

CIS 658 Web Architectures

CSS Grid & Flexbox



GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY®

Lecturer: **Dr. Yong Zhuang**

Review

- Display: inline, block, none...
- Box/Element Positioning: static, relative, absolute, fixed
- CSS Selector:
 - ID, tag name, CSS class, Attribute (with or without its value)
 - Parent/Child/Descendant relationship in the DOM tree
 - Sibling relationship in the DOM tree
 - Selector Modifiers: pseudo-classes
 - Permutations of all the above selectors
- Pseudo Classes vs. Pseudo Elements
- Media Query: @media

Grid & Flexbox

Grid (2D)



Page Layout

Flexbox (1D)



Contents

Which one?

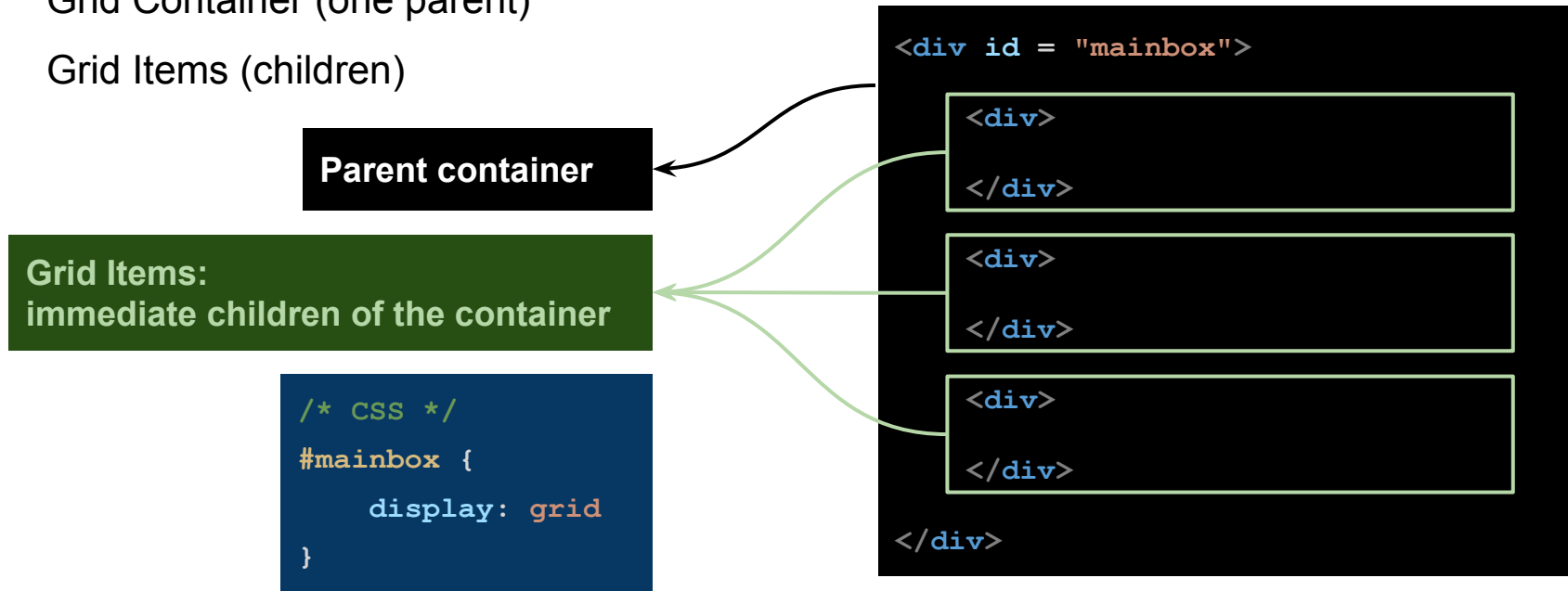
- Use CSS Grid to organize 2D layout of major elements (“macro”)
- Use CSS Flexbox to organize contents within an element (“micro”)
- The scale of macro/micro is subjective
- Resources:
 - [A Complete Guide to Grid](#)
 - [A Complete Guide to Flexbox](#)

CSS Grid (2D)

