Art 198

01-CSS-Layout – Newsletter Project: Layout in Dreamweaver using the CSS Box Model

(Adapted from Betsy Bruce, author of Sams Teach Yourself Macromedia Dreamweaver in 24 Hours)

Browser support for CSS has finally made it possible to build powerful site structures and layouts using CSS positioning and the box model. Build flexible, powerful layouts that provide a cleaner code structure—and more design freedom and power than possible with tables. *Note: For ease of learning CSS layout, this tutorial will be viewed in a modern browser, Firefox, to render the styles according to the W3 standards. We will learn the appropriate work around to make our site work with many other browser's that are not up to full standards later.*

View the **layout-sketch.pdf** *found in the newsletter-layout folder. The final web page is a fixed width centered layout with stacked divs for masthead, subtitle, and maincontent and siteinfo. The maincontent has two or three columns. Two columns are positioned by floating one right and one left. The right column has one floated image with text wrapping around the left and bottom. The overall content is 760 pixels wide and centered in the viewport using margin left and right auto. Our layout uses a pagewrapper div container to set this width and allow us to add design features, like a background color, to the content. Ems are used for font, margin and block height to make the layout respond to changes in font size by the user and still be readable (not have content cut off or overlap). There is also a second page for the full text of the feature article that uses a single column in maincontent. You can see the final results in the finished folder included in this tutorial.*

Set-Up: Defining the Site

Objective: Define the local root site folder that you will keep all your files in and create the new basic html page for our tutorial.

Before starting this exercise, unzip the tutorial files. To preserve the original tutorial files, Copy and rename the start folder by adding your initials (**newsletter-layout-xx**). Define the site (or folder) where all the images and html files will be located. In this case, we will nickname the site as **newsletter**.

Steps

1. Site>Manage Site.
2. In dialog box, choose New>Site and click on that button.
3. In the Advanced tab, in the **Site name** field, nickname your site **newsletter**.
4. For **Local root folder:** browse to your tutorial files - click on the Folder Icon to navigate to your folder entitled **newsletter-layout-xx**..
5. For **Default images**, click on the Folder icon to navigate to your **images** folder inside the **start** folder.
6. Make sure that **Links relative to: Document** is check and **Cache: Enable Cache** is checked.
7. Click on the **OK** button in the Site Definition dialog
8. Finally click on the Done button for the Manage Sites window.
9. When you look in your Files panel, you will see your files and folders in the tutorial files

selected for your site.

Creating the HTML Structure Markup

Exercise 1: Markup the newsletter content with valid xhtml strict elements, adding semantic structure.

Objectives

- Open a new html document
- Copy and paste the content of the text file into design view
- Add semantic structure with proper html headings, lists, images elements

Steps

1. From the Welcome panel, select Create New > html and save it in the **start** folder as **index-yourinitials.html**

2. From the Files panel, open the **start** folder, then the **assets** folder and double click on **main-page.txt** to open in Dreamweaver

3. This is the content or client wants on the main page of the newsletter. It has notes that help the designer know how each bit of copy will be used. **Select all** of the text (CMD or CTRL A) and **copy** (CMD or CTRL C) and **paste** it into the Design view of the new index html file we just made. Make sure you are pasting in Design view, NOT Code view. Most of the content will have automatically added to our web page as paragraph elements.

4. Using the **Properties panel**, go through the document and change the headings to the appropriate **heading level elements**.


5.
6. In the feature copy, right after the heading and before the first word of the paragraph, insert the **cactus-garden.jpg** image, adding the alt text, *cactus garden*.

7. In the What's Blooming text, mark up the unordered list. The easiest way to change existing text is to make sure that each list item is a separate paragraph, so select the break tags and press the RETURN or ENTER to separate into individual paragraphs. Then select all the list items and in the Properties Panel, click on the unordered list icon.

Exercise 2: Planning the division boxes needed to achieve our newsletter layout.

Open the completed newsletter page in the browser. In Firefox, File > Open File and browse to the finished web page in newsletter layout > finished >index-completed.html and view in the browser. Think about where the block elements are needed to organize our content into the masthead, subtitle or issue info, the two articles and the footer. Then open the layout-sketch pdf to see the planned layout

and the finished page with the division boxes overlaid. We will have:

- One pagewrapper division to center and fix the width of our page
- Nested inside the pagewrapper will be 4 stacked boxes:
  - masthead
  - subtitle
  - maincontent
  - siteinfo
- Inside the maincontent division we will have the two columns for our article copy:
  - feature
  - article
- In the final version we will add the sidebar as a column next to the maincontent, with 2 more stacked boxes:
  - blooming
  - events
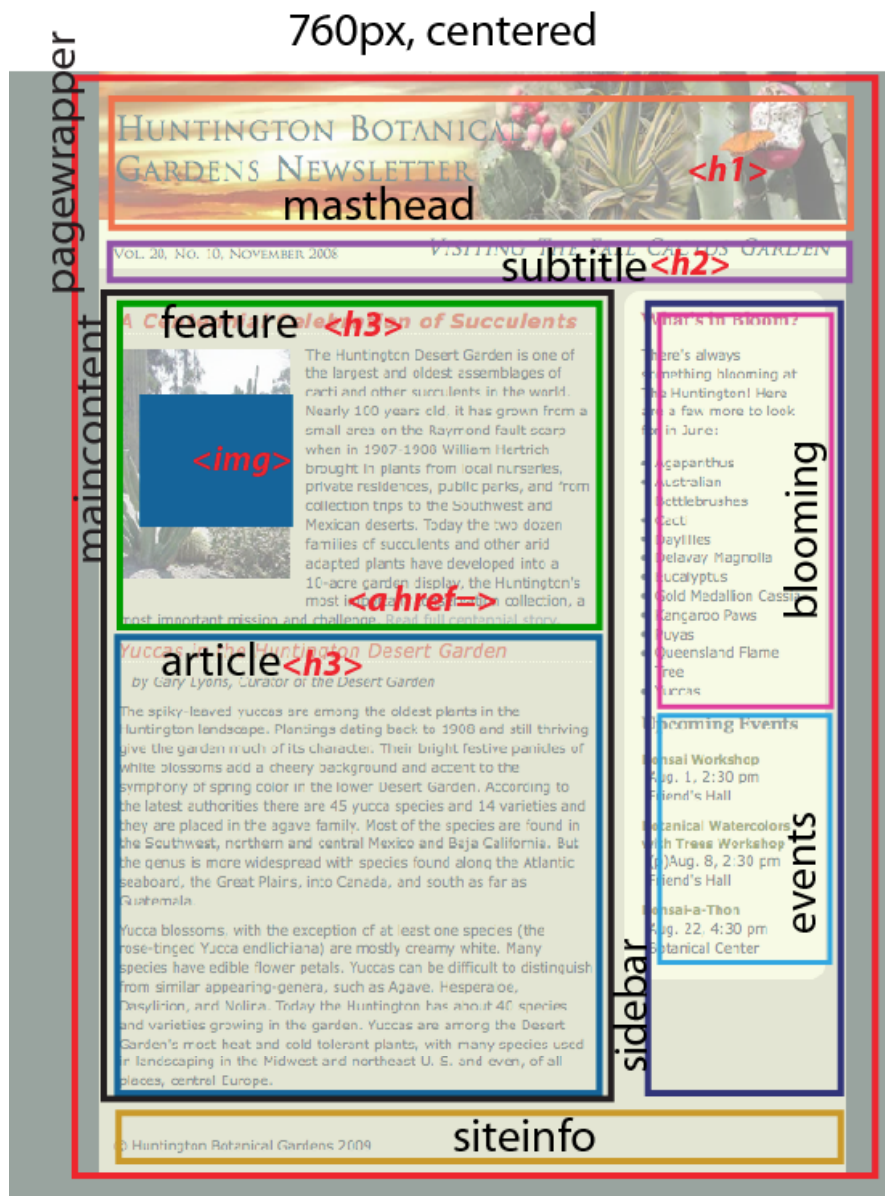
Exercise 3: Creating a Page Wrapper to Center Content in the Browser Viewport.

Often it's necessary to place the page content in a container, especially for a fixed width page style, and set the margins to center the page layout. Working from the outside in, we will begin forming the division blocks that will be used to define our layout.

**Objectives**

- Create a new division element <div> in the html structure using Dreamweaver's Layout Object > Div Tag
- In the html structure, give the division an ID <div id="pagewrapper">
- Add a css rule to help visualize divisions as we block the content.

