

Mobile First Design

A responsive/adaptive site

- Design the mobile version first

Why Mobile First Design

- Easier to expand than collapse
- Encourages clear designs
- Defines priorities

Some say not **ALWAYS** Mobile-First Design

- But basically all say SOMETIMES
 - Except those that didn't think about it
 - You should definitely think about it
- Many DO say "basically always mobile-first"
- Mobile design is extra difficult
 - If already committed to content that can't fit
 - Easier to expand/add from mobile to larger

Mobile First CSS

Not just the design, the implementation

- Write HTML, thinking mobile
- Write CSS for mobile design
- Media queries apply larger settings
 - tablet/desktop/etc
- Mobile usually more simple CSS
 - Mostly stacked vertical blocks
- Avoids "undoing" CSS

When Mobile First CSS isn't more simple

A "hamburger menu"

- Or other "collapsing" navigation structure

Often mobile has the more complicated CSS

- And desktop "undoes it"

If that is the majority of your adaptive CSS

- "Mobile First CSS" INCREASES complexity

You have to consider and decide at start

Simple Example

- Header
- Menu
- Main Content
- Footer

Sample layouts

Mobile:

- Most elements in vertical order
- More Menu options later

Desktop:

- Menu on left of main
- Content in main might be horizontal