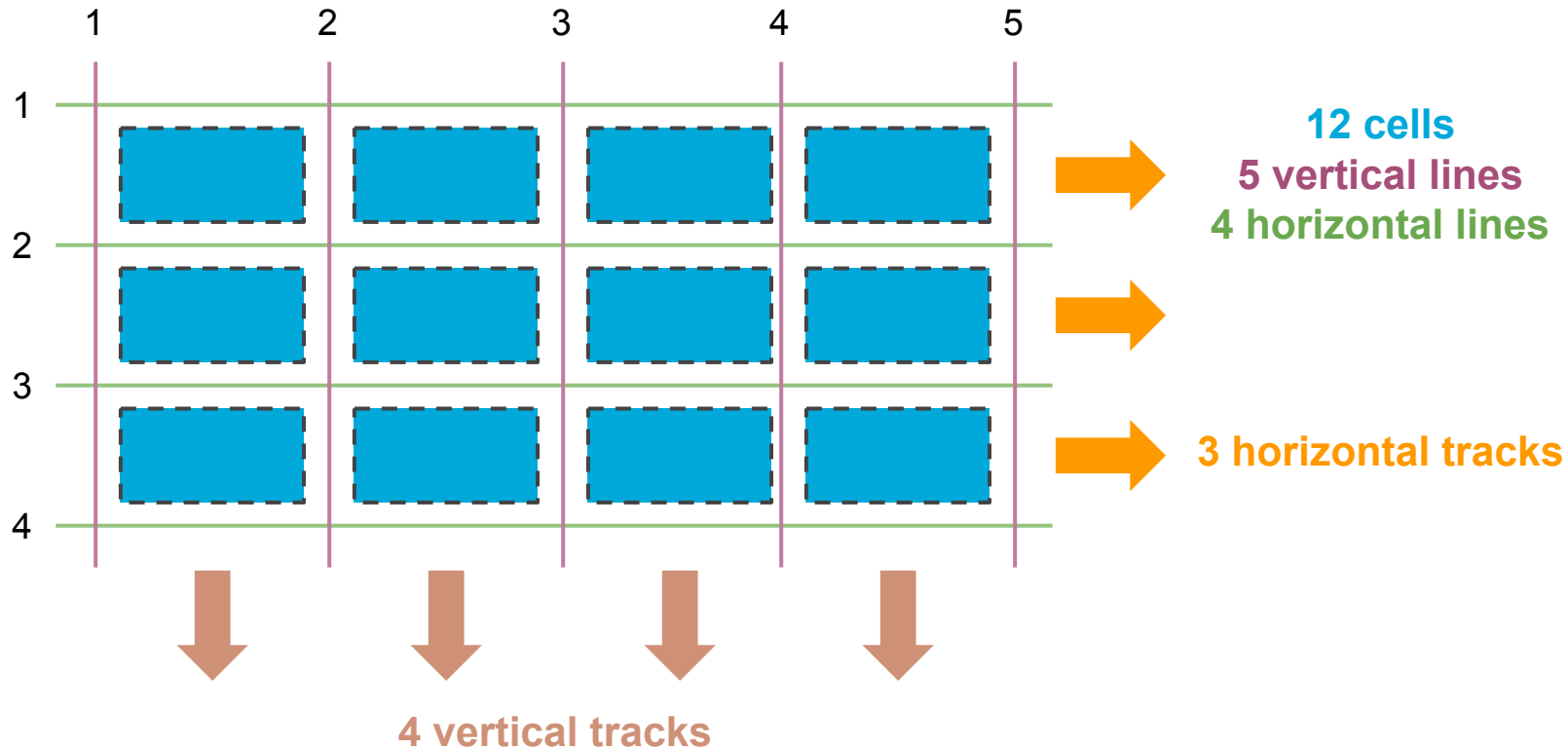
Reference: [A Complete Guide to Grid](#)

Elements of CSS Grid

- Organize (page) layout into a MxN flexible rectangular spaces (cells)
- Grid Container (one parent)
- Grid Items (children)