Steps

1. In Design view, select all (CMD or CTL A)
2. From the Dreamweaver Toolbar, select Insert > Layout Objects > Div Tag
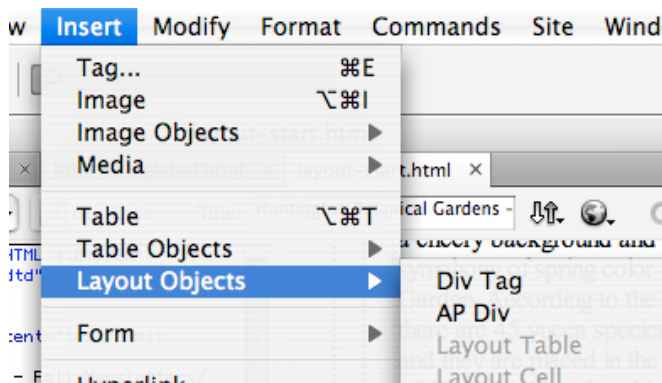
3. In the dialog box, **wrap around selection** should be chosen and enter **pagewrapper** into the id field and click OK. You will see in the code view that the new division with an id of pagewrapper now contains all of the content inside the body tag.
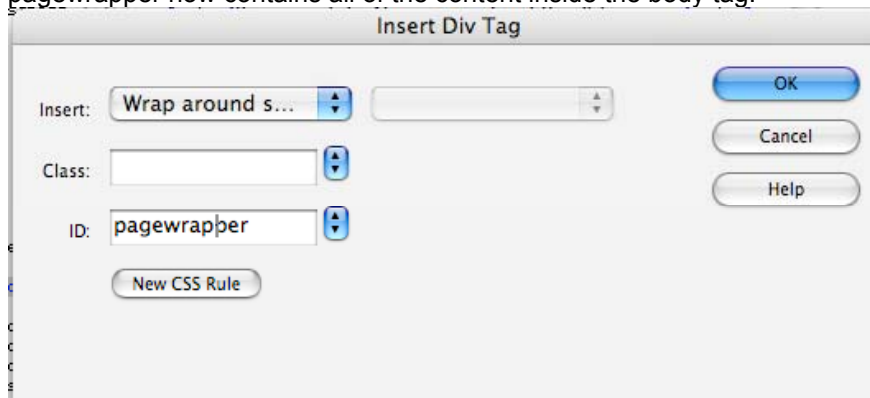
4. Add a comment to mark the end of this div while the code is still selected, scroll to the end of the highlighter area to the closing div, which is just before the closing body tag, to add the comment code `<!--end #pagewrapper-->`. From the **Insert Panel**, click on the **Comment icon**
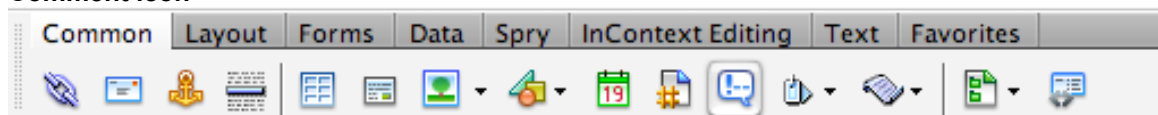
or from the **left side of the code view** select the **comment icon** and choose **Apply HTML Comment**

4

and type `end #pagewrapper` as the comment. The beginning div has the id attribute, now the ending div has the comment to help us know where each new division starts and ends. Do this routinely every time you add a division and your work will be greatly simplified. Browsers ignore text in comment tags, but anyone looking at or working with your code later (including yourself) will find your comments very useful. Dreamweaver shows comments in light gray color in the code view.

5. In Design view, Dreamweaver displays a slight dotted outline for each division. To make this more visible and clearly show the nesting of our layout blocks, we are going to redefine the html element div to show some margin and a dotted blue border. Click anywhere in the pagewrapper div and go to the CSS panel and click the create new css rule icon
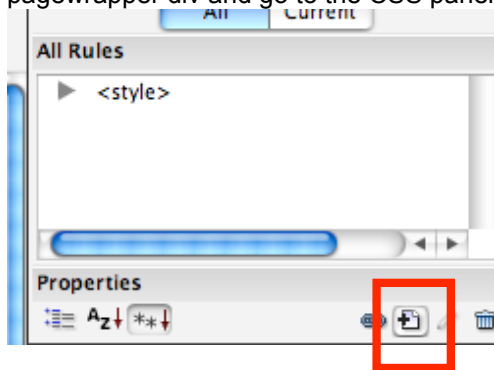
In the resulting dialog box make sure that **Tag** is the selector type and **div** is the selector and **this document chosen**. You will probably have to change the Selector Type to change from the default ID and #pagewrapper that DW picks. And click OK
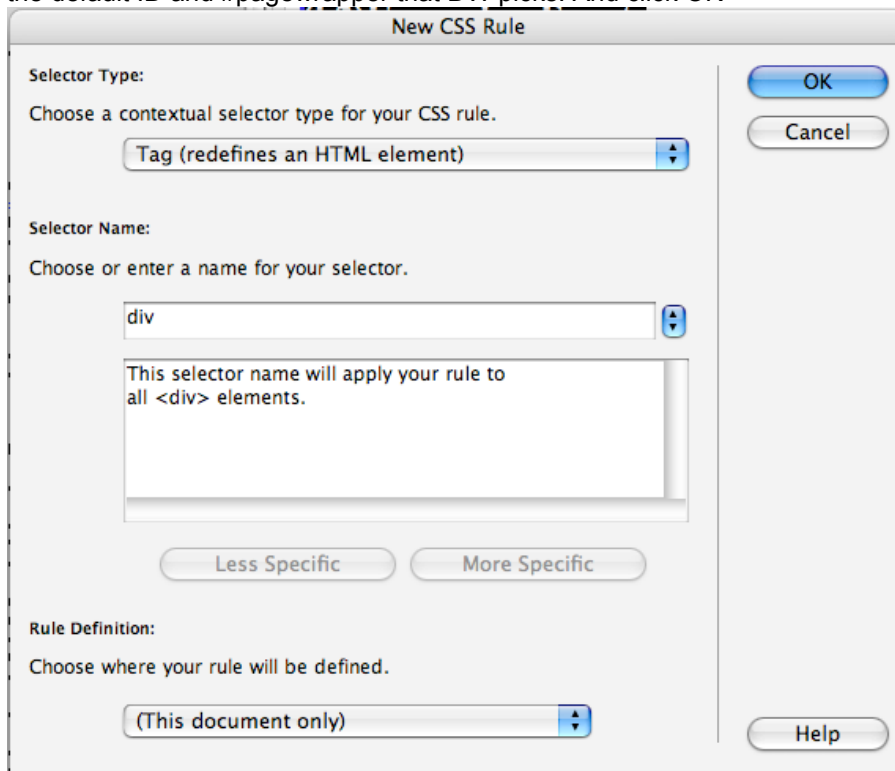
6. In the New CSS Rule dialog choose the category Box, and set margin to 5px. Choose Border and set all to Style: dotted, Width to medium and Color to a blue and click OK.

7. Now the pagewrapper is clearly outlined with a dotted blue border and you will be able to see the nested divisions that we are adding inside the wrapper division as follows..

Exercise 4: Creating 5 main blocks inside the wrapper division: masthead div, subtitle div, maincontent div, sidebar div and siteinfo div.

Inside the pagewrapper container, the newsletter copy content will be grouped up into 5 primary stacked blocks, masthead, subtitle, maincontent and siteinfo.

Objectives

In the html structure, create divs inside the pagewrapper div to form the block structure of the page content using Dreamweaver's Div Tag object and create the IDs.

Steps

1. In Design view, select the text marked as **(h1)Masthead image and newsletter title (masthead div)**

2. From the Dreamweaver Toolbar, select **Insert > Layout Objects > Div Tag**

3. The option **wrap around selection** should be chosen and enter the ID **masthead** in the field. Check your code view to make sure only the intended text is inside the div. While the code is still selected, scroll to the closing div and add the comment code to mark the end of the masthead div. `<!-- end #masthead -->`

4. The next block is the subtitle. Select the text from (subtitle div) to (end subtitle) and again from the Toolbar, choose Insert > Layout Object > Div Tag and making sure that Wrap around selected is chosen, type subtitle in the ID field and click OK. Add a comment tag just before the closing div to mark the end of this division `<--end #subtitle-->`

5. Continue to repeat these steps for the remaining division content for maincontent, sidebar and siteinfo selecting the copy text as marked in the copy.for each division.

Exercise 5: Create divisions for the 2 areas of maincontent: feature div, article div, and 2 areas in the sidebar div: blooming and events.

Inside the maincontent division, the copy content will be grouped up into blocks for feature and, article, and the sidebar division contains 2 more divisions, blooming and events. This concludes the html structure.

Objectives

In the html structure, create divs inside the maincontent div to form the block structure of the main content using Dreamweaver's Div Tag object and create the IDs. Nest the sidebar content for what's blooming and events as divs within the sidebar div.

Steps

1. In Design view, inside the maincontent div select the text marked feature and once again, choose Insert > Layout Object > Div Tag to create a division around the feature article text. Type feature in the ID field. Confirm that the proper text is in this division tag, and while selected, scroll to the closing tag and add the comment `<-- end #feature -->`.

2. Repeat this step for the remaining article division.

3. Inside sidebar create 2 additional nested divs each for blooming and events.

4. Now that we have all of our building blocks established, go through the document and delete the division label text, html element hints and everything but the real copy, leaving only the note for (a href 2009-20-10-centennial.html), which we will need later when we make the second page for our newsletter. Make sure to completely delete the text and any extra paragraph with the text. Check for odd characters that sometimes come in from the formatted rich text. Usually curly or smart quotes, apostrophes, em dashes, trademark or registered symbols, etc. will not come over properly and need to be retyped or replaced with Unicode. Replace the copy right symbol with Unicode `©`

5. We are going to layout a simpler two column version of the newsletter first. We are going to add a comment code to hide the sidebar for now. So click in the sidebar and in the Tag Selector bar, select the div sidebar. In the code view add the opening comment tag by typing `<!--` and at the end of the selection, after the closing sidebar div type the closing comment tag `-->` You will notice that the comment code fails to work because we already have a comment code inside for our end of sidebar. Delete the `<-- end #sidebar -->` comment for now.

