Get Started With Viewing And Changing CSS

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Complete these interactive tutorials to learn the basics of viewing and changing a page's CSS using Chrome DevTools.

View an element's CSS

1. Right-click the `Inspect Me!` text below and select **Inspect**. The **Elements** panel of DevTools opens. The `Inspect Me!` element is highlighted in the **DOM Tree**.

2. In the **DOM Tree**, find the value of the `data-message` attribute for the `Inspect Me!` element.

3. Enter the value in the text box below.

4. The **Styles** tab on the **Elements** panel lists the CSS rules being applied to whatever element is currently selected in the **DOM Tree**, which should still be the `Inspect Me!` element in this case. Find the `aloha` class rule. The fact that you see this rule means that it's being applied to the `Inspect Me!` element.

5. The `aloha` class is declaring a value for `padding`. Enter that value in the text box below.

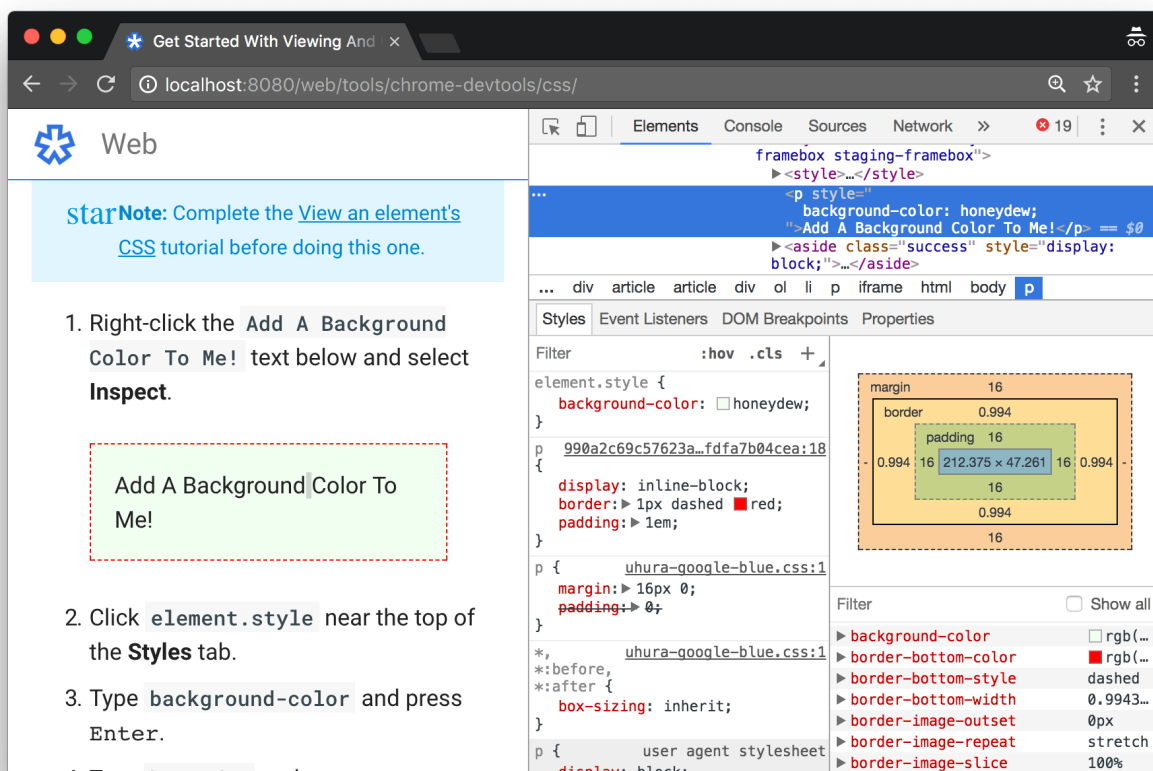**Figure 1**. The inspected element is highlighted blue in the **DOM Tree**

Figure 2. CSS classes being applied to the selected element, such as `aloha`, are displayed in the **Styles** tab

Add a CSS declaration to an element

Use the **Styles** tab when you want to change or add CSS declarations to an element.

Note: Complete the [View an element's CSS](#) tutorial before doing this one.