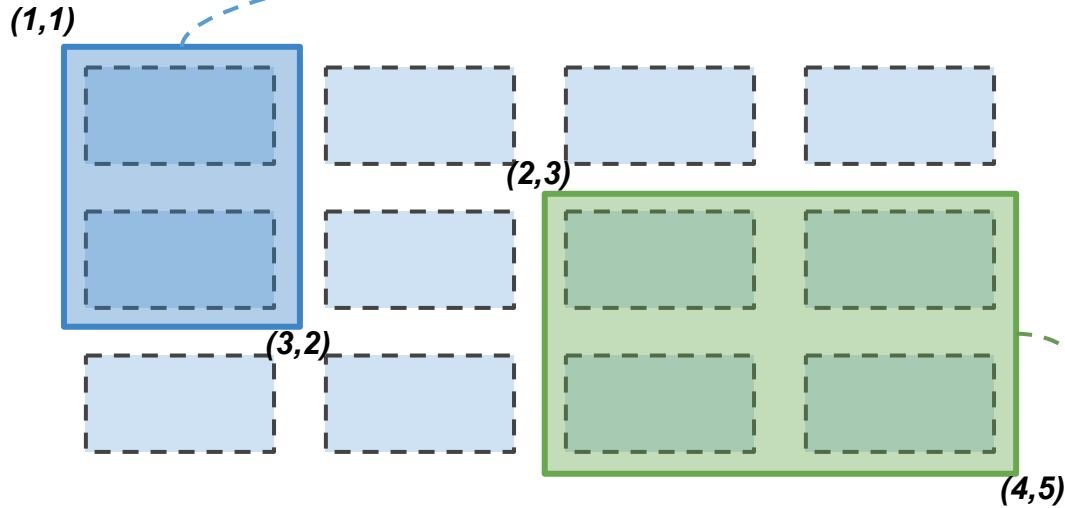


Grid Details: Lines & Cells & Tracks



Grid (Rectangular) Areas

Items may occupy multiple cells

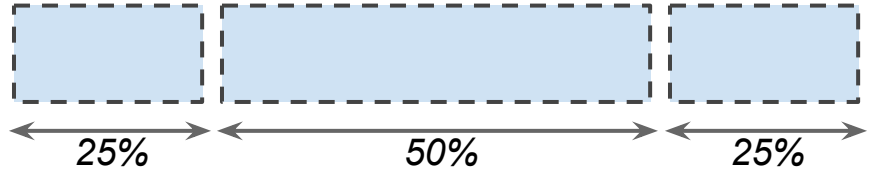


```
#blueBox {  
    /* grid-row-start,  
    grid-column-start,  
    grid-row-end,  
    and grid-column-end */  
    grid-area: 1 / 1 / 3 / 2;  
    background:blue;  
}
```

```
#greenCorner {  
    /* grid-row-start,  
    grid-column-start,  
    grid-row-end,  
    and grid-column-end */  
    grid-area: 2 / 3 / 4 / 5;  
    background:green;  
}
```

Grid Template (Rows | Columns)

```
/* in CSS */  
#mainbox {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;  
}
```



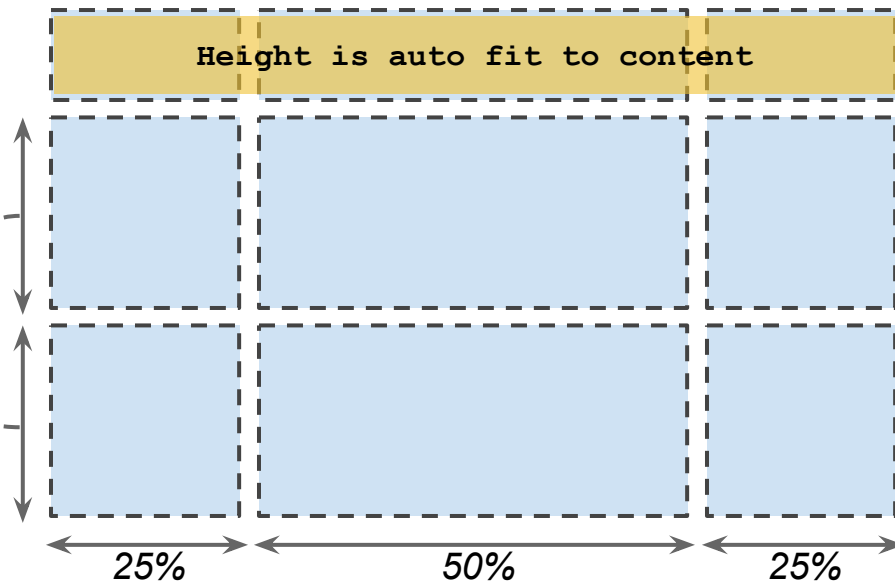
Unit	Description
auto	Just enough to fit content
fr	Proportions of the available parent space (width or height)
%	Percentage of the available parent space
px, em, cm, ...	Fixed

Grid Template

```
/* in CSS */
#mainbox {
  display: grid;
  gap: 5px;
  grid-template-columns:
  grid-template-rows:
}
```



50% of **remaining** height each

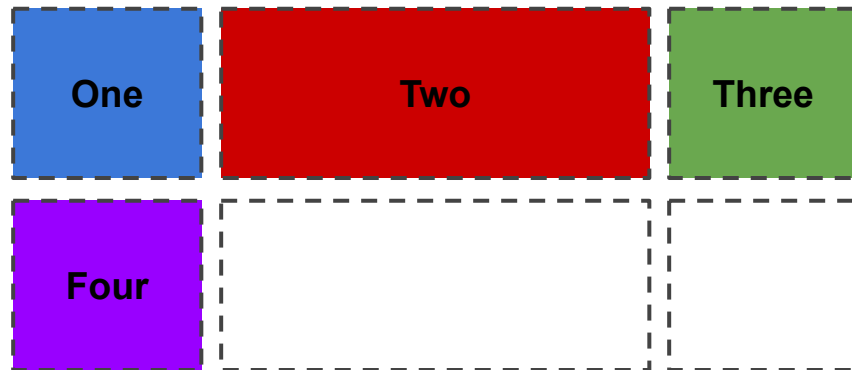


Default Placement

Default placement: children fill the cells left-to-right, top-to-bottom

```
/* in CSS */
#mybox {
  display: grid;
  gap: 5px;
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;
}
```