6. Save the document and close it.
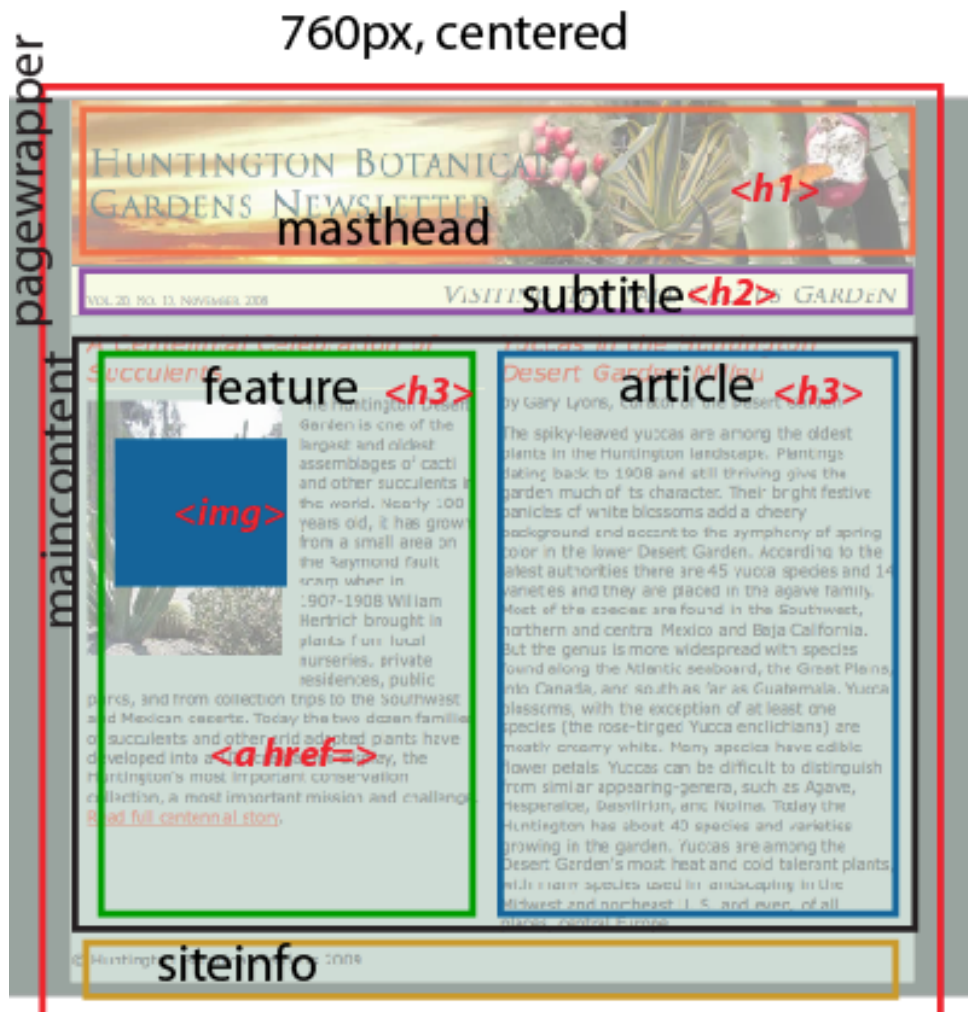
Creating the Page Layout Styles

## Exercise 6: Setting Page Properties Using CSS Styles

In Dreamweaver we can use Page Properties to easily generate a variety of page level CSS styles. You can set the body margins to zero, set the body background color, and choose the base font family and size. Most professional web designers set the body margins to zero and set the body font size to 100%. We will also set the link state colors in Page Properties, creating pseudo-class selectors (a:link, a:visited, etc.) By default Dreamweaver stores the styles created with Page Properties dialog box in the head of the current document. We will then move these styles to an external style sheet to use in multiple pages.

Objectives

- Modify basic page text properties such as font, and font size with styles for the body element
- Modify the margins, background colors, or background image with styles for the body element
- Modify link state colors of a page creating pseudo-classes
- Modify heading level font, size and colors
- Review the DOCTYPE, Title and Encoding and change if necessary

Steps

1. Open the pre-baked completed structure tutorial file found in the layout folder and named layout-start.html**. Save As index.html**

2. In the Properties panel click on Page Properties to open the Page Properties dialog box (or from the Toolbar, select Modify > Page Properties)

    a. In the **Appearance category**

    - Set **Page font** to **Verdana, Geneva, sans-serif.**
    - Set **Size** by typing **100%.**
    - **Text color** to **#1D2F29**
    - **Background color** to **#334841**
   - Set **Margins** to **0 pixels.**
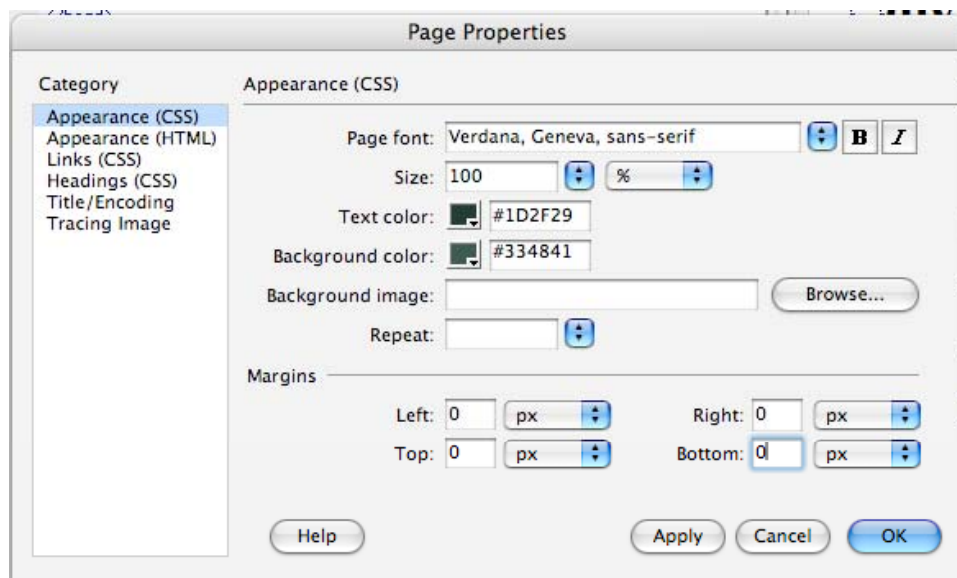
    b. Switch to the **Links category** display

    - Set the **Link color** to **#B83D17**
    - Set the **Visited links** color to **#8C422A**
    - Set the **Rollover (hover) links** to **#C61838**

- Set the **Active links** to **#F76D1C**
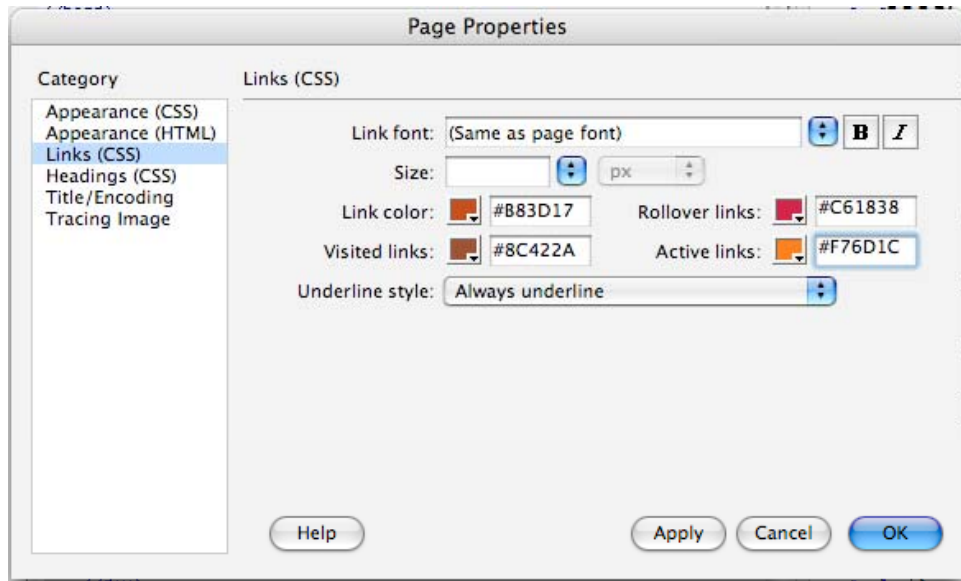
c. Switch to Title/Encoding category

