

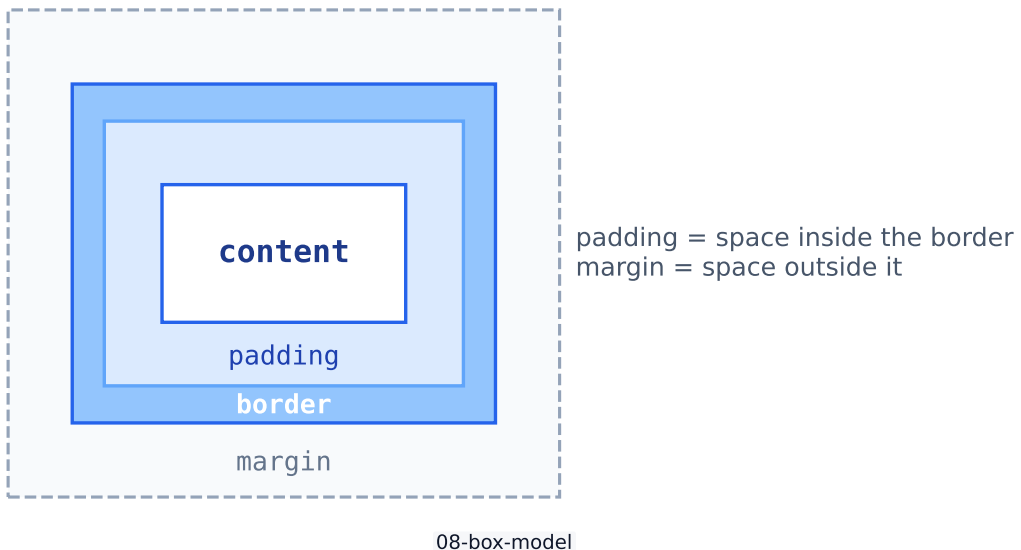
The box model

HTML & CSS Reference

The box model

Every element is a box with four layers, from inside out: the content , the padding (space inside the border), the border , and the margin (space outside the border).

```
<style>
  .box { background: #dbeafe; border: 3px solid #2563eb;
        padding: 16px; margin: 20px; }
</style>
<div class="box">content + padding + border + margin</div>
```



The box model: content, then padding, then border, then margin

Margin & padding

padding adds space **inside** the border, pushing the content inwards. **margin** adds space **outside**, pushing other boxes away. Give one value for all sides, or four (top right bottom left).

```
<style>
  .a { background: #fde68a; padding: 4px; }
  .b { background: #bbf7d0; padding: 20px; margin-top: 16px; }
</style>
<div class="a">tight padding</div>
<div class="b">roomy padding</div>
```

Display

The **display** property sets how a box flows. **block** takes a whole line; **inline** sits within a line of text; **none** removes the box completely; **flex** lays the children in a row (next topic).

```
<style>
  .hidden { display: none; }
  .chip { display: inline; background: #e0e7ff; padding: 2px 8px;
    ↪ border-radius: 6px; }
</style>
<p>Visible text. <span class="hidden">(secret)</span> <span
  ↪ class="chip">a chip</span></p>
```

Common mistakes

- Padding is inside the border; margin is the space outside it.
- **box-sizing**: **border-box** makes the set width include padding and border — often what you want.
- **display: none** hides an element completely; **visibility: hidden** leaves its space.