

# Display Types

Hello, and welcome to the lesson about the different display types in CSS. Every element on a web page is a rectangular box. The display property in CSS determines just how that rectangular box behaves. There are various values of the display property. In this lesson, I will be covering the display inline, block, and inline-block.

So first, we have to realize that some HTML tags like `<div>`, `<p>`, `<ul>` take full-width of space and each starts with a new line, whereas other HTML tags like `<span>`, `<img>` or `<a>` don't need a new line and can be placed side by side. This is because of the different display behaviors: Block or inline. Let's see the difference with a short example. Without any CSS, I create an HTML template with `<p>` and `<a>` tags. I'm sure you can see the difference. Each `<p>` tag starts with a new line even if there is enough space so that they could fit next to each other. Links, however, displayed side by side.

## Difference between inline and block elements

Block-level elements take full-width (100 percent width) by default, while inline elements take only as much space as they need. Block element each gets displayed in a new line - inline is displayed side by side. For block element width and height properties can be set and inline elements don't accept width or height and top and bottom margin. And block element can contain other block or inline elements and inline elements can be a parent of other inline elements not block elements. Okay, so now since we know those block elements can have

width and height set let's try changing the width of these `<p>` tags. Let's say "p" with 150 pixels and height 150 pixels, let's change the background color so we can see it better. So now the width is set to 150 pixels but they still are displayed in a new line. What if I change the display type to inline? My "p" tags will be displayed side by side but my width and height is not taking effect, that is when the display inline-block comes useful. Whenever we want to place two block elements side by side and apply the height width or top and bottom padding and margin we can set the display to inline-block. And another way around when we have an inline element and we want to keep it in line but we want to control the sizing better we also can change the display to inline-block as well. Let me show you, let's hide these paragraphs for a moment, and let me show you how that links look if we change the styling a little bit. So for a "a" element - if they are in line the width and height cannot be set. And let's try changing the margin. Nothing happens - margin-top and bottom doesn't work on inline elements. But what about margin right? Margin right does take effect. And let's remove that margin for a moment, let's try adding a top padding - that seems to work. And padding-right, okay that works too, but if you notice the top padding, let's add a bottom padding as well - it does apply but if I show you this inside a paragraph. So let's hide these I am adding comments to hide the HTML, you see that padding is applied but it doesn't affect other elements it's still inline. So to fix that I would also add a display inline-block and that will make my element accept my width and height but if it wouldn't be set it would at least consider the padding and margin and it would affect other elements on a page. So display inline-block is very useful and the most common use case for Divi is for example placing two button modules (or any modules really) side-by-side.

So let me show you. I have a simple layout here and let's try duplicating

that module and let's try setting the display property to display inline-block so that they should be next to each other, okay? I will show you why this won't work here and how to fix this, okay? So in the custom CSS for the main element, we want this to be displayed inline-block. And if I even apply that extend that styling to the second button we won't see any change, so let me save that and let's see how that looks in our browser inspector. The button module is a specific module that really has an additional div wrapper. So the styles we've added for the display inline is for the a-link which is inside the div here. That's why setting display inline-block for an "a" element doesn't do anything because this div is still displayed block by default it's block and it's taking the full width. So we have to target that outside div that parent div but it doesn't have any custom CSS class we could target. If we add a CSS class to the module it would be added to an "a" element so we can work around it and add a custom class to our column. Let me show - you here in the row settings second column advanced and let's say inline buttons. Okay, let's save that. And now if I refresh here my column has a class of inline buttons and now I can target the wrapper div which is has a class `et_pb_button_module_wrappers - et_pb_button_module_wrapper`. So I'm targeting all button module wrappers inside the inline buttons CSS class. And let's say - display inline-block, okay? Now I could copy that CSS add it to my page custom CSS for example and I can change the margin in the spacing section margin right at 20 pixels for example. And I have beautiful side-by-side buttons just by understanding HTML structure and the display property.

So I hope that was helpful and useful.