- The Title should already show Huntington Botanical Gardens – Fall Newsletter

- Make sure the **Document type** is set to XHTML 1.0 Strict

- and **Encoding** is set to Unicode 4.0 UTF-8XHTML 1.0
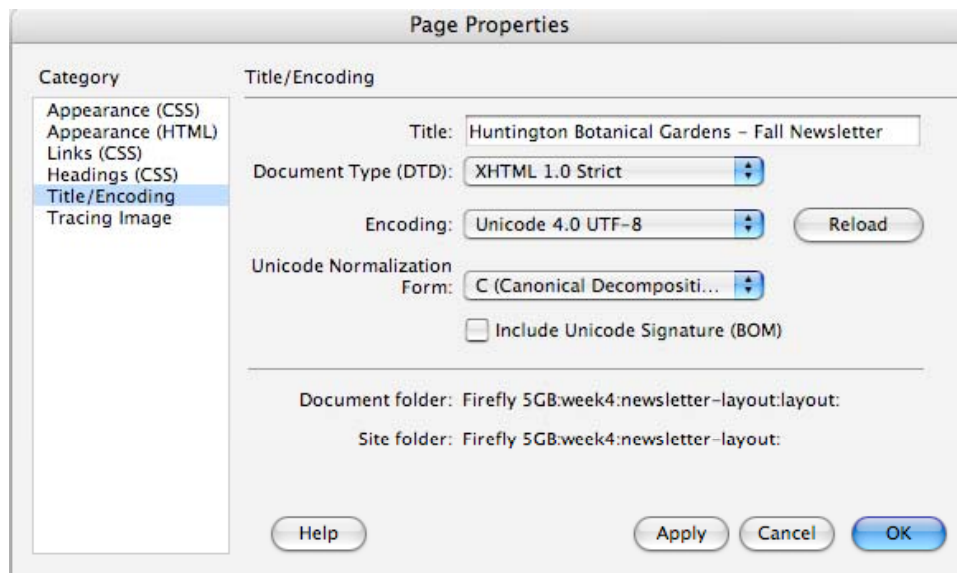
d. Click **OK.**

e. In the code view review the **<style>** element and rules that the Page Properties dialog box has added to the **<head>** element of our document.

Exercise 7: Deleting the Redefined HTML Div Tag Selector and Exporting Styles as External Style Sheet and Linking to the External Style Sheet

By default Dreamweaver stores Page Properties CSS in the **<head>** of the current document in the **<style>** element, along with the style we temporarily set for the div element to make it easier to see the nested div blocks. We want remove the style for the div and move the page

property created styles to an external style sheet that will control our multiple pages.

Objectives

- Remove the temporary style for html tag div
- Move remaining page styles embedded in the head of a page to an external style sheet
- Attach an external style sheet to a page

Steps

1. In the CSS Styles Panel click on the triangle to display all the rules that were just created using the Page Properties dialog as well. In the CSS Panel, with the **All tab** selected, you will see <style> indicating that there are styles in the head of this page. Click on the triangle to display all the rules, including those that were just created using the Page Properties dialog. You will see a **body, th, td** rule and another **body** rule. You will see **a:link, a:visited**, **a:hover, a:active** rules. Note the order for the link rules. They must be in this order (link, visited, hover, active) to work properly. When adding the rules individually, use the mnemonic device **LoVe Ha**te to help.

2. Select the **div** rule that we used to temporarily show our division boxes nested and while selected, click on the trash can icon (delete CSS rule).

3. In the CSS rules list, shift and click to select the remaining rules. Right click while still selected and choose **Move CSS Rules…**
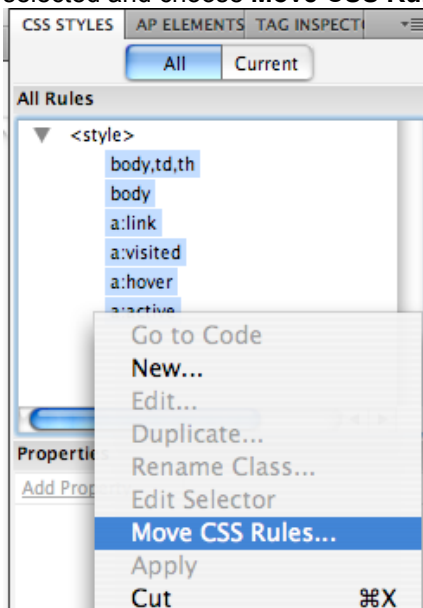
4. The **Move to External Style Sheet** dialog box opens.
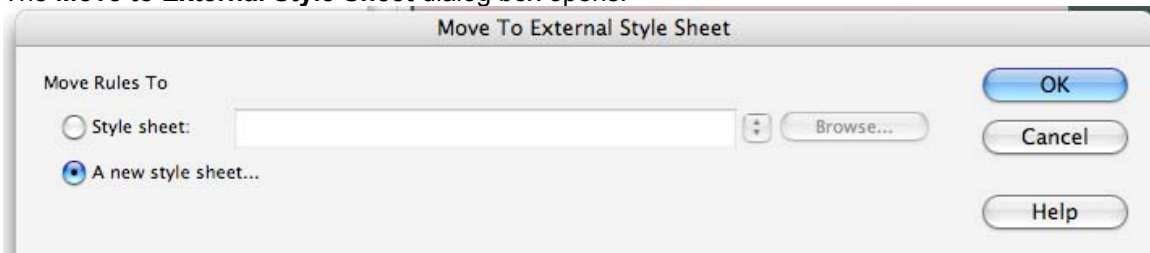
Choose **a new style sheet** button and click **OK**. In the files Finder or Explorer dialog box, browse to your tutorial **layout folder** and inside it to the **css** folder and save the file here as **base.css**.
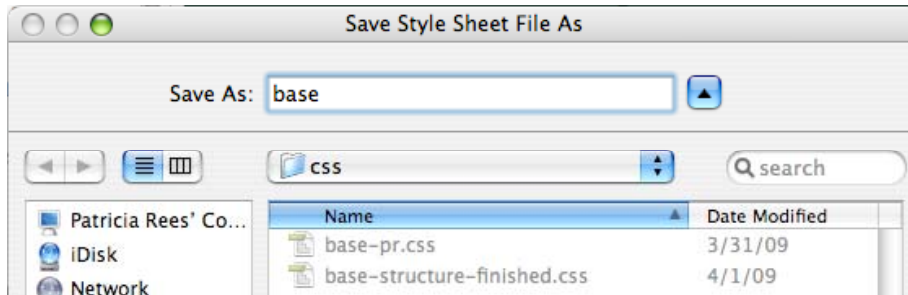
5. Dreamweaver strips the rules that were in the **<head>** in the **<style>** tag and automatically creates the external style sheet called base.css with the rules and links our index file to the new style sheet. If you look at the CSS panel, you will now see both the **<style>** in the head and the linked **base.css** in the **All** view. If you click the triangle to view the base.css you will see that the rules are now in the external style sheet and not in the embedded style element in the head. Since we do not want any styles embedded in our index.html document, delete the remaining empty **<style>** tag in the document **<head>** by selecting the **<style>** in the CSS Styles panel and clicking the **Delete CSS Style icon (trash can).** Now you will only have the proper <link> tag to the new style sheet.

```
<link href="css/base.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" />
```

All of our styles that we set earlier are still applied to our document by the external style sheet now that it is linked in the head.

Exercise 8: Adding New CSS Styles to Define the Layout

Objectives

- Use CSS box model to position the various division blocks

Steps

1. Click any where in the content and then select the div#pagewrapper in the Tag Selector bar

2. With div#pagewrapper selected, go to the CSS panel, and click the New CSS Rule Icon (page with +)

3. In the **New CSS Rule dialog box**:

   - You should see that Dreamweaver automatically selected **ID (Applies to only one HTML element)** as the Selector Type.

   - And named the selector **#pagewrapper** *(# indicates this is an id type selector in the style sheet.).*

   - For **Defined in** make sure that the external style sheet base.css is selected.

   - Click **OK**
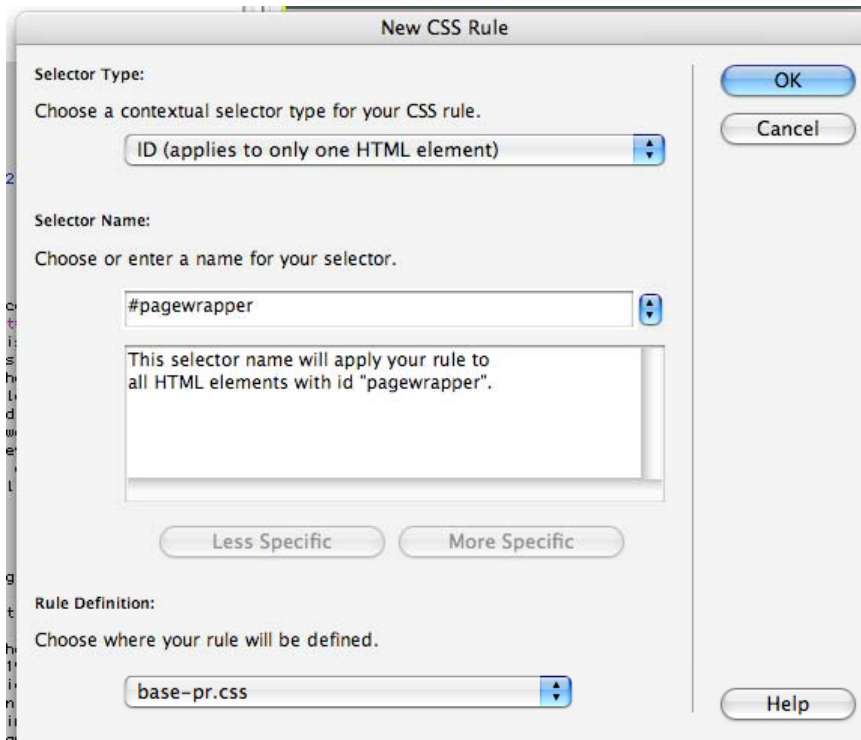
4. In the **New CSS Style Definition dialog box**.

