

The position Property

The position property specifies the type of positioning method used to locate elements on screen. There are four different position values:

- static
- relative
- fixed
- absolute

Once the position property has been set elements are positioned using the top, bottom, left, and right properties. These properties do not work unless the position property is set first. They also work differently depending on the position value that has been chosen.

Positioning

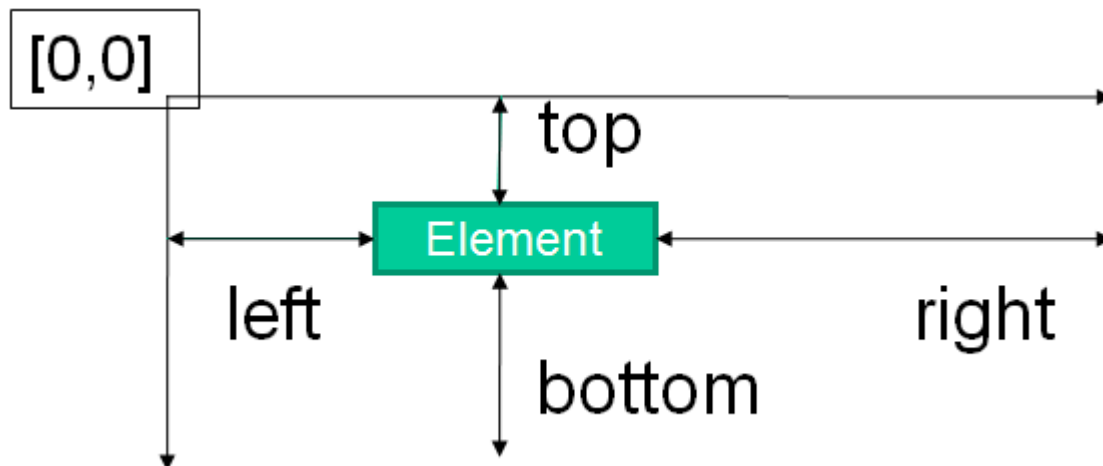
Create a div element.

Use the “**position**” attribute to place the element on the page.

- “Default”: position:static;
- Element is placed where it would normally be placed.

position: relative

Specify top, bottom, left and right to place the element on the page relative to its default position.



```

<style type="text/css">
h2.pos_left {
  position:relative;
  left:-20px;
}
h2.pos_right {
  position:relative;
  left:20px;
}

</style>
<body>
  <h2>This is a heading with no position</h2>
  <h2 class="pos_left">Moved left relative to its original position </h2>
  <h2 class="pos_right">Moved right relative to its original position </h2>
</body>

```

position: relative

```

#special
{
  position:relative;
  top:50px;
  left:40px;
}
<h1>This is a heading at its expected position </h1>
<div id="special">
  <h2> This is a Header 2 </h2>
  <p> This is a Paragraph </p>
</div>

```

Places the element 50 px down and 40px to the left of where it would normally be.

position: absolute

The element is removed from the page and placed exactly as specified; even on top of other elements

```

#special
{
  position:absolute;
  top:0;
  right:0;
}

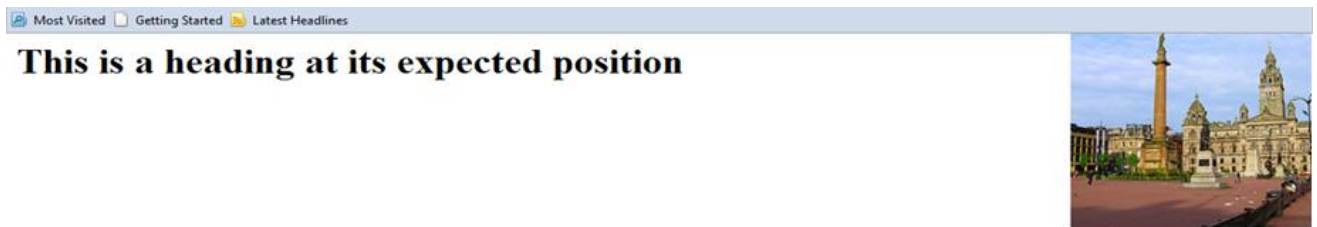
```

```

<body>
<h1>This is a heading at its expected position</h1>
<div id="special">
  <img src = "George_Square.jpg" alt="Glasgow">
</div>
</body>

```

Element is now on the top Right corner



The element is removed from the page and placed exactly as specified; even on top of other elements.

```

#special
{
  position:absolute;
  top:0;
  left:0;
}

<body>
<h1>This is a heading at its expected position</h1>
<div id="special">
  <img src = "George_Square.jpg" alt="Glasgow">
</div>
</body>

```

Element is now on the top LEFT right corner

- It is put on top of existing text ----> Absolute Position !!!

