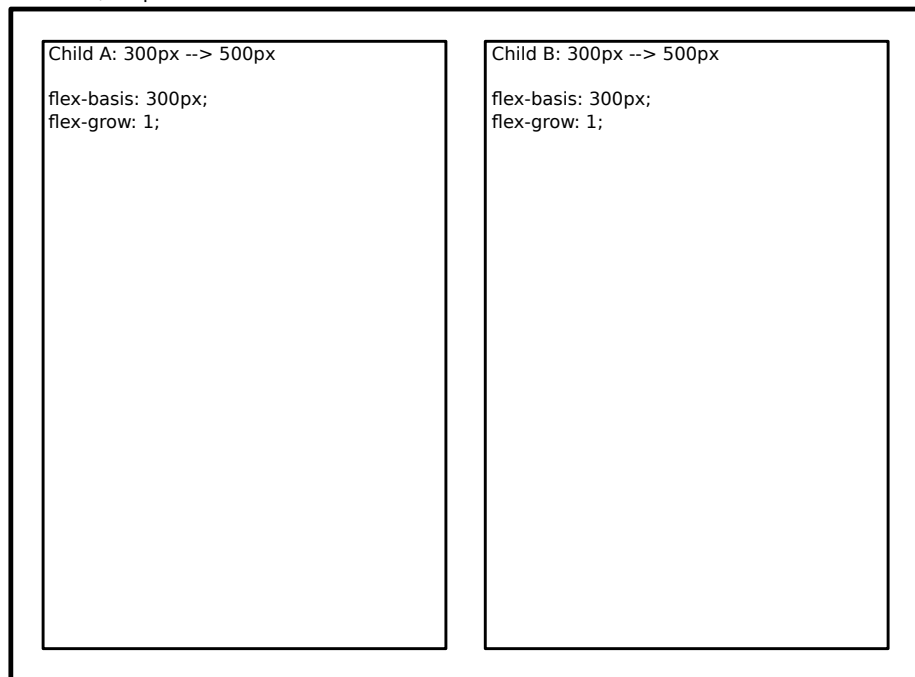
Parent: 1,000px



5.3. FLEXIBLE BOXES

5.3.9 Flex Grow: Uniform Growth

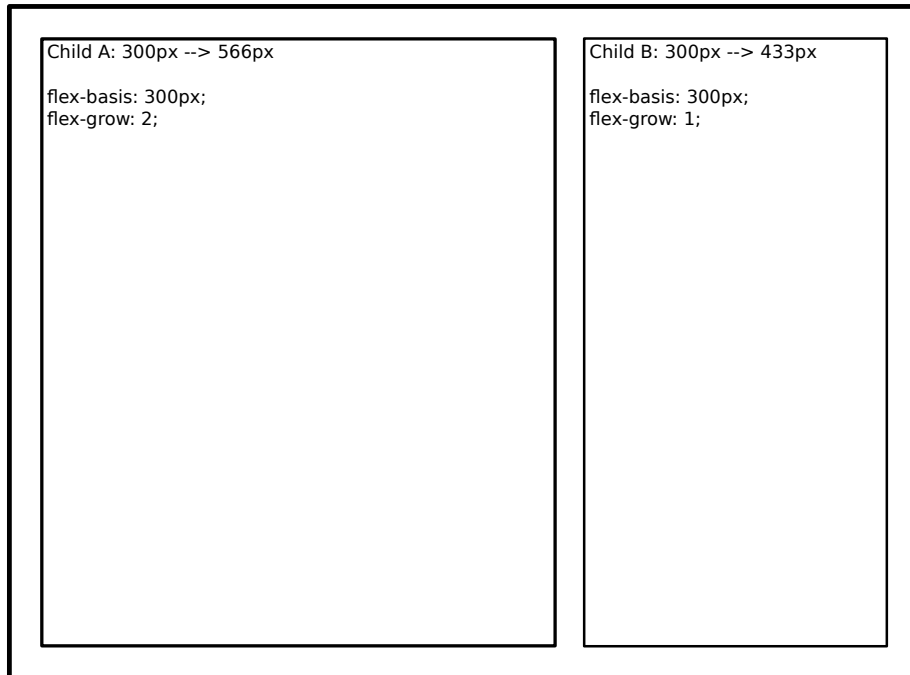
Parent: 1,000px



$\text{grow} = \text{Empty Space} * (\text{Child Flex Grow} / \text{Total Flex Grow})$
 $\text{Child Grow} = 200\text{px} = 400\text{px} * (1 / 2)$

5.3.10 Flex Grow: Nonuniform Growth

Parent: 1,000px



$\text{grow} = \text{Empty Space} * (\text{Child Flex Grow} / \text{Total Flex Grow})$

Child A Grow = $266\text{px} = 400\text{px} * (2 / 3)$; Child B Grow = $133\text{px} = 400\text{px} * (1 / 3)$

5.3.11 Flex Item Ordering

Items inside a flex container can be displayed in a different order than they appear in the HTML source code. This is done with the **order** property:

```
.container      { display: flex; }
.sidebar.primary { order: 1;    }
.main           { order: 2;    }
.sidebar.secondary { order: 3; }
```

This is useful for placing the sidebars at the end of the HTML. Screen readers will be able to start reading the main content first, but visually the sidebars can be moved somewhere else.