    •   Select **Background** category

        a. Background-color: #9EB6AB
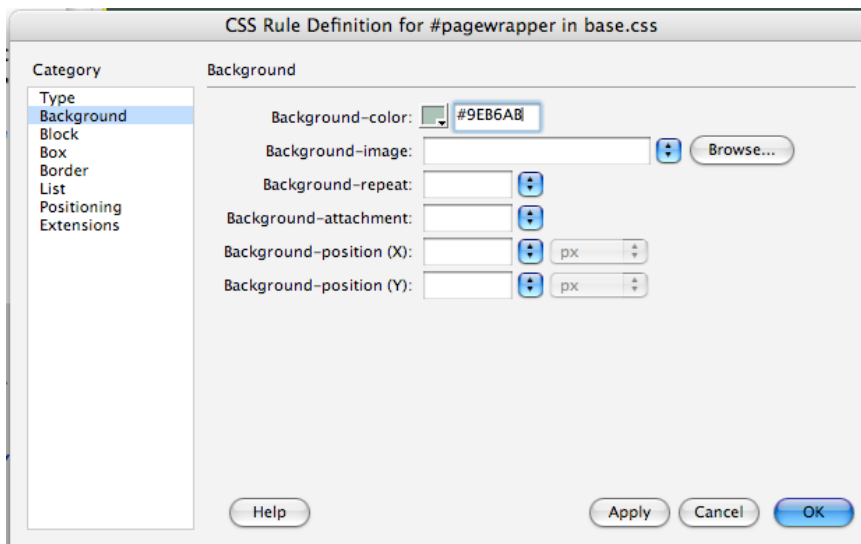
    •   Select the **Box** category.

        a. Width: 758px (this width plus 2px for a border on each side equals *760, the width of the viewport on an 800x600 resolution screen without the browser "chrome" like the scrollbar).*

        b. Under Margins, uncheck the Same for all, and set right and left Margins to **auto**. This will center our 760 pixel fixed page width in the viewport of the browser.
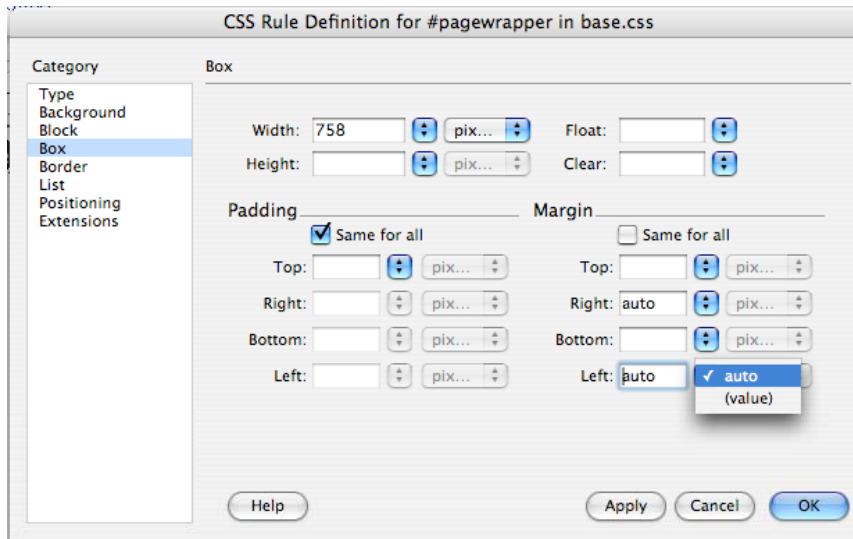
- Select the **Border** category
    a. uncheck Same for all and set 1 pixel solid borders color #BCCFB7 on all sides except the top.
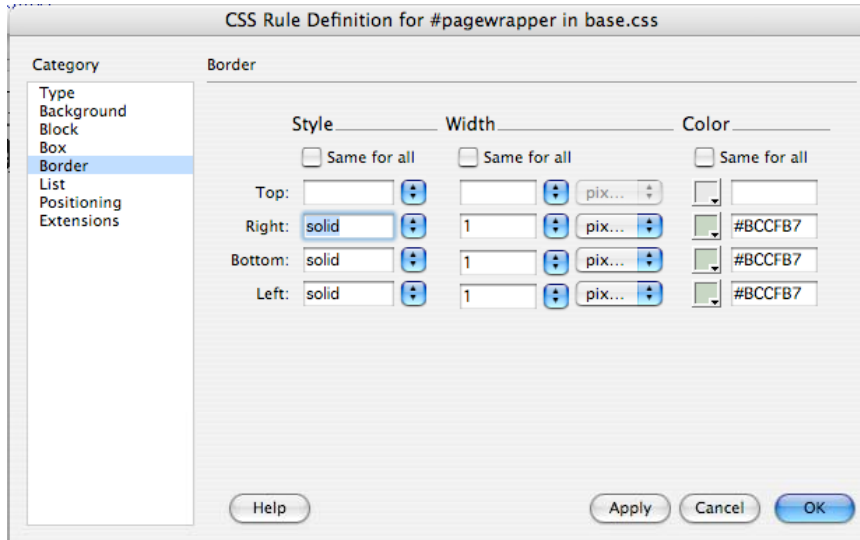
5. Once you have defined this rule with box properties in the CSS Rule Definition dialog, click **OK**.

6. If you look in your **CSS Panel**, you will see the new rule for **#pagewrapper** with the properties we just set. Right click on the #pagewrapper rule and choose Go To the Code. Dreamweaver will switch to the base.css in code view. Notice the code syntax for rules we have created. The ID we created for **#pagewrapper** is preceded with a #, while the Tag selectors (HTML elements) such as **body** do not.

You can use ID selectors to position and format <div>s, or divisions, think container, for laying out content on web pages. In the CSS file, the name of a class selector always begins with a period for example **.date** and in the html document you may apply a class multiple times within a page. In the CSS file the name of an ID selector always begins with a pound or hash symbol (#) and in the html source document it **may only be used once** within a page. In the html source document, when we simply use the name in quotes, not the period or #, so **<div id="pagewrapper">** or **<p class="date">**

Exercise 9: Creating a masthead ID selector CSS rule

We want to use a background image for the masthead and have the actual HTML heading text for Huntington Botanical Garden Newsletter show in front. We need to specify the height for the division to make sure the background image shows properly. This is one of the few times that the height property is used. Normally we let the contents define the height of elements.

Objectives

- Define a new style rule for selector #masthead
- Add height property to define the masthead vertical dimension to match the height of the masthead image we will ultimately add here as a background image.

Steps

1. **Click** in the **Document window** to place your I-beam in the masthead div and select div#masthead in the Tag Selector bar.

2. Go to the CSS Styles panel and add a New CSS Rule for the ID #masthead in the base.css file

3. In the New CSS Rule Definition dialog box:

    - Select the **Box** category.

        a. Enter height: **150px**.

4. Click **OK** to save the style.

5. In the **CSS Styles panel**, Select the style **#masthead** and right click and choose **Go to the code.** Find the css rule **#masthead** that we just created with its property and value for height.

Exercise 10: Creating a subtitle ID selector CSS rule, maincontent wrapper ID selector CSS rule and siteinfo ID selector CSS rule

Objective:

- See how the container divs naturally stack up one on top of the other inside the pagewrapper,
- do not need a width because by default they expand to fill the available width set by the page wrapper, and
- add margins to position the content inside and away from the borders.

Steps

1. Place your I-beam in the **#subtitle** div.

2. With the div#subtitle selected in the tag selector bar, Go to the CSS panel and add a New CSS Rule for the ID #subtitle in the base.css file

3. In the New CSS rule dialog:

    - Select Box category

        a. Set padding: 15px 15px 5px; (top 15px, right 15px, bottom 5px and left 15px)

    - Select Background category and set:

        a. background: #F1F3CC;

- Click OK

4. Place your I-beam in the **#maincontent** div.

5. With the div#maincontent selected in the tag selector bar, Go to the CSS panel and add a New CSS Rule for the ID #maincontent in the base.css file

6. In the New CSS rule dialog:

- Select Box category and set margins on the sides and bottom:

  a. margin: 0 15px 15px; (top 0px, right 15px, bottom 15px and left 15px)

- Click OK

7. Place your I-beam in the **#siteinfo** div.

8. With the div#siteinfo selected in the tag selector bar, Go to the CSS panel and add a New CSS Rule for the ID #siteinfo in the base.css file

9. In the New CSS rule dialog:

- Select Box category and set margins to match the maincontent div, with a little more margin on the bottom:

  a. margin: 0 15px 20px; (top 0px, right 15px, bottom 20px and left 15px)

- Click OK

Exercise 11: Layout the Two Columns

Create columns using the float property. This property enables containers like divs to float beside other elements just as you can do with images.

