

Name: _____

Overview

Tables represent a simple and almost universally usable way to represent a design grid or layout for a web page in standard html. This means that it will be viewable on almost any browser. Tables also provide a foundation for optimizing large and complex graphics and making maintenance of web pages easier.

In this series of exercises, you will build a series of tables that use increasingly complex table layouts. You will try a few simple tricks that are commonly used to make sure that table layouts are very similar from one browser to another and from one user's browser window to another and use several attributes that control the tables' appearance and behavior.

Make an inclass5a directory in your webspace so you can keep versions of web pages as you do the exercises today.

Part 1: A simple table

1. Here is a picture of a table. Using a text editor, write the code to make this table by hand. Initially, set the border to 1 so we can see the table. Try viewing the table in both Netscape and IE to make sure that it looks pretty much the same (minor differences in things like the style of the borders cannot be changed so don't worry about them).

11	12	13
21	22	23
31	32	33

2. Change some attributes of the table and page.
 1. Change the background color to white (#ffffff).
 2. Use the hex values for colors (see the table in the back of the HTML 4 book)
 3. Change the background color of the page to white.

3. Save this design as table1.html.

Try one more experiments with this table.

4. Remove the text from the cells in the first column and view it in both IE and Navigator 4.6 (or 4.7). Are there any differences? _____

5. Put the numbers back in the cells, save the table and proceed.

Part 2: Fixed width vs percentage layouts

1. Save table1.html as table2.html to use it as a starting point for this next section.

2. In the first cell in row one, type "Now is the time for all good people to try some experiments with the contents of their tables". Save the table and preview it. What is the effect of adding this sentence? _____

3. Now, change the width of the first cell to 50 pixels. Save, preview (in both browsers) and describe the results: _____

4. Change the width of the table to 500 pixels, save and preview (in both browsers). Describe the results and any differences if any. _____

5. Change the width of the table from 500 pixels to 95%. Save and preview in both browsers. How does the table behave? _____

6. Resize the browser window so that the window is very narrow. What happens? _____

7. Change the width of the table to 300 pixels and make the first column 50 pixels in both browsers while the table as a whole is 300 pixels. How did you do it? _____

Save the table before continuing...

Part 3: Cell padding and cell spacing

1. Save the table as table3.html before continuing.
2. Change the cell padding of your table3.html to 5 pixels. What happens? _____

3. Now change the cell spacing of your table to 10. What happens? _____

Save and continue.

Part 4: Aligning tables and text within tables

Save your table as table4.html and proceed.

Your table should look something like this to begin: ▲

Cells expand to accommodate the contents you place in them but you have overridden this with width attributes.

1. Change the contents of the third cell in row 1 so the contents are centered.
2. Change the contents of row 2 so everything is centered.
3. Change the contents of row 3 so all of the text is aligned to the right.
4. Override the setting for the third row in the middle column and align the text of that cell to the left.
5. One final change: modify the alignment of the content of the second cell in row 1 so that the text is aligned (near to) to the upper left corner in the cell.

Now is the time for all good people to try some experiments with the contents of their tables	12	13
21	22	23
31	32	33

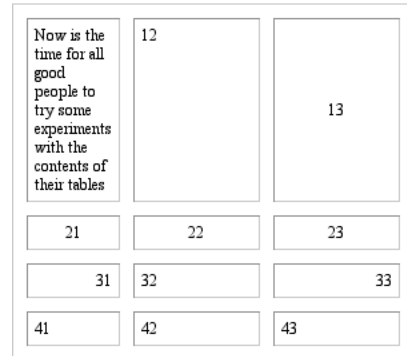
Save your table before continuing...

Part 5: More complex tables with rowspan and colspan

Save your table as table5.html before continuing on.

Now it is time to make a few changes to the structure of the table.

