

How to Float Elements

**From
A crash course
in CSS (Chapter 5)**

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Adapted from Mike Murach Associates © Copyright 2009

How to float an element

```
float: none;    /* default value */  
float: left;  
float: right;
```

How to force the placement of an element that's after a floated element

```
clear: none;  
/* default, element will fill in beside floated blocks */  
  
clear: left;  
/* element will not fill in beside left floated blocks */  
  
clear: right;  
/* element will not fill in beside right floated blocks*/  
  
clear: both;  
/* element will not fill in beside any floated blocks */
```

The web page in a browser

Mike's Bait & Tackle Shop	
Welcome to Mike's Bait & Tackle Shop! We have all the gear you'll need to make your next fishing trip a great success!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Products• Services• Contact Us
© 2008 Mike's Bait & Tackle Shop	

How to enable absolute positioning

```
position: absolute;
```

How to position the element horizontally

```
left: auto;    /* default value */
```

```
left: 5px;  
/* left edge is 5px inside left edge  
of containing block */
```

```
left: -5px;  
/* left edge is 5px outside left edge  
of containing block */
```

```
right: 5px;  
/* right edge is 5px inside right edge  
of containing block */
```

```
right: -5px;  
/* right edge is 5px outside right edge  
of containing block */
```

How to position the element vertically

```
top: auto;    /* default value */
```

```
top: 5px;  
/* top edge is 5px inside top of containing block */
```

```
top: -5px;  
/* top edge is 5px outside top of containing block */
```

```
bottom: 5px;  
/* bottom edge is 5px inside bottom  
of containing block */
```

```
bottom: -5px;  
/* bottom edge is 5px outside bottom  
of containing block */
```

CSS with absolute positioning

```
body {
    margin: 5px;
    padding: 5px;
}
div {
    border: 1px solid black;
    padding: 0px 10px;
}
#header {
    height: 60px;
}
#menu {
    position: absolute;
    top: 72px;
    right: 10px;
    width: 10em;
}
#content {
    padding-right: 12em;
    height: 120px;
}
```

The web page in a browser

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- [Products](#)
- [Services](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

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How to enable relative positioning

```
position: relative;
```

How to move the element horizontally

```
left: auto;          /* default value */  
left: 5px;           /* moves the element right 5px */  
left: -5px;          /* moves the element left 5px */
```

How to move the element vertically

```
top: auto;           /* default value */  
top: 5px;            /* moves the element down 5px */  
top: -5px;           /* moves the element up 5px */
```

CSS with relative positioning

```
div {  
  border: 1px solid black;  
  padding: 0px 10px;  
}  
#menu {  
  width: 10em;  
  float: right;  
}  
#footer {  
  clear: both;  
  position: relative;  
  top: 10px;  
}
```

The web page in a browser

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The XHTML for a form

```
<h3>Subscribe to our newsletter:</h3>
<form action="subscribe.php" method="post">

  <label for="name">Name:</label>
  <input type="text" name="name" id="name" /><br />

  <label for="email">Email:</label>
  <input type="text" name="email" id="email" /><br />

  <label for="subscribe">&nbsp;</label>
  <input type="submit" name="subscribe"
    value="Subscribe" /><br />

</form>
```

The CSS for the form

```
form label {
  float: left;
  width: 4em;
  margin-bottom: .5em;
}
form input {
  float: left;
}
form br {
  clear: left;
}
```

The form in the web browser

