

The <div> Element

The <div> element (short for division) is a block-level element that is often used to group large sections of a document. Essentially, the <div> element acts as a container for other HTML block-level or inline elements. The way to place content between an opening <div> tag and a closing </div> tag.

The <div> element has traditionally been used to create webpage layouts, as a div can be used with CSS to position content on a webpage visually. How these blocks are positioned and placed within a layout — and ensuring it works across all screen sizes — is challenging and important. But positioning blocks relative to others is a task that is beyond the scope of this course.

It is worth noting that div tags should only be used when no other semantic element can be used. HTML has many semantic elements to be used instead of <div>:

- <article>
- <aside>
- <details>
- <figcaption>
- <figure>
- <footer>
- <header>
- <main>
- <mark>
- <nav>
- <section>
- <summary>
- <time>

Attributes such as class and id are commonly used in conjunction with the <div> element. When used with CSS, the <div> element can be used to style blocks of content on a webpage.

Example: <div>

The following code snippet illustrates a div tag surrounding a paragraph of content. The div tag is styled with a border (style:solid;") to illustrate how the div tags create a block around the content that is placed between the

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Using The Div Tag</title>
  </head>
```

Div Block Element

The style added to this div tag places a border around the content defined by the div tags.

Div Tag (<div>) Tip

A <div> cannot be placed inside paragraph tags.

Exercise

Let's practice adding div tags to an html document.

Instructions:

Place div tags with the style attribute "background-color:lightblue" around the paragraphs and breed example horse categories: Gaited Horses and Ponies

Enter your code into the code tool below. When you are finished click on the 'run code block' button to see the code in a browser window.

Run Code Save Export Reset

index.html

```
1  <!doctype html>
2  <html>
3  <head>
4  <meta charset="utf-8">
5  </head>
6  <body>
7  <a id="top"></a>
8  <h1>Horses</h1>
9  <h2>Five Major Categories</h2>
10 <hr>
11   <h3>Draft horses</h3>
12   
13   <p>Draft horses are tall, strong, and heavy as they were bred to c
    loads. The average draft weighs over 1600 lbs and can pull over twic
    short distances.</p>
14   <h4>Example</h4>
```

Click the following tab to check your answer.

▸ Check Your Answer

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
<meta charset="utf-8">
</head>
<body>
  <a id="top"></a>
  <h1>Horses</h1>
  <h2>Five Major Categories</h2>
  <hr>
  <h3>Draft horses</h3>
  
  <p>Draft horses are tall, strong, and heavy as they were bred to pull heavy loads. The average draft weighs over 1600 lbs and can pull its own weight for short distances.</p>
  <h4>Examples</h4>
  <ul>
    <li>Belgian</li>
    <li>Clydesdales</li>
    <li>Percheron</li>
  </ul>
  <hr>
  <h3>Gaited horses</h3>
  
  <div style="background-color:lightblue">
    <p>Gaited horses, like light horses, are bred for riding, and are valued for their exceptionally smooth ride. Light horses have four gates; walk, canter, and gallop. In addition to these gates, gaited horses have the stepping pace, the running walk, the fox trot, the rack and the s... these breeds are valued for their smooth pleasure riding and show...
  </div>
  <h4>Examples</h4>
  <ul>
    <li>American Saddlebred</li>
    <li>Tennessee Walking Horse</li>
  </ul>
```

```

than 14.2 hands. There are over a hundred breeds of ponies.</p>
<h4>Examples</h4>
<ul>
  <li>Hackney Pony</li>
  <li>Shetland Pony</li>
</ul>
</div>
<hr>
<h3>Warmbloods</h3>

<p>Warmbloods are the cross of a cold blood draft horse and a h
horse. These breeds are known for their athleticism and sensible
are a popular choice on for dressage, jumping, harness and other
sports.</p>
<h4>Examples</h4>
<ul>
  <li>Dutch Warmblood</li>
  <li>Hanoverian</li>
  <li>Trakehner</li>
</ul>
<hr>
<p>To learn more, head to Wikipedia to see a complete list of <a
href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_horse_breeds" target=
breeds.</a></p>
<a href="#top">Back to top</a>
</body>
</html>

```

The following illustrates the correct code in the lab tool.

Run Code block

[index.html](#)

```

23 <div style="background-
    color:lightblue">
24 <p>Gaited horses, like light horses,
    are bred for riding, and are known for
    their exceptionally smooth ride. Light
    horses have four gates; walk, trot,
    canter, and gallop. In addition to
    these gates, gaited horses have the
    pace, the stepping pace, the running

```



Gaited horses, like light horses, are bred for their exceptionally smooth ride. They are known for their exceptionally smooth ride and are bred for four gates; walk, trot, canter, and gallop. In addition to these gates, gaited horses have the pace, the stepping pace, the fox trot, the rack and the slow gait. They are valued for their smooth pleasure riding.

Examples



1. Which of the following choices best describes the `<div>` tag?

a. The `<div>` tag is an inline element

Incorrect. Try again.

b. `<div>` tags placed on pages to act as container for other HTML block-level or inline elements.

Correct. `<div>` tags act as containers for other HTML block-level or inline elements and also often used to visually distinguish a section of content on a webpage.

c. The `<div>` tag is a self-closing tag.

Incorrect. Try again.

d. None of the above

Incorrect. Try again.