Creating CSS layout with header, navigational bar, two columns and footer

Using CSS positioning with floats can reduce markup code, speed up page download, separate content from its visual presentation, and bring your code closer to Web standards compliance - all while making your web site more appealing to search engine.

In this chapter we will continue working on the same file.

First, we will add page header (element that will be used to add graphical elements, such as banner and/or logo).

1. Add DIV **header** above div **wrappe**r:

   ```
   <body>
   <div id="header">Header content goes here</div>
   <div id="wrapper">
   . . .
   ```

2. Add styles for id **header**:

   ```
   #header {
   width:900px;
   height:180px;
   background-color:#99CCFF;
   }
   ```
   Notice that the width of the header is set to 900px - the width of the entire layout.

3. Save and refresh you page. You should have a header about two columns now:

   Header content goes here

   Left column content goes here.   Right column content goes here

4. Now we will add a placeholder for our horizontal navigation. We will name this div **navholder**:

Add a new div (after the **<div id ="header"> </div>** block:

<div id="header">Header Content goes here</div>
<div id="navholder"> link link link </div>
<div id="wrapper" >
. . .

5. Add a new style for div **navholder** within <style> and </style> tag.

    ```
    #navholder {
    width:900px;
    height:30px;
    background-color:#000;
    }
    ```

6. Save and refresh your web browser to view the changes.
7. The last step is to add a DIV footer (for a footer navigation) after the end of the div **wrappe**r. Add the following line or code after the end of the DIV #wrapper:

    ```
    </div> <!-- end of #wrapper -->
        <div id="footer"> footer links </div>
    ```

8. Add styles for the DIV #footer between <style> and </style> tags:

    ```
    #footer {
     width:900px;
     height:20px;
     background-color:#000;
    }
    ```

9. Save and refresh your web browser. You will see we have an issue. Since we have two columns with the **float** property, our footer is forced to wrap around one of the column and is not seen. To solve the problem, we need to clear the float, using the **clear** property. Add the clear property (**clear:both**) to the **#footer**styles:

    ```
    #footer {
    width:900px;
    height:20px;
    background-color:#000;
    clear:both;
    }
    ```

10. Save and refresh your browser. You have built a simple CSS layout design with two columns, header, and footer:

11. For the next assignment, you will use WYSIWYG tools to build your own layout design, based on CSS positioning with floats. We will use backgrounds, images, lists, links, padding, and margin properties to build the final layout for your final web site template.