

Cascading Style Sheets

The table-layout Property

The table layout property specifies the way in which a table should be displayed in a Web browser. In CSS, the table-layout property allows flexibility in positioning the tables, which means that you can easily move and place tables at different locations throughout the Web page. Using the table-layout property also decreases the loading time of the table, allowing the main content to appear before the graphics.

The values of the table-layout property

value	Description
auto	Refers to the layout in which a Web browser automatically resizes a table according to its content. This is the default value of the table-layout property. In auto layout the Web browser reads all the content of a table before determining the final layout and sets the column width according to the width occupied by the content in the cells.
fixed	Refers to the layout in which a Web browser does not resizes a table according to the width occupied by its content. In the fixed layout, a Web browser reads only the first row of a table to determine the final layout of the table.

The following syntax shows an example of specifying the table-layout property in a table:

```
table { table-layout: auto; }
```

In the preceding syntax, the value of the table-layout property has been set to auto. This implies that table cells would automatically be resized according to the amount of content placed in them.

Example:

```
<!DOCTYPE html><html><head><style>
table { border-collapse: collapse; border: 1px solid black;}
th,td { border: 1px solid black;}
table.a { table-layout: auto; width: 180px; }
table.b { table-layout: fixed; width: 180px;}
table.c { table-layout: auto; width: 100%; }
table.d { table-layout: fixed; width: 100%; }
</style></head>
<body><h1>The table-layout Property</h1>
<table class="a">
  <tr> <th>Company</th> <th>Contact</th> <th>Country</th> </tr>
  <tr><td>Alfreds Futterkiste</td> <td>Maria Anders</td> <td>Germany</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Island Trading</td> <td>Helen Bennett</td> <td>UK</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti</td> <td>Giovanni Rovelli</td><td>Italy</td> </tr>
</table>
<h2>table-layout: fixed; width: 180px:</h2>
<table class="b">
  <tr> <th>Company</th><th>Contact</th><th>Country</th> </tr>
  <tr> <td>Alfreds Futterkiste</td><td>Maria Anders</td><td>Germany</td></tr>
  <tr> <td>Island Trading</td><td>Helen Bennett</td><td>UK</td></tr>
  <tr> <td>Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti</td><td>Giovanni Rovelli</td><td>Italy</td></tr>
</table>
```

```
<h2>table-layout: auto; width: 100%;</h2>
<table class="c">
  <tr> <th>Company</th><th>Contact</th><th>Country</th></tr>
  <tr> <td>Alfreds Futterkiste</td><td>Maria Anders</td><td>Germany</td></tr>
  <tr> <td>Island Trading</td><td>Helen Bennett</td><td>UK</td></tr>
  <tr> <td>Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti</td><td>Giovanni Rovelli</td><td>Italy</td></tr>
</table>
<h2>table-layout: fixed; width: 100%;</h2>
<table class="d">
  <tr><th>Company</th><th>Contact</th><th>Country</th></tr>
  <tr><td>Alfreds Futterkiste</td><td>Maria Anders</td><td>Germany</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Island Trading</td><td>Helen Bennett</td><td>UK</td></tr>
  <tr><td>Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti</td><td>Giovanni Rovelli</td><td>Italy</td></tr>
</table>
</body></html>
```

Output:

The table-layout Property

Company	Contact	Country
Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Germany
Island Trading	Helen Bennett	UK
Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti	Giovanni Rovelli	Italy

table-layout: fixed; width: 180px:

Company	Contact	Country
Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Germany
Island Trading	Helen Bennett	UK
Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti	Giovanni Rovelli	Italy

table-layout: auto; width: 100%:

Company	Contact	Country
Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Germany
Island Trading	Helen Bennett	UK
Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti	Giovanni Rovelli	Italy

table-layout: fixed; width: 100%:

Company	Contact	Country
Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Germany
Island Trading	Helen Bennett	UK
Magazzini Alimentari Riuniti	Giovanni Rovelli	Italy

The caption-side Property

The caption-side property is used to specify the position of a table caption. A table caption is a short description that is provided with a table, specifying its number, the number of the chapter it belongs to, and the information that it is imparting. You can use the caption-side property to display the table caption on the top as well as at the bottom of the table.

The values of the caption-side property

Value	Description
top	Defines a caption on the top of a table
bottom	Defines a caption at the bottom of a table
inherit	Specifies that the value of the caption-side property is inherited from its containing element

The following syntax shows an example of specifying the caption-side, property in a table:

```
table { caption-side: bottom; }
```

In the preceding syntax, the value of the caption-side property is bottom, indicating that the table caption appears below the table.

Example:

```
<!DOCTYPE html><html><head><style>
#example1 { caption-side: bottom;}
#example2 { caption-side: top;}
</style></head>
<body>
<h1>The caption-side Property</h1>
<p>The caption-side property specifies the placement of a table caption:</p>
<h2>caption-side: bottom:</h2>
<table id="example1" border="1">
<caption>Table 1.1 Customers</caption>
<tr><th>Company</th> <th>Contact</th> <th>Country</th></tr>
<tr><td>Alfreds Futtarkiste</td><td>Maria Anders</td><td>Germany</td></tr>
<tr><td>Berglunds snabbköp</td><td>Christina Berglund</td><td>Sweden</td></tr>
<tr><td>Centro comercial Moctezuma</td><td>Francisco Chang</td><td>Mexico</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ernst Handel</td><td>Roland Mendel</td><td>Austria</td></tr>
</table>
<h2>caption-side: top (default):</h2>
<table id="example2" border="1">
<caption>Table 1.1 Customers</caption>
<tr><th>Company</th><th>Contact</th><th>Country</th></tr>
<tr><td>Alfreds Futtarkiste</td><td>Maria Anders</td><td>Germany</td></tr>
<tr><td>Berglunds snabbköp</td><td>Christina Berglund</td><td>Sweden</td></tr>
<tr><td>Centro comercial Moctezuma</td><td>Francisco Chang</td><td>Mexico</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ernst Handel</td><td>Roland Mendel</td><td>Austria</td></tr>
</table>
</body></html>
```

Output:

The caption-side Property

The caption-side property specifies the placement of a table caption:

caption-side: bottom:

Company	Contact	Country
Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Germany
Berglunds snabbköp	Christina Berglund	Sweden
Centro comercial Moctezuma	Francisco Chang	Mexico
Ernst Handel	Roland Mendel	Austria

Table 1.1 Customers

caption-side: top (default):

Table 1.1 Customers

Company	Contact	Country
Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Germany
Berglunds snabbköp	Christina Berglund	Sweden
Centro comercial Moctezuma	Francisco Chang	Mexico
Ernst Handel	Roland Mendel	Austria

Exercise:

- 1: What is table-layout Property?
- 2: What is caption-side Property?