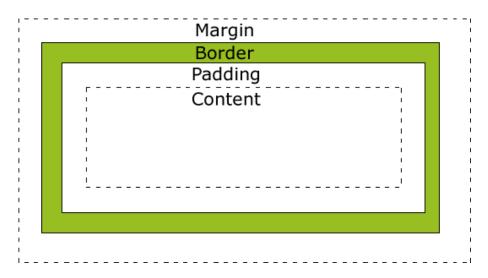
CSS Box Models

All HTML elements can be considered as boxes. The term "box model" is used when talking about design and layout.

The box model is essentially a box that wraps around HTML elements, and it consists of: margins, borders, padding, and the actual content.

The box model allows us to place a border around elements and space elements in relation to other elements.

The image below illustrates the box model:



- Margin Clears an area around the border. The margin does not have a background color, it is completely transparent
- Border A border that goes around the padding and content. The border is affected by the background color of the box
- Padding Clears an area around the content. The padding is affected by the background color of the box
- Content The content of the box, where text and images appear.

Width and Height of an Element

NOTE: When you specify the width and height properties of an element, **you are just setting the width and height of the content area**. To know the full size of the element, you must also add its surrounding padding, border and margin.

The total width of the element in the example below is 300px:

```
width:250px;
padding:10px;
border:5px solid gray;
margin:10px;

Because:
250px (width)
+ 20px (left and right padding)
+ 10px (left and right border)
+ 20px (left and right margin)
= 300px
```

TOTAL ELEMENT WIDTH = width + left padding + right padding + left border + right border + left margin + right margin

TOTAL ELEMENT HEIGHT = height + top padding + bottom padding + top border + bottom border + top margin + bottom margin

EXAMPLE:

```
<html>
    <html>
    <head>
        <style type="text/css">
        div.ex{
            width:220px;
            padding:10px;
            border:5px solid gray;
            margin:0px;
        }
        </style>
    </head>
</html>
```

NOTE: This may look different in different browsers. Most versions of Internet Explorer, for example, include padding and border in the width. This can be fixed with a DOCTYPE declaration, but this is trivial. The point is that your website will not look identical in all browsers.