Padding & Border

CSS Padding

The CSS `padding` properties are used to generate space around an element's content, inside of any defined borders.

With CSS, you have full control over the padding. There are properties for setting the padding for each side of an element (top, right, bottom, and left).

Padding - Individual Sides

CSS has properties for specifying the padding for each side of an element:

- `padding-top`
- `padding-right`
- `padding-bottom`
- `padding-left`

All the padding properties can have the following values:

- *length* - specifies a padding in px, pt, cm, etc.
- *%* - specifies a padding in % of the width of the containing element
- inherit - specifies that the padding should be inherited from the parent element

Note: Negative values are not allowed.

Example

Set different padding for all four sides of a element:

```
div {
  padding-top: 50px;
  padding-right: 30px;
  padding-bottom: 50px;
  padding-left: 80px;
}
```

Padding - Shorthand Property

To shorten the code, it is possible to specify all the padding properties in one property.

The `padding` property is a shorthand property for the following individual padding properties:

- `padding-top`
- `padding-right`
- `padding-bottom`
- `padding-left`

So, here is how it works:

If the `padding` property has four values:

- **padding: 25px 50px 75px 100px;**
  - top padding is 25px
  - right padding is 50px
  - bottom padding is 75px
  - left padding is 100px

Example

Use the padding shorthand property with four values:

```
div {
  padding: 25px 50px 75px 100px;
}
```

If the `padding` property has three values:

- **padding: 25px 50px 75px;**
  - top padding is 25px
  - right and left paddings are 50px
  - bottom padding is 75px

Example

Use the padding shorthand property with three values:

```
div {
  padding: 25px 50px 75px;
}
```

If the `padding` property has two values:

- **padding: 25px 50px;**
  - top and bottom paddings are 25px
  - right and left paddings are 50px

Example

Use the padding shorthand property with two values:

```
div {
  padding: 25px 50px;
}
```

If the `padding` property has one value:

- **padding: 25px;**
  - all four paddings are 25px

Example

Use the padding shorthand property with one value:

```
div {
  padding: 25px;
}
```

Padding and Element Width

The CSS `width` property specifies the width of the element's content area. The content area is the portion inside the padding, border, and margin of an element (the box model).

So, if an element has a specified width, the padding added to that element will be added to the total width of the element. This is often an undesirable result.

Example

Here, the element is given a width of 300px. However, the actual width of the element will be 350px (300px + 25px of left padding + 25px of right padding):

```
div {
  width: 300px;
  padding: 25px;
}
```

To keep the width at 300px, no matter the amount of padding, you can use the `box-sizing` property. This causes the element to maintain its actual width; if you increase the padding, the available content space will decrease.

Example

Use the box-sizing property to keep the width at 300px, no matter the amount of padding:

```
div {
  width: 300px;
  padding: 25px;
  box-sizing: border-box;
}
```

More Examples

Set the left padding
This example demonstrates how to set the left padding of a <p> element.

Set the right padding
This example demonstrates how to set the right padding of a <p> element.

Set the top padding
This example demonstrates how to set the top padding of a <p> element.

Set the bottom padding
This example demonstrates how to set the bottom padding of a <p> element.

CSS Border Style

The `border-style` property specifies what kind of border to display.

The following values are allowed:

- `dotted` - Defines a dotted border
- `dashed` - Defines a dashed border
- `solid` - Defines a solid border
- `double` - Defines a double border
- `groove` - Defines a 3D grooved border. The effect depends on the border-color value
- `ridge` - Defines a 3D ridged border. The effect depends on the border-color value
- `inset` - Defines a 3D inset border. The effect depends on the border-color value
- `outset` - Defines a 3D outset border. The effect depends on the border-color value
- `none` - Defines no border
- `hidden` - Defines a hidden border

The `border-style` property can have from one to four values (for the top border, right border, bottom border, and the left border).

Example

Demonstration of the different border styles:

```
p.dotted {border-style: dotted;}
p.dashed {border-style: dashed;}
p.solid {border-style: solid;}
p.double {border-style: double;}
p.groove {border-style: groove;}
p.ridge {border-style: ridge;}
p.inset {border-style: inset;}
p.outset {border-style: outset;}
p.none {border-style: none;}
p.hidden {border-style: hidden;}
p.mix {border-style: dotted dashed solid double;
```

Result:

A dotted border.

A dashed border.

A solid border.

A double border.

A groove border. The effect depends on the border-color value.

A ridge border. The effect depends on the border-color value.

An inset border. The effect depends on the border-color value.

An outset border. The effect depends on the border-color value.

No border.

A hidden border.

A mixed border.