Objectives

- Add CSS Rules for "nested" feature and article divisions for the content columns within the parent container **<div id="maincontent">**
- Use calculated width to fit within the size of the parent container **<div id="maincontent">**
- Use the float property to create columns

1. At this point the content we want in two columns is stacked as blocks on top of one another. In the next steps we will set a width and float the article division to the right within the maincontent div container. Since our overall pagewrapper plus it's borders is 760 pixels, we will do the math to find out what each column width should be:

   760 – 2 (borders) – 30 (margins on maincontent) – 16 (gutter) ÷ 2 = 356.

2. Place your I-beam in the **#feature** div.

3. With the div#feature selected in the tag selector bar, Go to the CSS panel and add a New CSS Rule for the ID #feature in the base.css file

4. Check that the ID name is **#feature** (click Less Specific to delete any IDs preceding it)..

5. In the New CSS rule dialog:

- Select Box category

  a. Enter **width: 356px**;

  b. Enter **float: left**;

6. Click **OK**.

7. Place your I-beam in the **#article** div.

8. With the div#article selected in the tag selector bar, Go to the CSS panel and add a New

CSS Rule for the ID #article in the base.css file

9. Check that the ID name is **#article** (click Less Specific to delete any IDs preceding it)..

10. In the New CSS rule dialog:

•   Select Box category: In order for the 2nd column to clear the entire left column, even if it's content is longer, we give it a left margin that is the width plus the gutter (356 + 16), and since there is an odd pixel, we will add it here. We do not need to set a width. The content will be constrained to the remaining space in the parent maincontent container div.

  a. Enter **margin-right: 372px;** (356px of article width, plus 16px gutter between columns)

11. Click **OK**.

12. If we temporarily make the article content shorter than the feature content, we will see a typical behavior of floated columns. Place your I-beam in the second paragraph in the article division and select the p tag in the Tag Selector bar. Switch to code view by pressing the CTRL and tilde key ~, then click on the comment icon on the code side toolbar on the left and choose Add HTML comment, or simply type the opening and closing comment tags around the second paragraph.

13. Now when we preview in the browser and scroll to the bottom you will see that the left column text is slightly outside the background color and the site info text has jumped up to the right column under the article. This is because the floated division feature has not been cleared, it has more vertical length below the article copy and all following content will continue to float up and to the left until it has reached the bottom of the floated element.

14. Undo hiding the second paragraph (CMD or CTRL Z)

Exercise 12: Wrap text around the inline image

1. Select the **image** in the **feature** column and in the **CSS Style Panel** create a **New CSS Rule**:

•   In the **New CSS Style dialog box**:

  a. **Selector Type** should be **Compound (based on your selection)**.

  b. Selector ID name should be **#feature img** (Click Less Specific to eliminate any ids to the left of this, and delete the p tag if included).

  c. the external style sheet **base.css** should be selected.
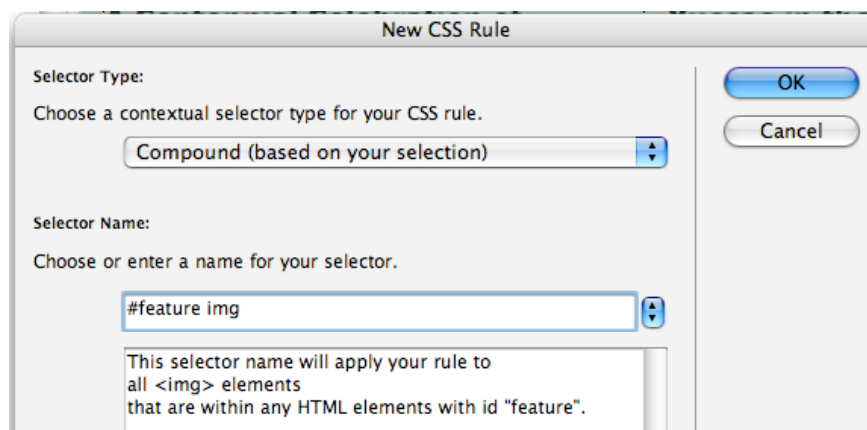
- In the **CSS Rule Definition dialog box**:
   a. Set the following in the **Box** category:
      - Float: **left**
      - Margin-top**: .45em** (just to bring down the amount of the extra ascender space in the paragraph text)
      - Margin-right: **15px**
      - Margin-bottom: **15px**

Exercise 13: Edit the CSS rule for the #siteinfo division in our layout to clear our floated column.

Edit the siteinfo division. Make sure the siteinfo will start a new block to the left regardless of the length of either column.

Objectives

- Use the clearfloat class to force the site info division to completely clear any remaining floated elements whether floated right or left.

1. With your I-beam in the text for siteinfo, select the div#siteinfo in the Tag Selector and go to the CSS Styles Panel, change the tab to current to display the properties for **#siteinfo** rule.
   - Click on the Edit CSS icon and in the New CSS Rule Definition dialog box:
      a. Set the following in the **Box** category:
         - **Clear**: **both**
         - **height: 0px;**
      b. In the Type category set
         - **line-height: 0;**
         - **font-size: 1px;**
      c. The last three properties and values are added to make earlier browsers properly clear the floats.
2. There you have it! We have now completed and placed all the basic layout boxes as we designed in the layout-sketch.pdf.

Creating the Page Design Styles

Exercise 14: Add the background image to the masthead

You can open the "pre-baked" **styles-start.html** file in the **styles folder** which is the file where we left off in the layout tutorial. **Save As index.html**

Objectives

- Using the background image and background color properties add our masthead image.

1. In the CSS Styles Panel, with **All** rules showing, select the **#masthead** selector and click on the **edit**

pencil icon at the bottom of the panel to open the CSS Rule definition dialog box:
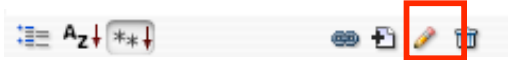
- Select the Background category.

  a. Choose a pleasing **Background-color** for the masthead for viewers with mages off: **#D6C099**

  b. Click the Browse button next to **Background image** and select **images/huntington_banner.jpg**.

  c. From the **Repeat** dropdown menu select **no-repeat**.

- Click **OK**

Exercise 15: Style the content copy text

1. We also want our main content copy to have line-height (leading) and a smaller font size than the default 16. In the **CSS Styles Panel** select the rule for **#maincontent** and click the pencil icon **Edit CSS Rule** for the **#maincontent** element.

   - In the Edit CSS Rule Definition dialog box:

     a. Set the following in the **Type** category:

        ▪ **Font-size: .875em** (The base font size of most browsers is 16px. So to determine the size we want for our text, say 14px, divide 14 by 16 to get .875 ems)

        ▪ **Line-height: 1.4** (choose multiples which means multiples of whatever the font setting measurement is, so here it would be 1.4 times .875ems.)

2. We want our all of our paragraphs to have **bottom margin** but no top margin. This helps keep things on a horizontal line. Click on any paragraph in the main content and in the CSS Styles panel click on the New CSS Rule icon. Click on Less Specific until you only have the <p> tag selected. In the New CSS Rule dialog box:

   - Set the following in the **Box** category for Margins:

     a. Margins - Uncheck Same for All and set **Bottom** margin to **.75em** and all the rest to **0**.

3. We want the **div#maincontent** to have a minimum height, so that short pages will still look complete in the viewport. The min-height rule is not available in the Dreamweaver dialog box, so go to the CSS Styles Panel and select #maincontent in the All View. In the Properties pane for **#maincontent**, click Add Property and type or use the drop list, to set min-height to 27em.

4. We will use a slightly smaller font for the siteinfo content. In the **CSS Styles Panel** select the rule for **#siteinfo** and click the pencil icon **Edit CSS Rule** for the **#siteinfo** element.

   - In the Edit CSS Rule Definition dialog box:

     a. Set the following in the Type category:

        ▪ **Font-size: .8em**

5. The byline on #article should be slightly smaller and italicized

   - Create a new custom class css rule from the CSS Style panel.

     a. In the New CSS Rule dialog box, choose **Selector Type: Class**, name the class **.byline** and make sure it is saving to the **base.css** style sheet and click OK

   - In the CSS Rule Definition dialog box:

     a. Set the following in the Type category:

- ▪ **Font-size: .8em**
- ▪ **Font-style: Italic**

Exercise 16: Adding the Title

We are going back to the **masthead** to add our newsletter title. We want the html text to be in front of our banner image. We will use the positioning properties of relative and absolute to make this work. You use this technique when you want absolute placement of an object on the page or when you need to place an object in front of other objects without changing its location in the source order. Absolute positioning should be used carefully so that the element will not accidentally obscure something else if the font size or viewport size is changed. We are going to change the masthead div height to 9.4em. If the font size changes the masthead will increase in height also, providing more room for the text to display without obscuring the content below. Note: This dimension is the height of the **banner** image if the browser font size is set to 16 pixels, which we already mentioned is the default for most modern browsers. To determine the ems for your image height, divide the actual height in pixels (150 pixels) by 16, which gives 9.375 and I rounded it up to 9.4em.