1. Right-click the `Add A Background Color To Me!` text below and select **Inspect**.

2. Click `element.style` near the top of the **Styles** tab.

3. Type `background-color` and press Enter.

4. Type **honeydew** and press Enter. In the **DOM Tree** you can see that an inline style declaration was applied to the element.
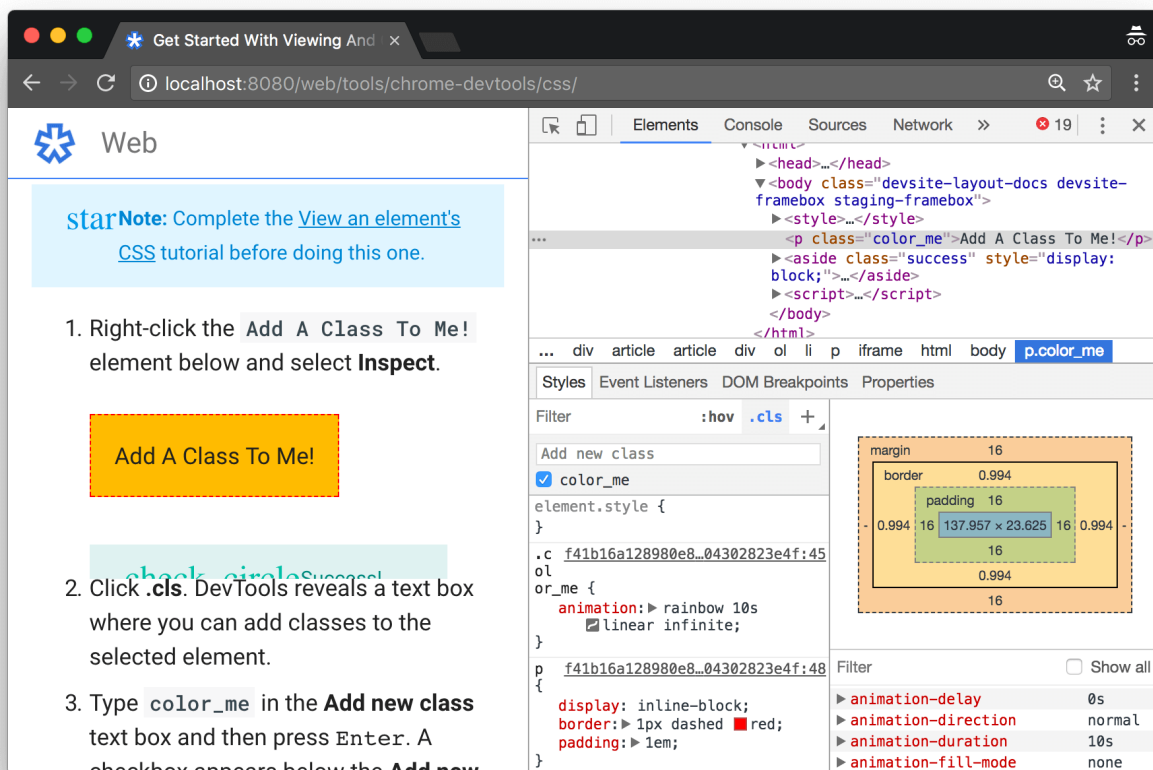
Figure 3. The `background-color:honeydew` declaration has been applied to the element via the `element.style` section of the **Styles** tab

Add a CSS class to an element

Use the **Styles** tab to see how an element looks when a CSS class is applied to or removed from an element.

Note: Complete the [View an element's CSS](#) tutorial before doing this one.

1. Right-click the `Add A Class To Me!` element below and select **Inspect**.

2. Click **.cls**. DevTools reveals a text box where you can add classes to the selected element.

3. Type `color_me` in the **Add new class** text box and then press Enter. A checkbox appears below the **Add new class** text box, where you can toggle the class on and off. If the `Add A Class To Me!` element had any other classes applied to it, you'd also be able to toggle them from here.

Figure 4. The `color_me` class has been applied to the element via the **.cls** section of the **Styles** tab
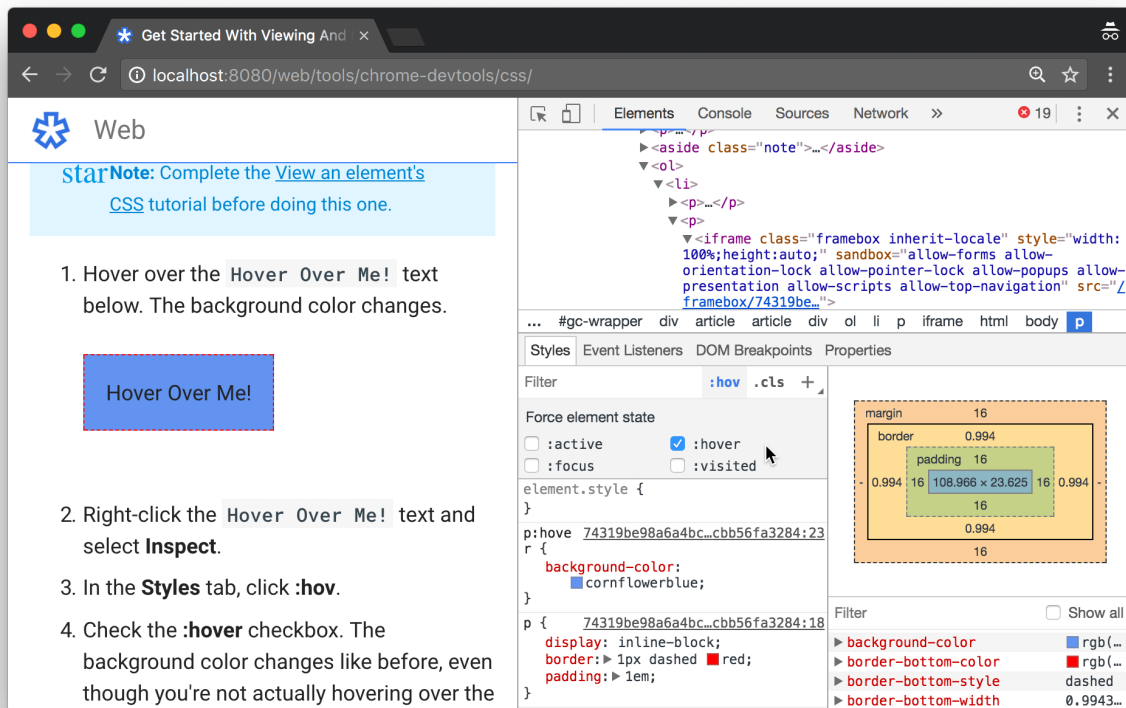
Add a pseudostate to a class