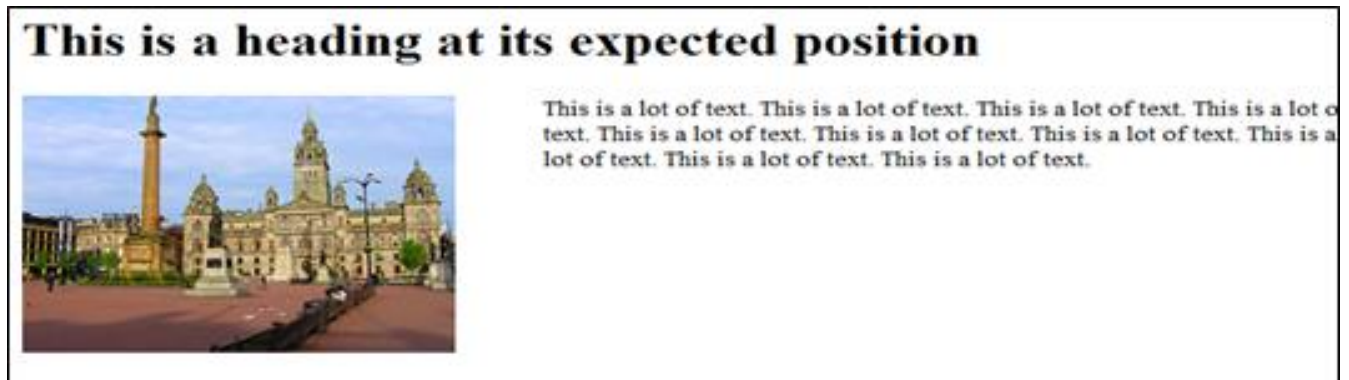


float:[left|right]

Floats the element as far as possible to the left or right.
Text wraps around it.

```
#special {  
  float:left;  
  margin-right :20px;  
}  
<h1>This is a heading at its expected position</h1>  
<div id="special">  
  <img src = "George_Square.jpg" .... >  
</div>  
<p>  
This is a lot of text. ....  
</p>
```

The element is floated to the left hand side:



clear:[both|left|right]

Specifies the sides which have to stay clear of other text.

```
#idname {  
  float:left;  
  width:190px;  
  clear: right;  
}
```

This will remove text on the right.

Using a Navigation Bar - uses Absolute Position

Move main page (BODY) to the right.

Restrict width of Navigation menu.