Objectives

- ▪ Redefine an HTML tag's appearance using CSS
- ▪ Add and position an element absolutely.

Steps

1. Split the long title into two lines, but one h1 element. Place your I-beam in the newsletter title text which is an h1 element and the only one on our page, after Huntington Botanical, and place a line break
 (shift + enter or return). Making sure the h1 tag is selected in the Tag Selector bar, click the **New CSS Style** button.

2. In the New CSS Style dialog box:

   - Select **Tag (Redefines an html element)** as the **Selector Type**.

   - Make sure only **h1** is selected

   - Select the external style sheet **base.css** for the **Defined in** section.

3. Click **OK**.

4. In the New CSS Style Definition dialog box:

   - Set the following in the **Type** category:

     a. Font: **Optima,"Trebuchet MS",Arial,Helvetica,sans-serif** (choose the Trebuchet MS group from the DW font list and click in the field and type **Optima,** at the beginning of the font family list)

     b. Size: **2.1em**

     c. Variant: **small-caps**

     d. Color: **#003333**

   - Set the following in the **block** category:

     a. Letter-spacing: **.5px**

     b. Word-spacing: **.1em**

   - In the **Box** category

     a. Set all margins to 0

- Set the following in the **Position** category

    a. Type: **absolute**

    b. z-index:**10**;

    c. left: **16px**;

    d. top: **10px**; (This measurement will depend on the height of your banner image. You can adjust it later if necessary)

5. Click OK to save the style definition.

6. In order for this absolutely positioned **h1** element to work properly, we have to make its parent container, #masthead, *have position*. An absolutely positioned element is always positioned within the *last positioned* ancestor container. If we do not give position to the #masthead, then this element will be positioned relative to the viewport or body because we have no other elements positioned in our document tree. If you preview the document in the browser you will see the heading is off to the left. In the CSS Panel in the All View mode, select the rule for **#masthead** and then click on the Edit icon (the pencil) at the bottom of the CSS panel.

    - Set the following in the **Position** category

        a. For Type: **Relative** (This provides position to #masthead, the parent div of h1, even though we do not give it any position measurements change placement.)

7. Position the title over the masthead div. If necessary, size and position the absolute positioned element on the screen. You can move the div by either using the drag handle in the upper left corner OR by clicking on a border and using the arrow keys on the keyboard OR select the **h1** rule in the CSS panel All view and selecting the edit icon (pencil icon) to open the dialog box OR directly change the Properties for **h1** for **Top** and **Left** in the CSS Property. Make sure to Preview in the browser (Dreamweaver is not always accurate in the design view for this placement) and make adjustments as needed).

Exercise 17: Style the Newsletter Subtitle <h2> and Add an Issue Number and Date.

Objectives

- Add an issue number and date to the subtitle, using a <span> tag and custom class to display it differently than the style used for the subtitle.
- Add and position an element relatively.

Steps

1. With your I-beam in the subtitle text **Visiting the Fall Cactus Garden**, in the CSS Style panel, create a New CSS Rule for **#subtitle h2**

2. In the New CSS Style dialog box:

    - Select **Compound (based on your selection)** as the **Selector Type**.

    - The selector name should be **#subtitle h2** (delete any ids to the left of this).

    - Select the external style sheet **base.css** for the **Defined in** section.

3. In the CSS Rule Definition dialog box:

    - Set the following in the **Type** category:

        a. Font-family: Font: **Optima,"Trebuchet MS",Arial,Helvetica,sans-serif** (choose the Trebuchet MS group from the DW font list and click in the field and type **Optima,** at the beginning of the font family list)

        b. Font-size: **1.4em**

     c.   Font-style: **italic**

     d.   Font-variant: **small-caps**

- Set the following in the **block** category:

     a.   Letter-spacing: **1.25px**

     b.   Word-spacing: **0.1em**

     c.   Text-align: **right**

- Set the following in the **Box** category

     a.   Margin – **Checked Same for All: 0px**

     b.   Padding – **Checked Same for All: 0px**

4. In the html page, select the text **Vol. 20, No. 10, November 2008** and Right-Click and select Wrap Tag. In the Wrap tag box, start typing sp and select the **<span>** tag. This wraps the selected text in the opening and closing span tags, so that we can isolate it and display differently it from the rest of the subtitle heading. This text should be inside the <h2> tag. Check your code view.
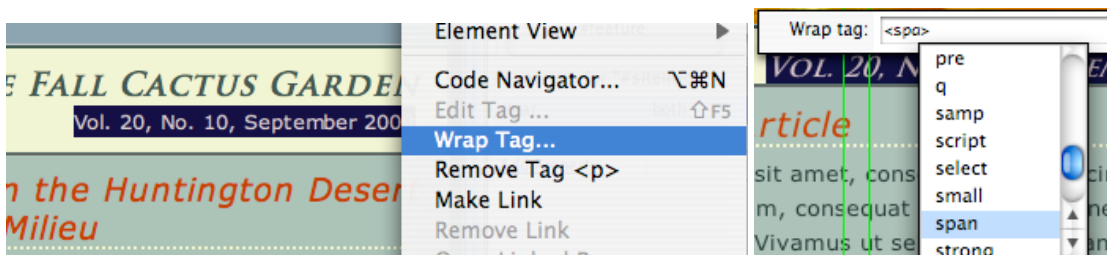
5. In the CSS Styles Panel, create a New CSS Rule for a Selector Type Class **.issue**
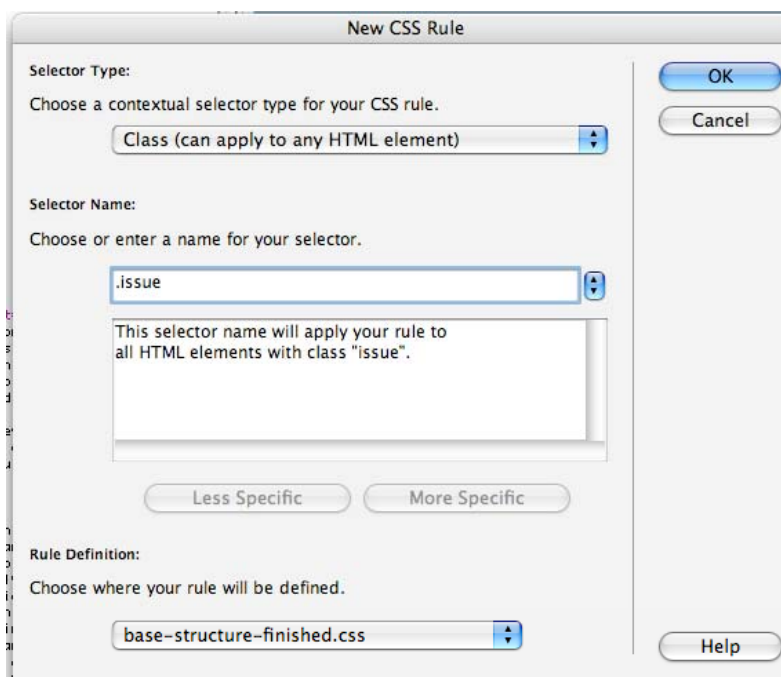
- Be sure to clear the selector name of anything Dreamweaver input and type **.issue** for the selector.

- Set the following in the **Type** category:

     a.   Font-size: **0.7em**

- Set the following in the **block** category:

     a.   Letter-spacing: **-0.5px** (to remove the letter spacing we added for the large font)

- Set the following in the **Position** category:

    a.   Position: **relative**

    b.   Top: **5 pixels** (to bring this text down to the line with the larger font, it is shifted 5 pixels down from where it would have been and leaving space where it was originally in the normal flow.)

    c.   Float: **left**

6. Back in the html, we need to apply this new style to the span tag containing the issue content. Click in the Issue text and in the Tag Selector Bar, click on <span> and right click to **Set Class > issue**
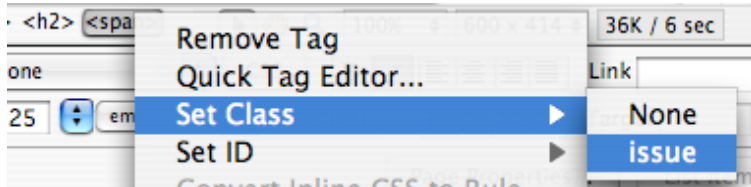
7. Again, just as we did for the h1 and #masthead div, in order to have the positioning for this span be positioned relative to the #subtitle division and not relative to some other point, we need to go back to the **#subtitle** rule and add the property **position: relative, making it the last positioned ancestor in the html tree** for the span element.

    - In the CSS Style Panel, View All, select the **#subtitle** rule and in the Properties pane for #subtitle, click Add Property and type or select from the drop list, **position** and enter the value: **relative.** This will make the parent div #subtitle have "position" to properly place the <span class="issue"> inside this div even though we do not add any changes to #subtitle div position.

