Using Background Images

In this lesson, we will learn how to set background images in our web pages. Let's begin!

> **WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING** ^
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> - Exercise-10-23: Demo-folder
> - Specifying background images

In Chapter 3, you learned about the `<img>` tag that can be used to add graphics to your web pages. Since that, you saw many simple tricks to use images and even created small interactions using JavaScript. CSS also helps you add powerful visual elements and effect with images, going far beyond the features of the `<img>` tag.

In this section, you will get to know a number of CSS features based on graphics and images.

The samples can be found within the Exercise-10-23 folder below, these are in the Sample1.html, Sample2.html, ..., Sample14.html files.

The **index.html** file contains a list of links to access them.

Exercise-10-23: Demo-folder

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
  <title>Sample 1</title>
  <style>
    body {
      font-family: Verdana, Arial, sans-serif;

    }

    body {
      background-image: url(Backgrounds/spaceneedle.jpg)
    }
```

```
    h1 {
        color: white;

    }
   </style>
 </head>
 <body>
   <h1>Space Needle, Seattle</h1>
 </body>
 </html>
```
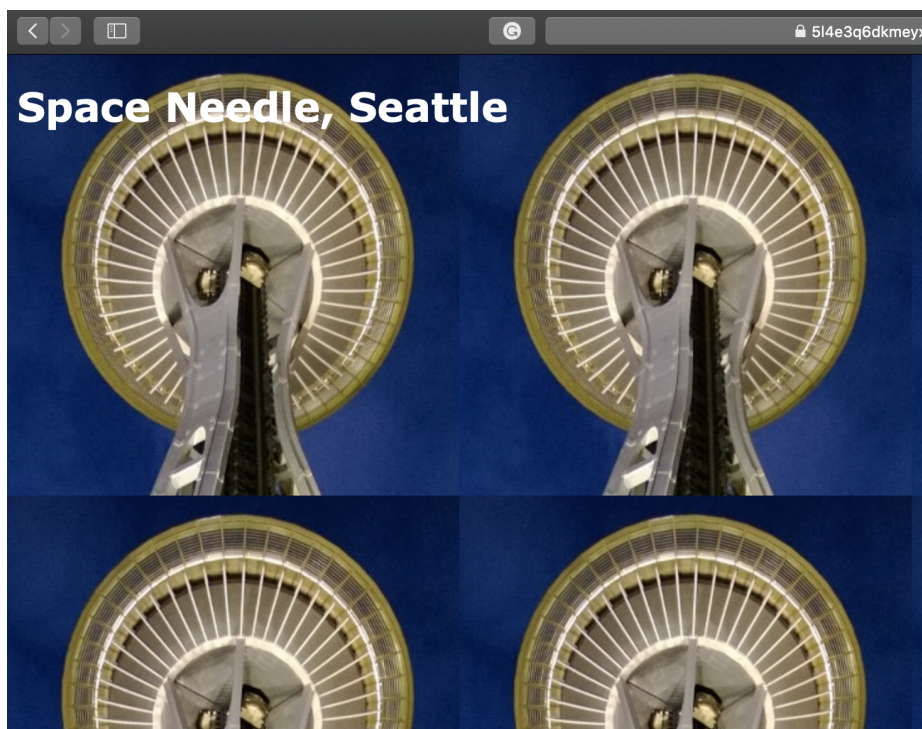
Specifying background images

You know that the background-color property sets the color of an HTML element's background. You have many other properties with the background-prefix, background can be used as a shorthand notation to set a number of other background properties. The background-image can be set to specify an image to be displayed in the background of an HTML element.

The image below shows a sample that uses the following style rule to define the background of the page:

```
body {
    background-image: url(Backgrounds/spaceneedle.jpg)
}
```
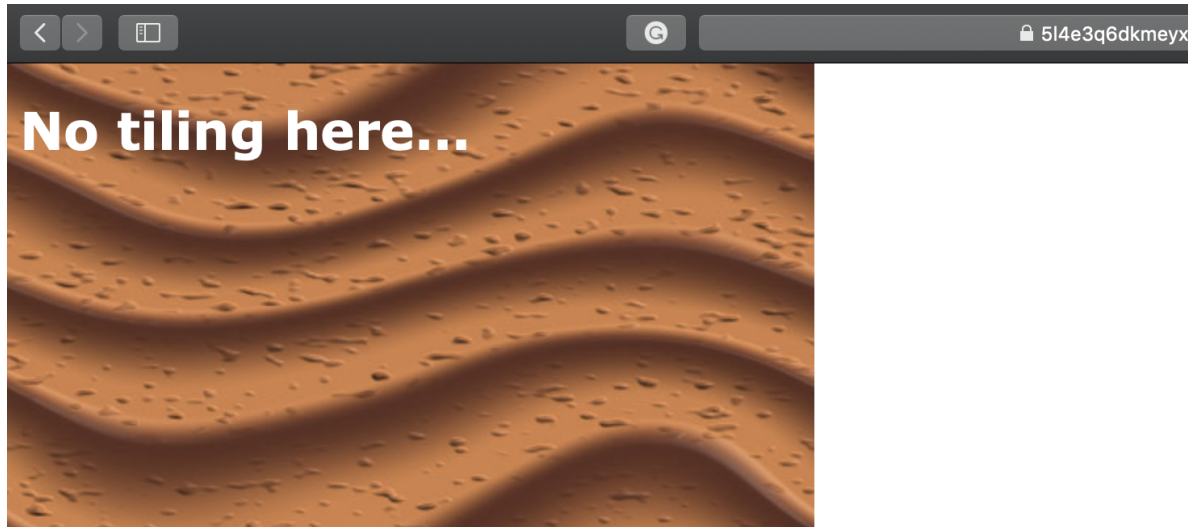
This image contains only one instance of the Space Needle, it is tiled on the screen by the browser. This is the default appearance of background images.

You can turn off tiling by setting the `background-repeat` property (image below):

```
body {
    background-image: url(Backgrounds/sandwaves.jpg);
    background-repeat: no-repeat;
}
```
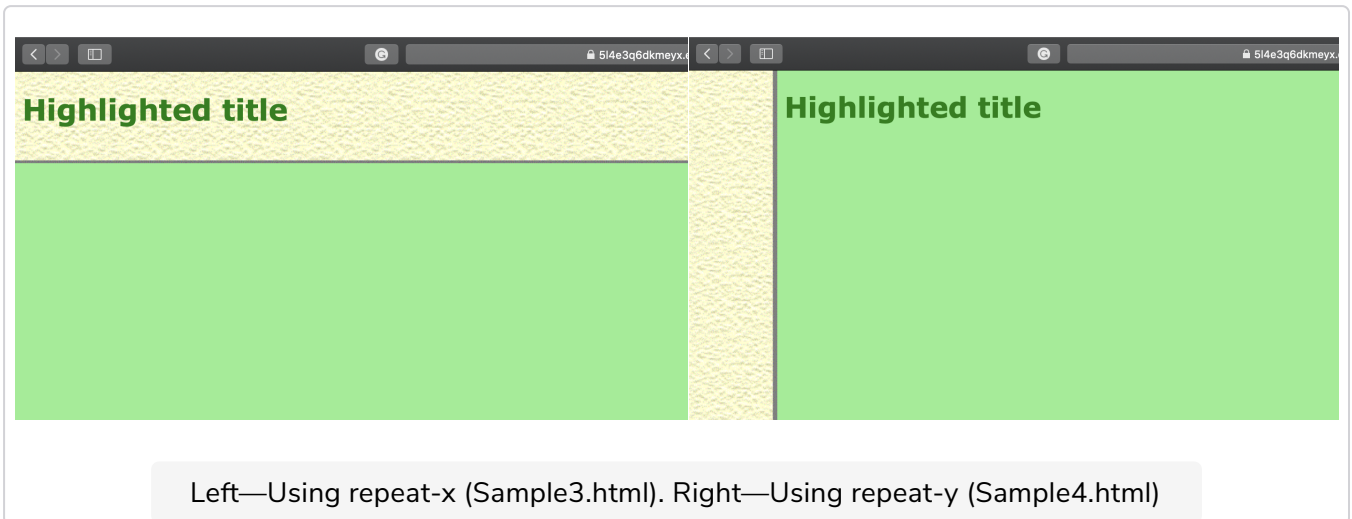

Tiling is turned off (Sample2.html)

The background-repeat property can have the repeat (tile vertically and horizontally), `repeat-x` (tile only horizontally), `repeat-y` (tile only vertically), and `no-repeat` (stop tiling) values.

You can create effects by using `repeat-x`, or `repeat-y`. The left pane in the image that follows uses `repeat-x`, while the right pane applies `repeat-y`:

```
/* Left pane */
body {
    background-image: url(Backgrounds/yellowrice-horizontal.gif);
    background-repeat: repeat-x;
    background-color: lightgreen;
}
/* ... */

/* Right pane */
body {
    background-image: url(Backgrounds/yellowrice-vertical.gif);
    background-repeat: repeat-y;
    background-color: lightgreen;
}
```

Left—Using repeat-x (Sample3.html). Right—Using repeat-y (Sample4.html)

As you can see from the body style rules, the `background-image` and `background-color` properties can be used together. The `background-color` is applied to the whole `<body>` element, and then it is overlaid with `background-image`.

In the *next lesson*, let's see how to position these background images that we just learned to use.

See you there! :)