Use the **Styles** tab to permanently apply a CSS pseudostate to an element. DevTools supports `:active`, `:focus`, `:hover`, and `:visited`.

Note: Complete the [View an element's CSS](#) tutorial before doing this one.

1. Hover over the `Hover Over Me!` text below. The background color changes.

2. Right-click the `Hover Over Me!` text and select **Inspect**.

3. In the **Styles** tab, click **:hov**.

4. Check the **:hover** checkbox. The background color changes like before, even though you're not actually hovering over the element.

Figure 5. Toggling the `:hover` pseudostate on an element

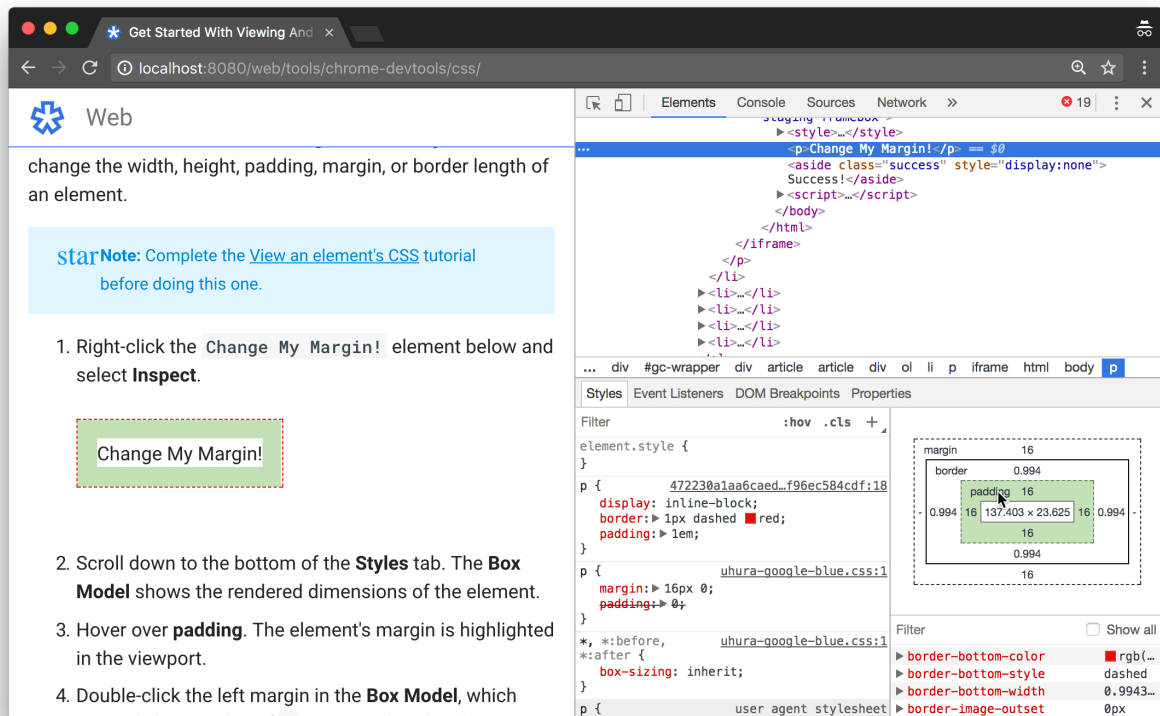## Change the dimensions of an element

Use the **Box Model** interactive diagram in the **Styles** tab to change the width, height, padding, margin, or border length of an element.

Note: Complete the View an element's CSS tutorial before doing this one.

1. Right-click the `Change My Margin!` element below and select **Inspect**.

2. In the **Box Model** diagram in the **Styles** tab, hover over **padding**. The element's margin is highlighted in the viewport.

3. Double-click the left margin in the **Box Model**, which currently has a value of `-` meaning that the element doesn't have a left-margin.

4. Type `100` and press Enter. The **Box Model** defaults to pixels, but it also accepts other values, such as `25%`, or `10vw`.

Figure 6. Hovering over the element's padding

Figure 7. Changing the element's left-margin

Feedback