**The Table Properties**

The look of an HTML table can be greatly improved with CSS.  
  
The **border-collapse** property specifies whether the table borders are collapsed into a single border or separated as default. If the borders are separate, the **border-spacing** property can be used to change the spacing.   
  
**The HTML:**

<table border="1">  
 <tr>  
 <td>Red</td>  
 <td>Green</td>  
 </tr>  
 <tr>  
 <td>Blue</td>  
 <td>Yellow</td>  
 </tr>  
</table>  
**The CSS:**

table {  
**border-collapse:** separate;  
**border-spacing:** 20px 40px;  
}

**The caption-side Property**

The **caption-side** property specifies the position of a table caption. The values can be set as **top** or **bottom**.   
In the example below, we specify the placement of a table caption to **top**.  
  
**The HTML:**<table border="1">  
<caption>Some of Our Courses</caption>  
<tr>  
<th>Course name</th>  
<th>Lessons</th>  
<th>Quizzes</th>  
</tr>  
<tr>  
<td>C++</td>  
<td>81</td>  
<td>363</td>  
</tr>  
<tr>  
<td>JavaScript</td>  
<td>48</td>  
<td>144</td>  
</tr>  
<tr>  
<td>HTML</td>  
<td>38</td>  
<td>119</td>  
</tr>  
<tr>  
<td>CSS</td>  
<td>70</td>  
<td>174</td>  
</tr>  
</table>

**The CSS:**

caption {  
**caption-side**: top;  
}

**The empty-cells Property**

The **empty-cells** property specifies whether or not to display borders and background on empty cells in a table. Possible values are:  
**show**: the borders of an empty cell are rendered  
**hide**: the borders of an empty cell are not drawn  
  
Here is the empty-cells property that is used to hide borders of empty cells in the <table> element.  
  
**The HTML:**

<table border="1">  
<tr>  
<td>HTML</td>  
<td>CSS</td>  
</tr>  
<tr>  
<td>JavaScript</td>  
<td></td>  
</tr>  
</table>

**The CSS:**

table {  
border-collapse: separate;  
**empty-cells: hide;**  
}

IE and Mozilla Firefox hide the empty cells borders by default.

**The table-layout Property**

The **table-layout** specifies how the width of table columns is calculated. The possible values are:  
**auto**- when column or cell width are not explicitly set, the column width will be in proportion to the amount of content in the cells that make up the column  
**fixed**- when column or cell width are not explicitly set, the column width will not be affected by the amount of content in the cells that make up the column.  
  
The table layout is set to **auto**by default.   
The example below shows the difference between auto and fixed.   
  
**The HTML:**<p>Table-layout is set to <strong>auto</strong></p>  
<table class="auto">  
<tr>  
<td width=“10%">500.000.000.000.000</td>  
<td width="90%">20.000</td>  
</tr>  
</table>  
  
<p>Table-layout is set to <strong>fixed</strong></p>  
<table class="fixed">  
<tr>  
<td width="10%">500.000.000.000.000</td>  
<td width="90%">20.000</td>  
</tr>  
</table>  
**The CSS:**

table {  
border-collapse: separate;  
width: 100%;  
border: 1px solid gray;  
}   
td {  
border: 1px solid gray;  
}  
table.**auto** {  
table-layout: auto;  
}  
table.**fixed** {  
table-layout: fixed;  
}