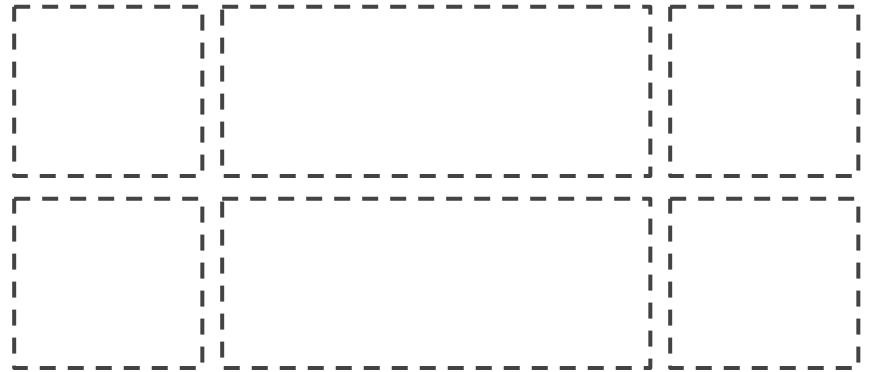
```
/* in HTML */
<div id="mybox">
  <span class="blue">One</span>
  <span class="red">Two</span>
  <span class="green">Three</span>
  <span class="purple">Four</span>
</div>
```



Explicit positioning by "coordinates"

```
/* in CSS */
#mybox {
  display: grid;
  gap: 5px;
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;
  grid-template-rows: 1fr 1fr;
}
.red {
  grid-row-start: 2;
  grid-row-end: 3;
  grid-column-start: 2;
  grid-column-end: 3;
}
```

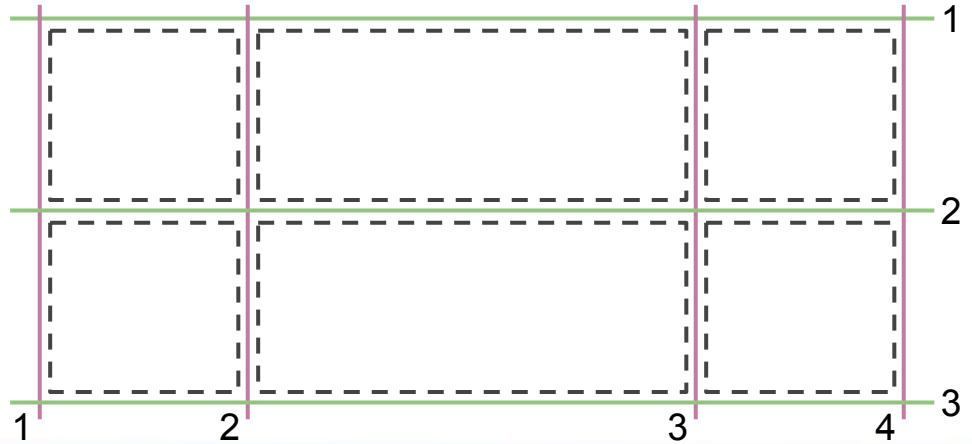
```
/* in HTML */
<div id="mybox">
  <span class="blue">One</span>
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  <span class="green">Three</span>
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</div>
```



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}
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  grid-row-start: 2;
  grid-row-end: 3;
  grid-column-start: 2;
  grid-column-end: 3;
}
```

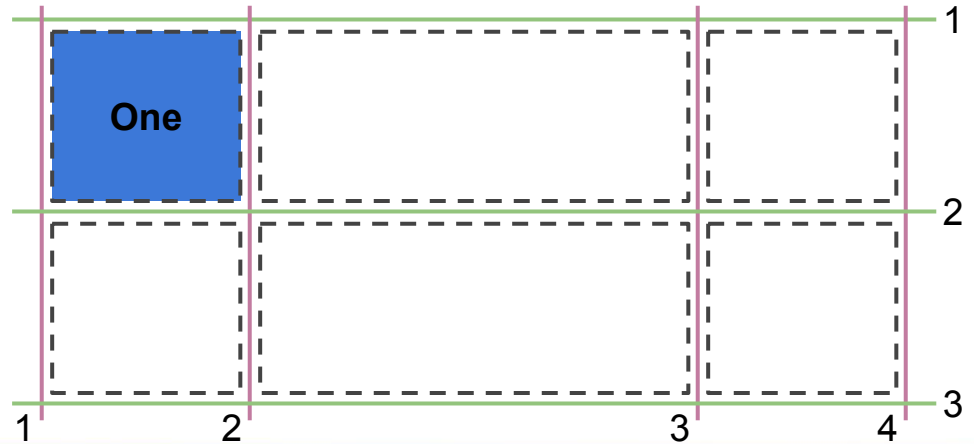
```
/* in HTML */
<div id="mybox">
  <span class="blue">One</span>
  <span class="red">Two</span>
  <span class="green">Three</span>
  <span class="purple">Four</span>
</div>
```



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  gap: 5px;
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;
  grid-template-rows: 1fr 1fr;
}
.red {
  grid-row-start: 2;
  grid-row-end: 3;
  grid-column-start: 2;
  grid-column-end: 3;
}
```