Place Navigation menu on the left – using ABSOLUTE POSITION



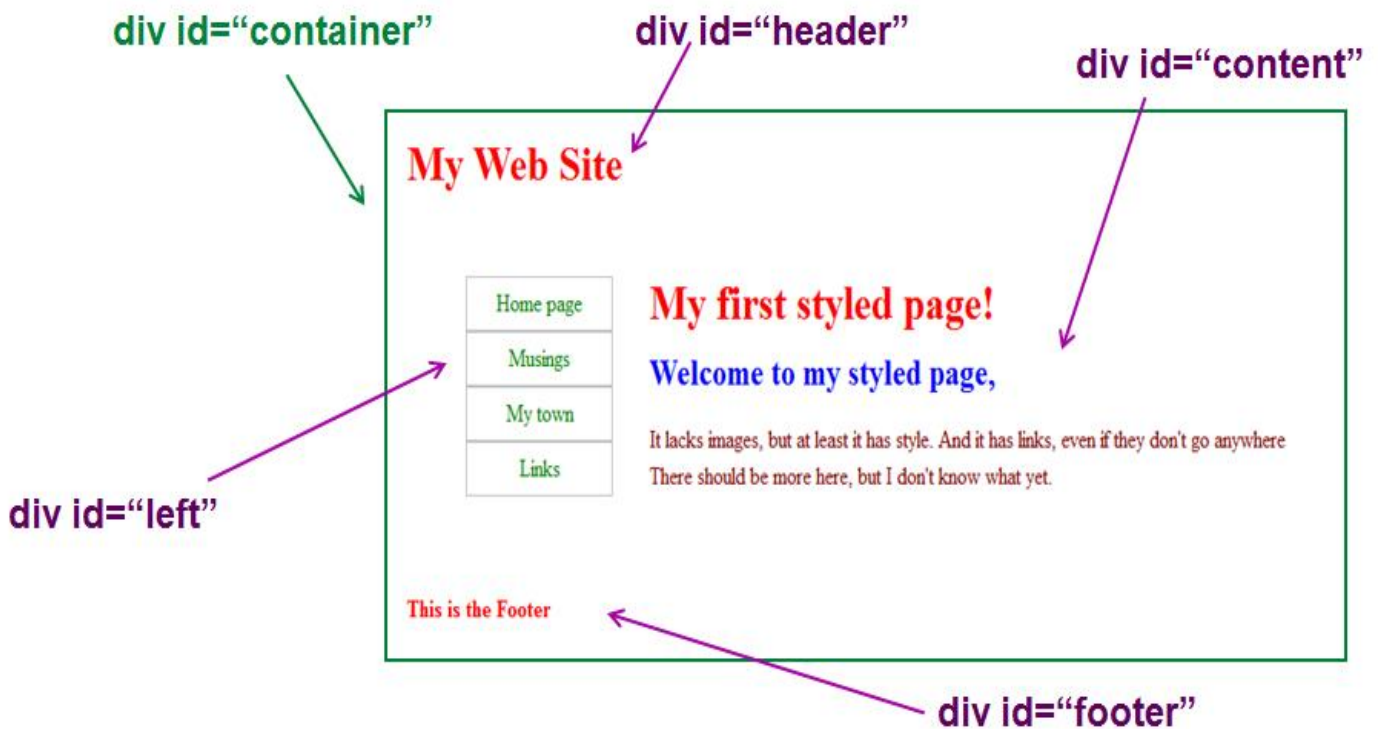
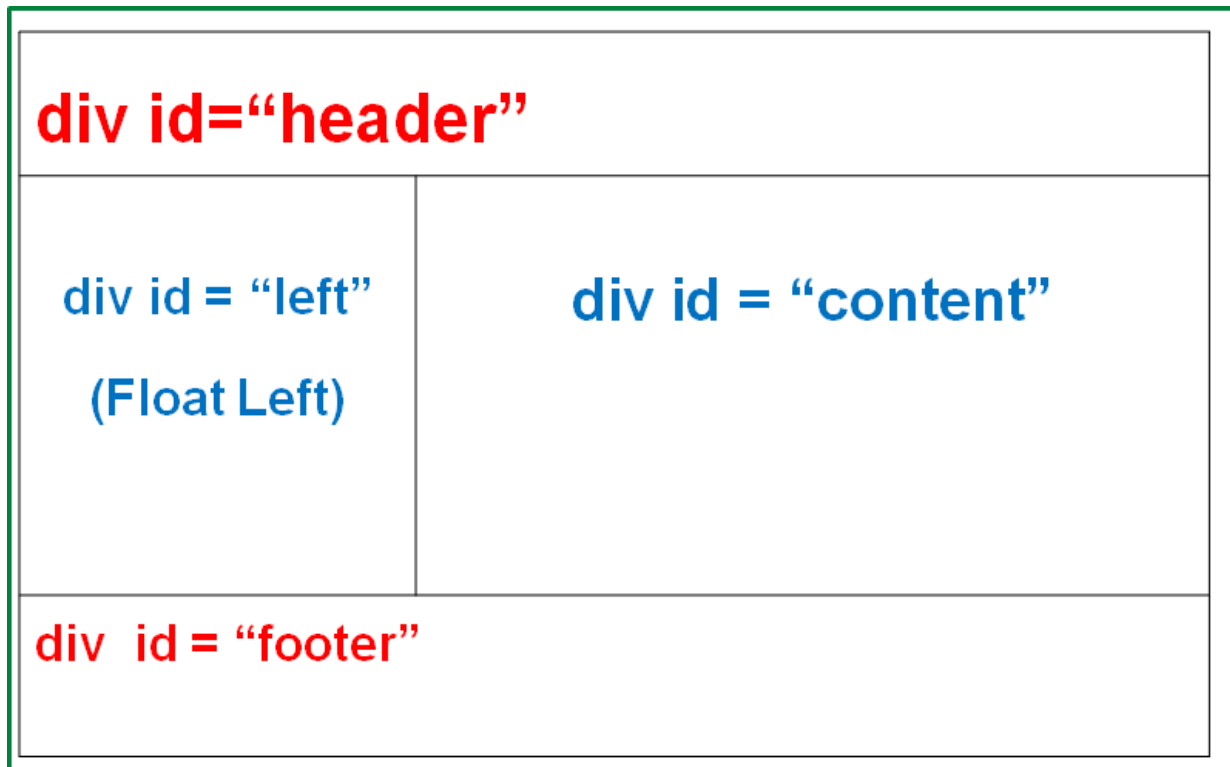
CSS

```
//move main body over to the right
body {
  // Move entire BODY Content to the right
  padding-left: 11em;
  // Text colour is Dark Blue
  color: #0033DD ;
}

// place the Navigation List on the left
ul.navbar {
  // put navigation in ABSOLUTE position
  position: absolute;
  // specify navigation TOP position
  top: 2em;
  // specify navigation LEFT position /
  left: 1em;
  // specify actual WIDTH of navbar - note it is LESS than BODY padding-left -
  prevents overlapping
  width: 9em;
}
```