1. First, add a fourth row to your table. Number the cells to keep the cells open. Preview it in both browsers to make sure it works before continuing. It should look something like this:

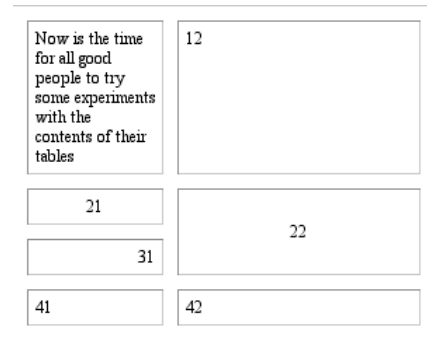


The diagram shows a table with 3 columns and 4 rows. The first cell of the first row contains the text "Now is the time for all good people to try some experiments with the contents of their tables" and has a rowspan of 4. The second cell of the first row contains the number 12. The third cell of the first row contains the number 13. The second row contains cells with numbers 21, 22, and 23. The third row contains cells with numbers 31, 32, and 33. The fourth row contains cells with numbers 41, 42, and 43. An arrow points from the text "It should look something like this:" to the table.

Now is the time for all good people to try some experiments with the contents of their tables	12	13	
	21	22	23
	31	32	33
	41	42	43

2. Using the rowspan and colspan attributes, change your table so that it looks like this:

Hint: You can change the rowspan and colspan of a single cell.



The diagram shows a table with 3 columns and 4 rows. The first cell of the first row contains the text "Now is the time for all good people to try some experiments with the contents of their tables". The second cell of the first row contains the number 12. The second cell of the second row contains the number 21. The third cell of the second row contains the number 22. The first cell of the third row contains the number 31. The first cell of the fourth row contains the number 41. The second cell of the fourth row contains the number 42. The first cell of the first row has a rowspan of 3. The second and third cells of the second row are spanned by a single cell containing the number 22.

Now is the time for all good people to try some experiments with the contents of their tables	12	
	21	22
	31	
41	42	

Once it works, save your table and proceed.

Part 6: Coloring individual cells

Save your page as table6.html before continuing.

Individual rows and cells can be colored using a bgcolor attribute. Here are some experiments to try:

1. First, add a background color to the fourth row. Make it a light gray like "#AAAAAA".
2. Now, change the background color of first cell in the table and change the color of the text so that the contrast maintains readability. Try making the background a dark blue and the text a white.
3. Change the first cell in second and third rows so they are like the first cell in the first row. Preview your page in both browsers.
4. One more experiment. Remove the text from the cell in the last row. Save and preview the browser again. You may notice a problem. What is it? _____

If you want to keep a cell open (a cell with no contents collapses in a sense) you need to put something in it but what do you put in that keeps the cell looking empty? One of the simplest alternatives is to add a non-breaking space. Unlike a space character which is ignored by the browser, a non-breaking space character is not. This character is an HTML entity, one of a group

of characters that is added to an html document by including a code that represents it. Since you can't type a non-breaking space on the keyboard, you use the code: The ampersand at the beginning and the semi-colon at the end are required.

5. Add a to the cell in the last row and try previewing it in both browsers again. What happens now? _____

Save your page before continuing.

Part 7: Try it on your own

Here is an example of a table. See if you can make a facsimile that looks and works the same way in both browsers. It uses only one additional capability. The sidebar comment on the right side of the table is itself a table. Make the sidebar comment table separately and then add it to the larger table as the contents of one of the cells. The width of the table as a whole is 400 pixels and the right column is 150 pixels. The red vertical column is 20 pixels wide.

BANNER	
Sidebar Comment Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt	sub heading Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum. Et harum, dereud facilis est et expedit distinct. Nam liber te conscient to factor tum poen legum odioque civiuda. Et tam neque pecun modut est neque nonor et imper ned libidig met, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed ut labore et dolore magna aliquam. Bis nostrudexercitation ullam numodo consequet. Duis aute in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. At vver eos et accusam dignissum qui blandit est praesent luptatum delenit aigue excepteur sint occae. Et harum, dereud facilis est et expedit distinct.
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This is red.