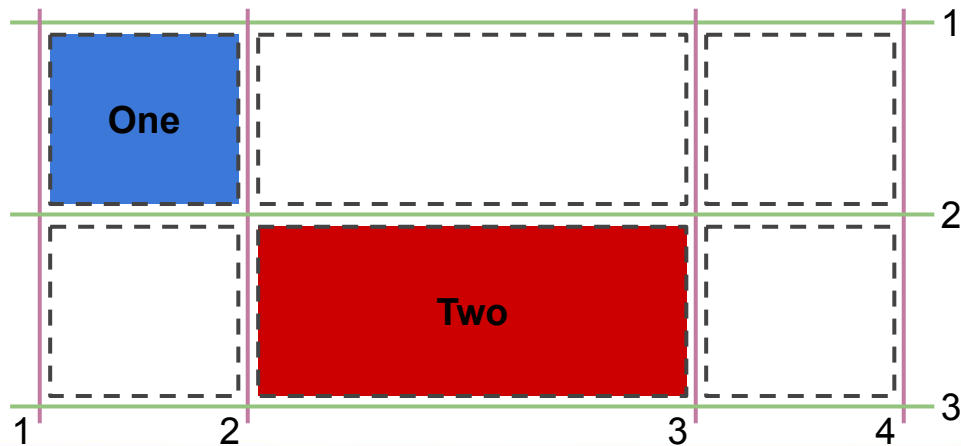
```
/* in HTML */
<div id="mybox">
  <span class="blue">One</span>
  <span class="red">Two</span>
  <span class="green">Three</span>
  <span class="purple">Four</span>
</div>
```



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  gap: 5px;
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.red {
  grid-row-start: 2;
  grid-row-end: 3;
  grid-column-start: 2;
  grid-column-end: 3;
}
```

```
/* in HTML */
<div id="mybox">
  <span class="blue">One</span>
  <span class="red">Two</span>
  <span class="green">Three</span>
  <span class="purple">Four</span>
</div>
```

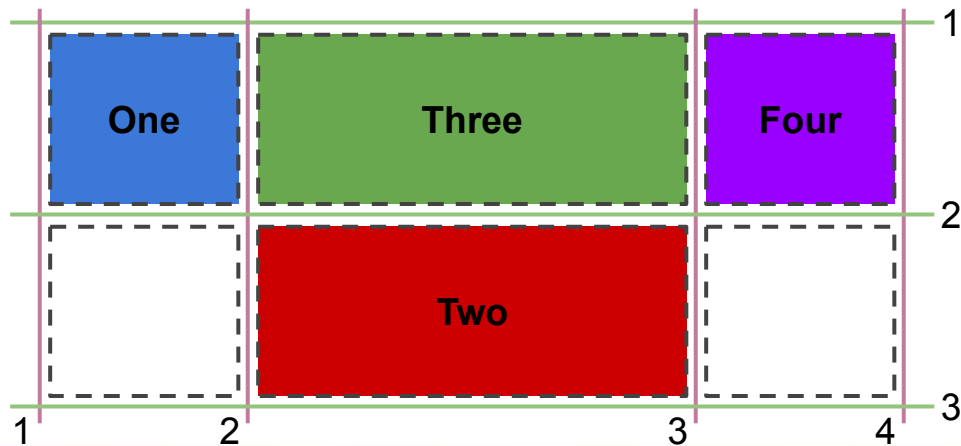


Explicit positioning by "coordinates"

```
/* in CSS */
#mybox {
  display: grid;
  gap: 5px;
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;
  grid-template-rows: 1fr 1fr;
}
.red {
  grid-row-start: 2;
  grid-row-end: 3;
  grid-column-start: 2;
  grid-column-end: 3;
}
```

Default Placement

```
/* in HTML */
<div id="mybox">
  <span class="blue">One</span>
  <span class="red">Two</span>
  <span class="green">Three</span>
  <span class="purple">Four</span>
</div>
```



Explicit positioning by Area Names

```
/* in HTML */
```

```
<div id="mybox">
```

```
  <span class="blue">Logo</span>
```

```
  <span class="red">Title</span>
```

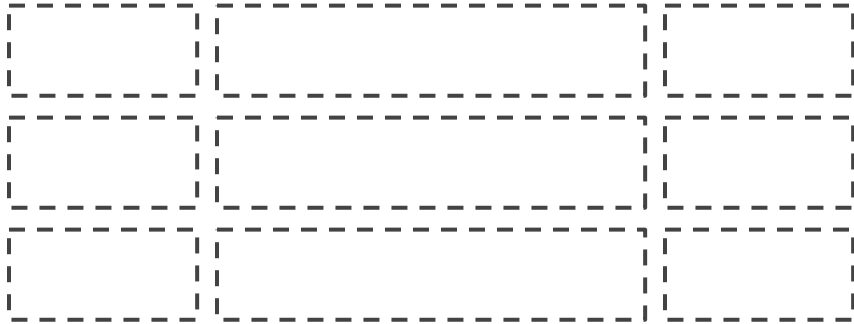
```
  <span class="green">Nav</span>
```

```
  <span class="purple">Main</span>
```

```
</div>
```

```
#mybox {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-rows: 1fr 1fr 1fr;  
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;  
  grid-template-areas:  
    "logo title title"  
    "nav main side"  
    "nav main status";  
}
```