Creating Layouts – uses Float

div id = "container"



Body Section

```
<div id="container">
  <div id="header">
    <h1>My Web Site</h1>
  </div>

  <div id="left">
    <ul class="navbar">
      <li><a href="#">Home page</a></li>
      <li><a href="#">Musings</a></li>
      <li><a href="#">My town</a></li>
      <li><a href="#">Links</a></li>
    </ul>
  </div>

  <div id="content">
    <h1>My first styled page!</h1>
    <h2>Welcome to my styled page,</h2>
    <p>It lacks images.....
      </p>
  </div>

  <div id="footer">
    <h4>This is the Footer</h4>
  </div>
</div>
```

Div Styles used

```
body {
color:maroon;
}
#container {
width:100%;
margin:0px;
line-height:150%;
}
#header, #footer {
padding:0.5em;
color:red;
clear:left;
}
#left {
float:left;
width:160px;
margin:0;
padding:1em;
}
#content {
margin-left:190px;
padding:1em;
```

Tag Styles used

```
.navbar li {
list-style: none;
padding: 5px;
border-width: 1px;
border-style: solid;
border-color: silver;
text-align: center;
}

.navbar a {
color: green;
text-decoration: none;
}
h1 { color: red; }

h2 { color: Blue; }

a:hover { color: purple; }
// examine 'hover' at w3schools
```


Using Styles for Positioning

You have to use Styles carefully

- ensure that floats are used correctly
- especially when using different types

You have to test them in every browser/version

- may work in slightly different ways

Test them thoroughly - e.g resize windows

For example

Positioning – using float

```
#header {
clear:both;
background: #FF0000;
}
#leftBar {
float: left;
width: 150px;
background: #7FFFD4;
}
#content {
float: right;
width:350px;
background-color: #FFD700;
}
#rightBar {
float: right;
width: 350px;
background: #FFE4C4;
}
#footer {
clear:both;
background:#00FF00;
}
#enclose {
float:left;
}
```

My first styled page!

- [Home page](#)
- [Musings](#)
- [My town](#)
- [Links](#)

Welcome to my styled page,

It lacks images, but at least it has style. And it has links, even if they don't go anywhere There should be more here, but I don't know what yet.

Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here

Footer

This page looks ok initially
But try resizing the window

- Problems due to use of floats – e.g. right

Need to add a 'container' !!

My first styled page!

- [Home page](#)
- [Musings](#)
- [My town](#)
- [Links](#)

Welcome to my styled page,

It lacks images, but at least it has style. And it has links, even if they don't go anywhere There should be more here, but I don't know what yet.

Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here Images, Adverts, Links etc etc could go here

Footer

Positioning – using a container

Add a 'container' around all 'Div' Elements

- must be same as total length .. $150 + 350 + 350 = 850$
- change container width to 1000px → layout issues

```
#container{
width:850px;
background:#ffffff;
}
#leftBar {
float: left;
width: 150px;
background: #7FFFD4;
height:150px;
}
#content {
float: right;
width:350px;
background-color: #FFD700;
height:150px;
}
#rightBar {
float:right;
width: 350px;
background: #FFE4C4;
height:150px;
}
```

Also: note that they all have the same 'height' improves layout

Positioning – using styles ... for example:

- Float
- Relative
- Absolute

Can lead to various issues

MUST be tested thoroughly

Use with care!!!!!!!