# Adaptive Design

## Description

Adaptive design refers to the creation of websites that operate within static thresholds for display resolution, known as the viewing context. The viewing context of the target device is assessed and a set of stylings are applied accordingly to the elements of the web page.

## Advantages

The main advantage of adaptive design is the final presentation of the webpage’s display is much more predictable during development. This is due to the elements being sized according to a selected fixed layout, determined by the screen’s resolution.

Adaptive designs can be made applicable to older devices that do not support responsive designs.

## Disadvantages

Adaptive design is limited to the static definitions of resolutions defined by the developer. As the webpage is loaded, and the resolution is assessed, a pre-determined layout is selected appropriately. Adaptive design has limitations here bound by the definitions of the developer.

Once a webpage is loading, adaptive layout selection is no longer applied. For example, in modern devices where it is possible to scale the resolution of the web browser on screen, the webpage will not adapt its design to a modified screen resolution after the page has loaded.