```
.blue {  
  background: blue;  
  grid-area: logo  
}  
  
.red {  
  background: red;  
  grid-area: title  
}  
  
.green {  
  background: green;  
  grid-area: nav;  
}  
  
.purple {  
  background: purple;  
  grid-area: main;  
}
```



Explicit positioning by Area Names

```
/* in HTML */
```

```
<div id="mybox">
```

```
  <span class="blue">Logo</span>
```

```
  <span class="red">Title</span>
```

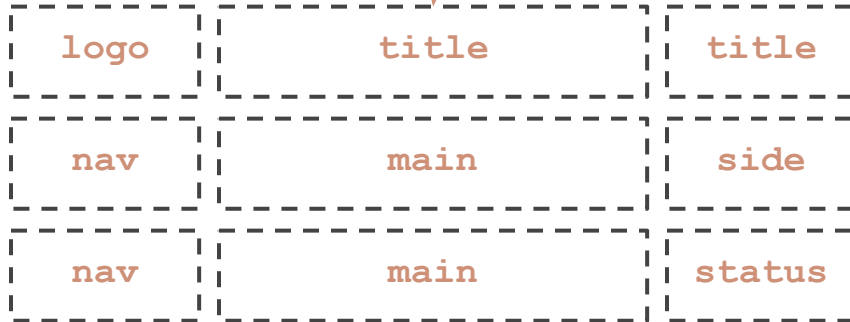
```
  <span class="green">Nav</span>
```

```
  <span class="purple">Main</span>
```

```
</div>
```

```
#mybox {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-rows: 1fr 1fr 1fr;  
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;  
  grid-template-areas:  
    "logo title title"  
    "nav main side"  
    "nav main status";  
}
```

```
.blue {  
  background: blue;  
  grid-area: logo  
}  
  
.red {  
  background: red;  
  grid-area: title  
}  
  
.green {  
  background: green;  
  grid-area: nav;  
}  
  
.purple {  
  background: purple;  
  grid-area: main;  
}
```



Explicit positioning by Area Names

```
/* in HTML */
```

```
<div id="mybox">
```

```
  <span class="blue">Logo</span>
```

```
  <span class="red">Title</span>
```

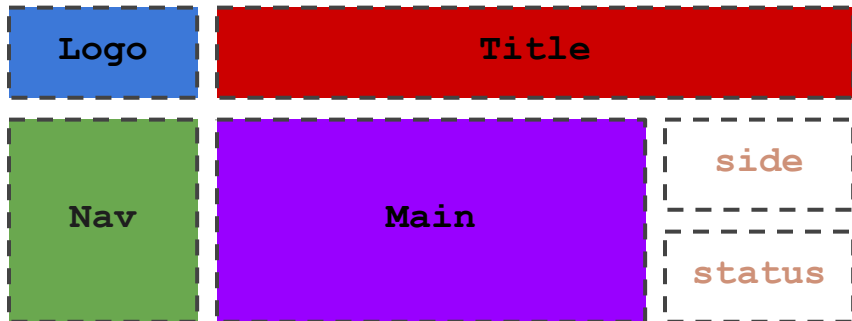
```
  <span class="green">Nav</span>
```

```
  <span class="purple">Main</span>
```

```
</div>
```

```
#mybox {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-rows: 1fr 1fr 1fr;  
  grid-template-columns: 1fr 2fr 1fr;  
  grid-template-areas:  
    "logo title title"  
    "nav main side"  
    "nav main status";  
}
```

