

CSS positioning (layout)

Two columns with top

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
<title>Layout with CSS</title>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />
<link rel="stylesheet" href="positioning1.css" type="text/css" />
</head>

<body>

<div id="heading">
 <h1>Stylesheet: Norway saves the net</h1>
</div>

<div id="menu">
<ul>
<li><a href="#">Text</a></li>
<li><a href="#">Colors</a></li>
<li><a href="#">Images</a></li>
<li><a href="#">Layout</a></li>
<li><a href="http://www.w3c.org">W3C</a></li>
</ul>
</div>

<div id="content">
<p>Cascading Style Sheets, eller CSS er utviklet av en nordmann, Håkon Wium
Lie. ....</p>
</div>

</body>
</html>
```

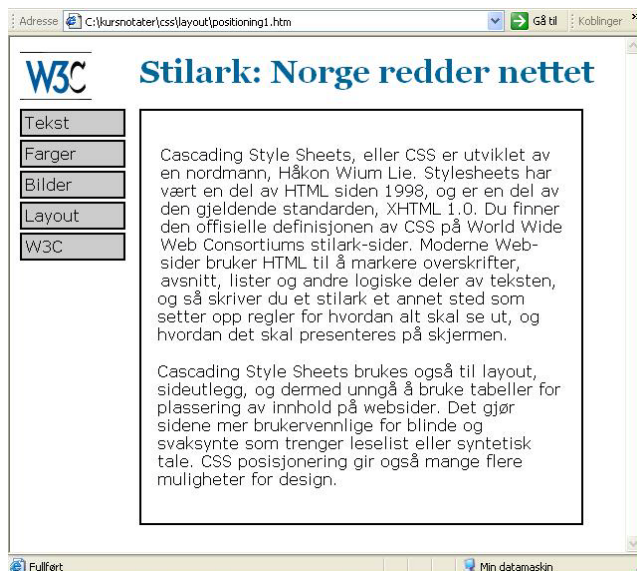
In the browser without CSS:



```

body {
    font-family: Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
    color: #000000;
    background-color: #FFFFFF;
}
.logo {
    float: left;
    margin-right: 3em;
}
#menu ul {
    margin-left: 0px;
    padding-left: 0px;
    list-style-type: none;
}
#menu li {
    background-color: #CCCCCC;
    padding: 0.2em;
    width: 6em;
    margin-bottom: 0.2em;
    border: thin solid #000000;
}
#content {
    margin-left: 7.5em;
    margin-right: 2em;
    border: thin solid #000000;
    padding: 1em;
}
#menu {
    float: left;
    width: 6em;
}
#menu a:link, #menu a:visited {
    color: #000000;
    text-decoration: none;
}
#menu a:hover {
    color: #990000;
    font-weight: normal;
}
#heading {
    font-family: Georgia, "Times New Roman", Times, serif;
    color: #006699;
}

```



Absolute and relative positioning

CSS positioning divides pages in sections with div elements with unique bookmarks, id attributes. Div attributes can be positioned *static*, *relative*, *absolute* or *fixed*.

Absolute positioned divs

Save an empty html document with a file name of your choice and add an embedded, internal stylesheet:

```
<style type="text/css" >
<!--

    #blue {
    width: 100px;
    height: 100px;
    position: absolute;
    top: 0;
    left: 0;
    background-color: blue;
    }

-->
</style>
```

Enter in the html document:

```
<div id="blue"></div>
```

View the page in a browser.

Enter a heading in the html document:

```
<h1>This is a h1 title</h1>
<div id="blue"></div>
```

View the page in a browser. As you can see the heading is placed as expected but the div element stays in place. Try changing the order of the div and the heading in the code. It has no effect, which is how it is with absolute positioned divs.

Relative positioned div

Make a change in the code and give the div a *relative* position.

```
#blue {
width: 100px;
height: 100px;
position: relative;
background-color: blue;
}
```

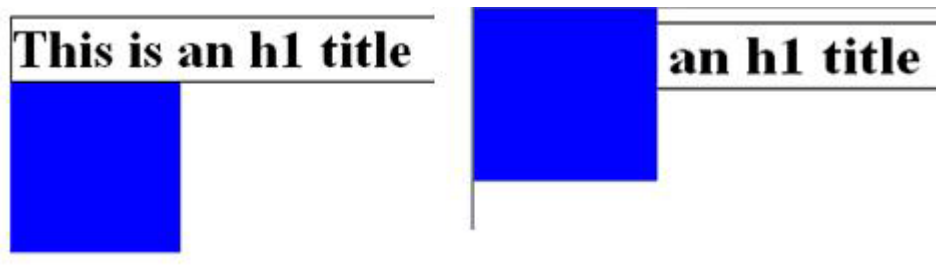
Let the h1 element be placed under the div element in the code and view the document in a browser. You will see a difference in the placement of the div with absolute and relative positioning.

A relative positioned div is "in the document flow". The div is placed on page level and will have an effect on other elements on the page. "To prove a point" view the document in a browser. The elements change place as expected.

With the relative positioning we removed the top and left declarations. Set them back in again and add some code which will remove margins, and add a border for the heading.

```
#blue {
width: 100px;
height: 100px;
top: 0;
left: 0;
position: relative;
background-color: blue;
margin: 0;
}

h1 {
border: 1px solid #000;
margin: 0;
}
```



Both the relative positioned div (left) and the absolute positioned div (right) have css top and left set to 0, but the relative div takes its position relative to the h1 element. The absolute div takes its position in relation to "the containing element", which is the body element in this case. The relative positioned div follows the flow, the order of the elements on the page. The absolute positioned div does not.

If we add a style rule for margins on the body element, then we see that the relative div goes all the way to the left but it cannot go all the way to the top because the h1 element is over. Write the following style rule. Try it out and delete it again.

```
body {margin: 0;}
```

Static positioned divs

Static positioned divs behave as relative positioned divs.