5.3.12 Flex Alignment

justify-content: How space is distributed around and between items on the main axis. Requires that all flex items have a **flex-grow** of zero.

Useful values; **space-between**, **space-around**, **space-evenly**, **flex-start** (the default), and **flex-end**.

align-items: How space is distributed around and between items on the cross axis. Used when flex items have different cross axis sizes.

Useful values: **stretch** (the default), **center**, **flex-start**, **flex-end**.

align-content: How space is distributed around and between multiple lines on the main axis created by wrapping.

Useful values: **stretch** (the default), and all values from **justify-content**.

5.3.13 Flex Container and Item Properties

Container	Item
flex-flow	order
flex-direction	align-self
flex-wrap	flex
justify-content	flex-grow
align-items	flex-shrink
align-content	flex-basis

5.4 Responsive Design

5.4.1 So Many Browser Sizes, One HTML File

- Fixed design: Treating the web like paper
- Liquid design: Better but more complicated
- Responsive: Adapt to each browser

5.4.2 Mobile Browsers and Zooming

- Mobile browsers automatically zoom out to show all content
- The first step to making a site responsive is to disable this
- Use the following `meta` tag in the `head` of your HTML:

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width">
```
- With that, browsers will respect width requests without zooming

5.4.3 Relative Measurements

- Avoid using absolute units such as `px`, `pt`, `cm`, `in`, `mm`, etc.
- Relative to current font size: `em`
- Relative to parent element size: `%`
- Percentages + Media Queries = Responsive Web Design

5.4.4 Introduction to Media Queries

- Media Queries are part of CSS
- They are like `if` statements in your CSS
- Example:

```
/* If the browser window is at least 400px wide... */
@media (min-width: 400px) {
  .sidebar {
    float: left;
    width: 25%;
  }
}
```

5.4.5 Compound Media Queries

Media queries can be combined with `and`:

```
@media (min-width: 400px) and (orientation: portrait) {
  /* ... */
}
```

(You can also use the `only` and `not` tokens. See (Håkon Wium Lie and Kesteren 2012) for more details.)

5.4.6 Media Queries and Breakpoints

Set media query breakpoints—divisions of screen width that change the CSS:

```
@media (max-width: 480px) {  
    /* Small screens */  
}  
  
@media (min-width: 481px) and (max-width: 768px) {  
    /* Medium screens */  
}  
  
@media (min-width: 769px) {  
    /* Larger screens */  
}  
  
/* Etc. */
```

5.4.7 Mobile First, or Desktop First?

There are two ways to approach responsive web design:

1. Design for small screens and use media queries to adapt the design for larger screens
2. Start with a design for large screens and use media queries to scale the design down to smaller screens

5.4.8 Fluid Images

- Automatically scale images to match the container width:
`img { max-width: 100%; }`
- For this to work, don't use `width` or `height` attributes on an `img` tag:
``

HTML and CSS Resources

Official Documentation

- HTML Living Standard: WHATWG (2018)
- CSS 2.1 Specification: Bert Bos and Lie (2011)
- Selector Specification: Tantek Çelik and Williams (2011)
- Media Queries Specification: Håkon Wium Lie and Kesteren (2012)

Books

- CSS: The Missing Manual (McFarland 2015)
- CSS Secrets (Verou 2015)

Cheat Sheets

CSS is a complicated technology that is too big to fit on a single cheat sheet. Therefore, I recommend a few topic-specific cheat sheets:

- Live, Interactive Cheat Sheet: W3C (2009)
- Property Index: Meiert (2015)
- Flexible Box Cheat Sheet: Bologna (2014)

Training Videos from Pluralsight

- CSS3 In-Depth

5.4. RESPONSIVE DESIGN

- Hands on Responsive Design
- CSS Positioning
- Modern Web Layout with Flexbox and CSS Grid

References

Bert Bos, Ian Hickson, Tantek Çelik, and Håkon Wium Lie, eds. 2011. “Cascading Style Sheets Level 2 Revision 1.” W3C. <http://www.w3.org/TR/2011/REC-CSS2-20110607/>.

Bologna, Joni. 2014. “Flexbox Cheatsheet Cheatsheet.” <http://jonibologna.com/flexbox-cheatsheet/>.

Håkon Wium Lie, Daniel Glazman, Tantek Çelik, and Anne van Kesteren, eds. 2012. “Media Queries.” W3C. <http://www.w3.org/TR/2012/REC-css3-mediaqueries-20120619/>.

McFarland, David Sawyer. 2015. *CSS: The Missing Manual*. 4th ed. O’Reilly Media.

Meiert, Jens Oliver. 2015. “CSS Properties Index.” <http://meiert.com/en/indices/css-properties/>.

Tantek Çelik, Daniel Glazman, Erika J. Etemad, and John Williams, eds. 2011. “Selectors Level 3.” W3C. <http://www.w3.org/TR/2011/REC-css3-selectors-20110929/>.

Verou, Lea. 2015. *CSS Secrets: Better Solutions to Everyday Web Design Problems*. 1st ed. O’Reilly Media.

W3C, ed. 2009. “W3C Cheat Sheet.” W3C. <http://www.w3.org/2009/cheatsheet/>.

WHATWG, ed. 2018. “HTML Living Standard.” WHATWG. <https://html.spec.whatwg.org/>.