```
.blue {  
  background: blue;  
  grid-area: logo  
}  
  
.red {  
  background: red;  
  grid-area: title  
}  
  
.green {  
  background: green;  
  grid-area: nav;  
}  
  
.purple {  
  background: purple;  
  grid-area: main;  
}
```

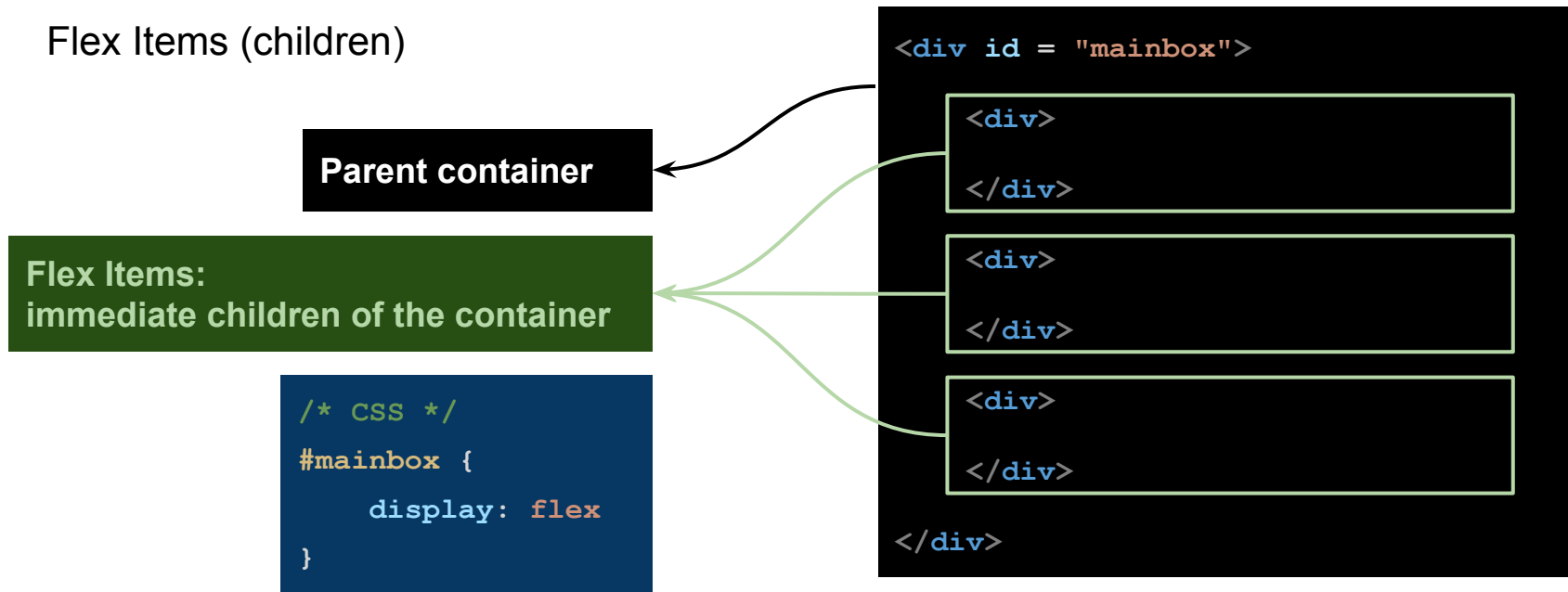


CSS Flexbox (1D)

Reference: [A complete Guide to Flexbox](#)

Elements of CSS Flexbox

- Organize contents into a horizontal/vertical flexible box
- Flex Container (one parent)
- Flex Items (children)



Traditional Box vs. FlexBox

Traditional Box

Traditional layout “tricks”:

- display: (block|inline)
- float: (left|right)
- position: (fixed|absolute|relative)
- “grid” approach using <table>

FlexBox

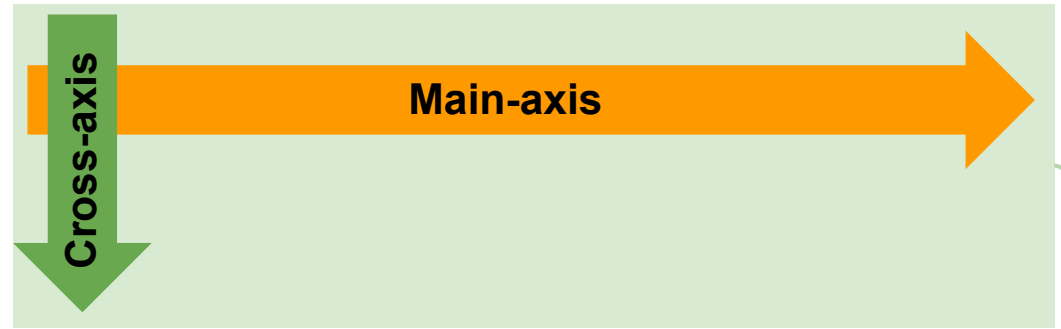
Modern approach

- **Alignment** among elements
- **Distribute** space between elements
- **Shrinkable/expandable** boxes (in both horizontal and vertical directions)
- Flex container (one parent)
- Flex items (children)
- **Main-axis** vs **cross-axis**

Flexbox: main-axis vs. cross-axis



```
/* column oriented box */  
#sample1 {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: column;  
}
```