8. Finally, be aware that this division with a background color has a floated element. In our case the floated element is completely cleared by the following content "Visiting The Fall Cactus Garden," so there is no need to add a clearing div element. If your content is different, you may need to add the clearing div as we did for the **#pagewrapper** to make sure that the division with the background color is completely containing the floats.

Exercise 18: Style h3 in columns

Objectives

- The last elements left to style are the headings level 3 for each of our articles. We will use borders and margins to add emphasis and style.
- Since both elements will have the same style, we will use multiple selectors separated by commas to name the selector for this style.

Steps

1. With your I-beam in the h3 of the #articles div, go to the CSS Styles Panel and create a New CSS Rule:

    - In the New CSS Style dialog box:

        a.   Select **Compound (based on your selection)** as the **Selector Type**.

        b.   Name the style **#article h3, #feature h3** (we can define both selectors at the same time by separating them with a comma)

        c.   Select the external style sheet **base.css** for the **Defined in** section.

    - In the New CSS Rule dialog box:
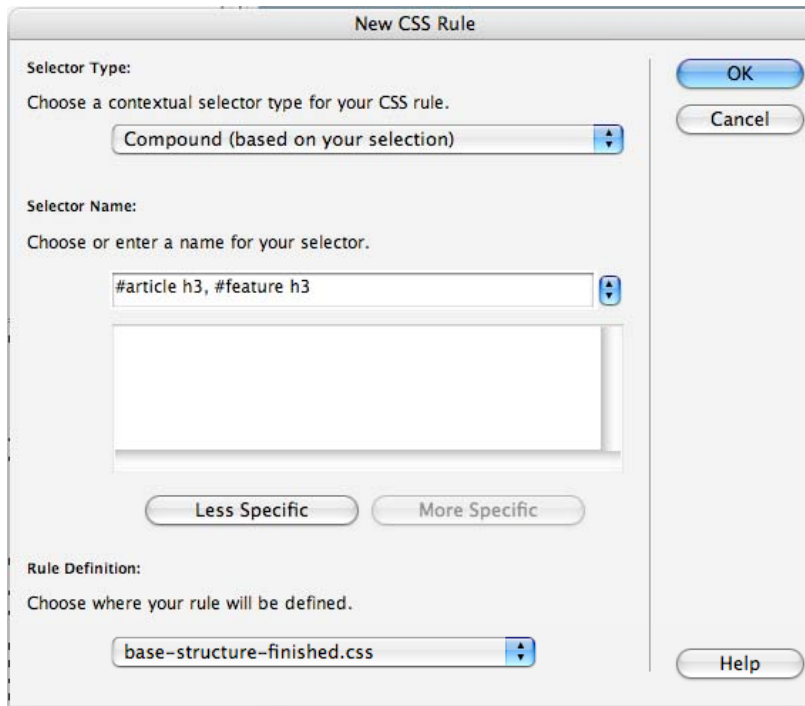
- Set the following in the **Type** category:

  a.   Color: **#BB2C03**

  b.   Font-style: **Italic**

  c.   Font-weight: **normal** (to override the default browser style)

- Set the following in the **Block** category:

  a.   Letter-spacing: **1px**

  b.   Word-spacing: **0.1em**

- Set the following in the **Box** category:

  a.   padding: **top 0.5em** all the rest **0 pixels**

  b.   margin: bottom: **0.25em** and all the rest **0 pixels**

2. Click **OK**

3. Click in the heading for feature and selecting this h3 in the Tag Selector bar, go to the CSS panel and create a New CSS Style

   - In the New CSS Style dialog, select

     a.   Select **Compound (based on your selection)** as the **Selector Type**.

     b.   Name the style **#feature h3** (Click Less Specific until it correct)

     c.   Select the external style sheet **base.css** for the **Defined in** section.

   - In the New CSS Rule dialog

     - Select Border category and set

       a.   border-bottom: 2px dotted #F1F3CC;

Exercise 19: Switch Column Location by Changing Style Sheet

Objectives

- Balance the layout for feature article with photo

- Demonstrate the power of external style sheets to adjust the presentation of the html content by swapping the location of the two columns.

Steps

1. In the CSS Styles panel,
   - in View All select **#feature** and in the **Properties for #feature** pane:
     a. Change the float property to float: **right**.
   - in View All select #article and in the Properties for #article pane:
2. Right click and chose Go to the code…
   - In the code view for the rule **#article**:
     a. Change the property margin-left: 372px; to margin-**right**: 372px;
3. Return to the html file tab and preview in the Firefox browser. Notice that the columns have now swapped locations.
4. Save the current index.html if you haven't already

Finishing up with a Second Page with Different Layout

Exercise 20: Create a Full Article Page with a Single Column Layout

Objectives

- Demonstrate how to have different page layouts within one site and style sheet by using new IDs.
- Create a link back to the main page of the newsletter.

1. Open the pre-baked finish-start.html in the finished folder, which is the page as we left off in the styles exercises. **Save As index.html.**
2. Open the **full-article.txt** in the **start folder > assets.** Copy the text at the top for the page name: **2009-20-10-centennial.html.**
3. Return to the index.html file and **Save again: Save As: paste the copied text (2009-20-10-centennial.html) as the file name** and save in the **finished folder.**
4. Open the **index.html** in the **finished folder** once again from the files panel and select the text **Read full centennial story.** In the **Properties panel** go to the **link field** and clicking on the browse folder icon, find the file **2009-20-10-centennial.html** to make link to it from the feature article on the main page. You can now close the index.html file.
5. In the new **2009-20-10-centennial.html** in Design view, place your cursor in the #article copy. In the Tag Selector bar, select the **<div#article>** tag and click the **delete key** on your keyboard, to completely remove the contents and the division. This page will be a single column of just the full feature article.
6. Go back to the **full-article.txt** and copy all the text
7. Return to **2009-20-10-centennial.html** and select all the copy in the feature div and paste all the full-article text to replace the feature lead-in copy. You can close full-article.txt
8. Again in Dreamweaver Design view, place your cursor in the #feature text. In the code view, locate the **<div id="feature">** and change the id to **fullarticle**. This is a new division ID without the width and float properties, so it will fill the entire **#maincontent** container.
9. Our text copy looks fine, because it is inheriting the styles on #maincontent. However the heading is not right. We used a compound type style to specifically define #feature h3 and #article h3, but now we have a new #fullarticle h3. In the CSS Styles panel, with the All tab

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selected, find the rule for #feature h3, #article h3 and right click to go to the code. Type a coma after #article h3 and then add #fullarticle h3. We probably want to make the heading a little more elaborate, so in the CSS code we can add the #fullarticle h3 selector to the styles we set for #feature h3 (don't forget the coma). Now the border and larger font will apply to this heading as well.

10. In Design view, place your I-beam next to the text (img cactus-garden2.jpg) and from the Insert menu on the Toolbar, Insert Image and browse to the **cactus-garden2.jpg** image to place it inline in the html. Add the alt attribute text Yucca cactus in the garden.

11. While the image is selected, create a New Style Rule in the CSS Style panel.

   • In the New CSS Style dialog box:

       a. Select **Compound (based on your selection)** as the **Selector Type**.

       b. Name the style **#fullarticle img** (delete any other selectors that Dreamweaver auto filled)

       c. Select the external style sheet **base.css** for the **Defined in** section.

   • In the CSS Rule Definition dialog box: Set the following in the **Box** category:

       a. Float: **right**

       b. Margin: **Top: 0, Right: 0, Bottom and Left: 15px**

12. In the paragraph with the text "Return to Newsletter Main Page". Select Newsletter Main Page as the text for a link back to the index.html main page of the newsletter. In the Property Inspector panel, browse to the **index.html** page for the link.

13. Find the short quote from William Hertrich (q "What about a cactus garden?" William Hertrich suggested.) The q element intended for short quotations (inline content) that don't require paragraph breaks. The blockquote element is for lengthy quotations, such as entire sentences, paragraphs, lists, or the like. The cite element is used to indicate where the nearby content comes from—when quoting a person, a book or other publication, or generally referring people to another source, that source should be wrapped in a cite element.

   • Select the text and right click, and choose "wrap tag" from the contextual menu. Type q and the quote element will be supplied. Press enter twice

   • Select the words William Hertrich and again right click and choose wrap tag from the menu. Type the letters ci and the cite element should be supplied, and press enter twice.

14. A blockquote element cannot contain text, but must instead have another block level element inside it. If you are quoting a paragraph of text, use a paragraph; when quoting a list of items, use the elements for lists; and so on. If the quote comes from another web page, you can indicate this using the cite attribute and the URL.

   • Select the entire paragraph quote marked with (blockquote) and right click, choose wrap tag and type the letters bl and blockquote element will be supplied, press enter twice

   • Select the text William Hertrich and right click, choose wrap tag and type ci and the element cite will be supplied. Press enter twice.

15. Hope you had success and that this tutorial will help you develop an interesting and well "seasoned" Newsletter for the month of your birthday!

16. In Advanced Part II we will demonstrate how to add the sidebar content and reorganize the layout to accommodate it. Stay tuned.