



CSS Box Model Cheat Sheet

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Padding

The space between the content and the border of an element

padding: 5px	Set the padding on all sides Set the padding to 5px on all sides
padding: 5px 3px	Set the padding on the horizontal and vertical axis Set the padding to 5px on the top and bottom and 3px on the left and right
padding: 5px 2px 3px	Set the padding on the top side, horizontal axis, and bottom side Set the padding to 5px on the top, 2px on the left and right, and 3px on the bottom
padding: 5px 2px 3px 1px	Set the padding on the top, right, bottom, and left Set the padding to 5px on the top, 2px on the right, 3px on the bottom, and 1px on the left
padding-top: 5px	Set the padding on the top Set the padding to 5px on the top
padding-right: 2px	Set the padding on the right Set the padding to 2px on the right
padding-bottom: 3px	Set the padding on the bottom Set the padding to 3px on the bottom
padding-left: 1px	Set the padding on the left Set the padding to 1px on the left

Border

The divider between the padding of an element and its margin

border: 5px solid black	Set the border-width, border-style, and border-color Set the border to a 5px wide solid black line
border-width: 3px	Set the border line width Set the border width to 3px
border-style: dashed	Set the border line style Set the border style to a dashed line
border-color: red	Set the border line color Set the border line color to red

Margin

The space between two different elements

The margin of elements can collapse meaning only the largest margin will be used to space out elements

margin: 5px	Set the margin on all sides Set the margin to 5px on all sides
margin: 5px 3px	Set the margin on the horizontal and vertical axis Set the margin to 5px on the top and bottom and 3px on the left and right
margin: 5px 2px 3px	Set the margin on the top side, horizontal axis, and bottom side Set the margin to 5px on the top, 2px on the left and right, and 3px on the bottom
margin: 5px 2px 3px 1px	Set the margin on the top, right, bottom, and left Set the margin to 5px on the top, 2px on the right, 3px on the bottom, and 1px on the left
margin-top: 5px	Set the margin on the top Set the margin to 5px on the top
margin-right: 2px	Set the margin on the right Set the margin to 2px on the right
margin-bottom: 3px	Set the margin on the bottom Set the margin to 3px on the bottom
margin-left: 1px	Set the margin on the left Set the margin to 1px on the left

Box Sizing

Determines how the size of the content of an element is calculated when a width/height is given

The width and height properties of an element specify the exact size of the content of the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin box-sizing: content-box

This is the default value in costs of 70px (Fo has a width on foot width and 10px from both the left than the element will be a total of 70px (Fo has a width on foot width and 10px from both the left than the element will be a total of 70px (Fo has a width on foot width and 10px from both the left than the element will be a total of 70px (Fo has a width on foot width and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and do not include the border, padding, or margin and 10px from both the left than the element and the el

This is the default value in CSS. If an element has a width of 50px and a padding of 10px on all sides then the element will be a total of 70px (50px from the content width and 10px from both the left and right side padding). This is somewhat conterintuitive which is why I generally recommend not using content-box.

The width and height properties of an element contain the content, padding, and border, but not the margin.

If an element has a width of 50px and a padding of 10px on all sides then the element will be a total of 50px. The content portion of the element will only be 30px wide, though, since that is the remaining space after the 10px of padding are applied to This makes sizing elements much easier which is why I generally recommend always using border-box.

box-sizing: border-box

Display

Determines how an element is laid out on a page

display: block	Elements will span the entire width of their container and begin on a new line after the previous content Block elements by default will be on their own line and push everything else onto the next line. Block elements also can have a specific width or height set.
display: inline	Elements will take up only the amount of space needed to fit the content inside them Inline elements by default will not take up any more space than they need to. Inline elements also cannot have a specific width or height set since their size is based on the size of the content in them.

display: inline-block

Elements will take up only the amount of space needed to fit the content inside them, but a manual width or height can be set

Inline block elements by default will not take up any more space than they need to. Inline block elements also can have a specific width or height set which overrides the default size of the element