

IN-CLASS STUDENT ACTIVITY 3.2: ARRANGE USER INTERFACE (UI) CONTENT BY USING CSS

Lesson Objective 3.2:

Arrange user interface (UI) content by using CSS.

Resources, software, and additional files needed for this lesson:

1. Microsoft® Expression® Web 4 (preferred), Microsoft Visual Studio®, or Notepad. If available, use a different browser, such as Firefox or Safari, that supports most of the Flexible Box properties. (These properties are scheduled to be included in Internet Explorer® 10.)

Guiding questions:

1. What additional features are added to the box model by using the Flexible Box Model?
2. What are the various ways to allocate excess space using the Flexible Box Model?
3. How does the new Flexible Box Model eliminate the need for using float?

Student activity:

Directions to the student:

Read the following scenario, answer the questions, and use the new CSS Flexible Box Model to create a fluid web page. Verify your answers with the instructor.

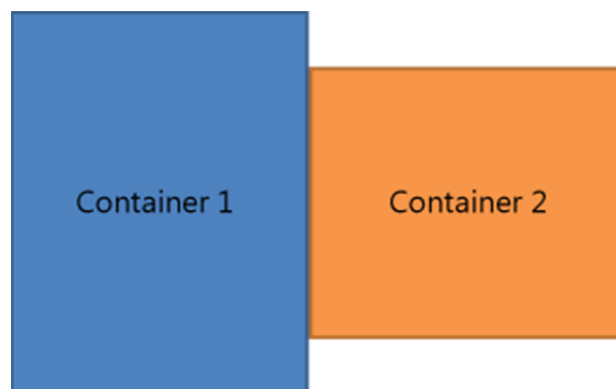
Scenario:

The owner of Proseware, Inc. recently purchased a Lenovo IdeaPad Slate. When Jacek Myrcha used the slate to view the company website, she realized that the content was not scaling properly. After talking with the web developer, she decided that the site needs to be upgraded to take advantage of the new CSS3 Flexible Box Model, which provides a fluid, scalable view of the site.

Jacek would like the site to have a consistent look and feel, so she has instructed the developer to create a page using the new properties available in CSS3. The current home page has a dynamic web template that defines the static portions of the site. In the content area, the developer needs to have three containers with a horizontal orientation.

Content:

1. Draw a picture of how the Flexible Box Model should be designed. Use the image below as a guide. Resize the boxes according to the owner's needs, and add a description in each box.



2. Use HTML5 and CSS3 to create a sample page with three content boxes, oriented horizontally and centered on the page. Test the page using a browser that supports these properties, if available.
3. Use the same page to experiment with other properties for the flex box: box-align, box-direction, box-pack, and box-orientation.