```
/* row oriented box */  
#sample2 {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: row;  
}
```

Flex Container Properties

- display: flex | inline-flex
- flex-direction: row | row-reverse | column | column-reverse
- flex-wrap: nowrap | wrap | wrap-reverse
- justify-content: flex-start | flex-end | center | space-between | space-around | space-evenly
- align-items: flex-start | flex-end | center | stretch | baseline

Flex containers vs. Flex items

- display: (flex | inline-flex)
- flex-direction (define main-axis)
- flex-wrap (how items respond to resize)
- justify-content (placement of items along the main-axis)
- align-items (placement of items along the cross-axis)
- align-content: how to distribute lines along the cross-axis when there is extra space

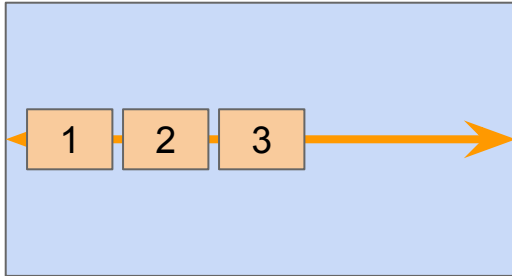
- order: override relative orders
- flex-grow: how items expand to fill up available extra space
- flex-shrink: disable/enable shrinking of elements when parent is shrunk
- align-self: override parent's align-items

Flexbox: Justification vs. Alignment

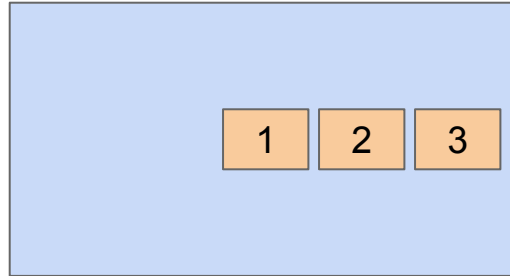
Property	Use by	Purpose
justify-content	parent	Placement of the entire contents along the major axis
align-items	parent	Placement of individual children along the minor axis
align-content	parent	Placement of the entire contents along the minor axis
align-self	child	Override the parent align-items property by a child

Justify-content (horizontal box)

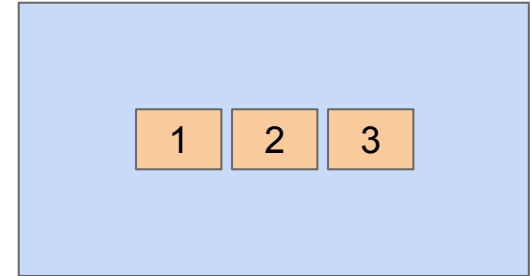
justify-content: flex-start



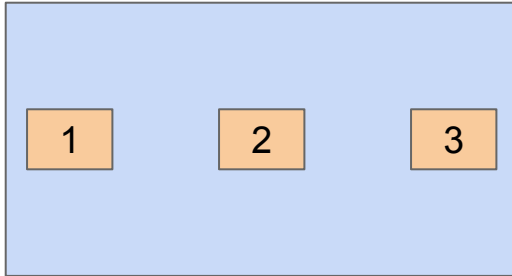
justify-content: flex-end



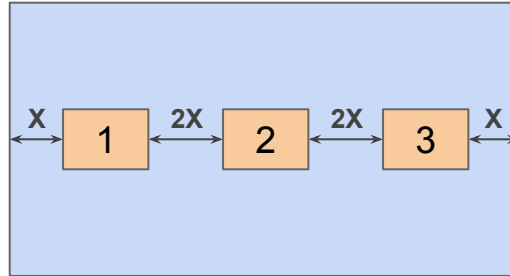
justify-content: center



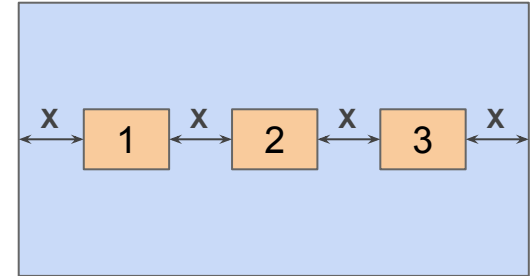
justify-content: space-between



justify-content: space-around

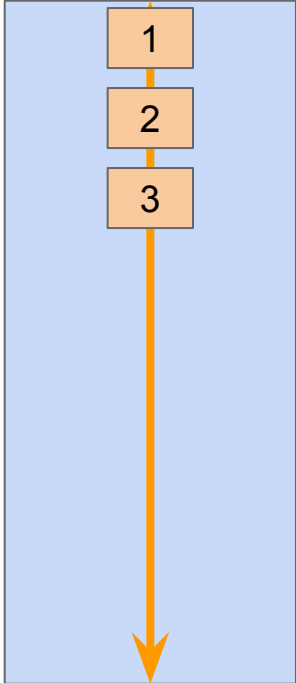


justify-content: space-evenly

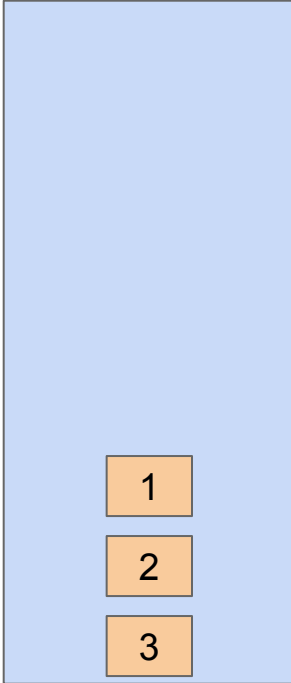


Justify-content (vertical box)

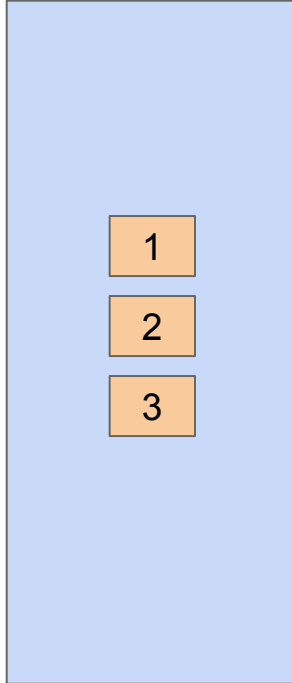
justify-content:
flex-start



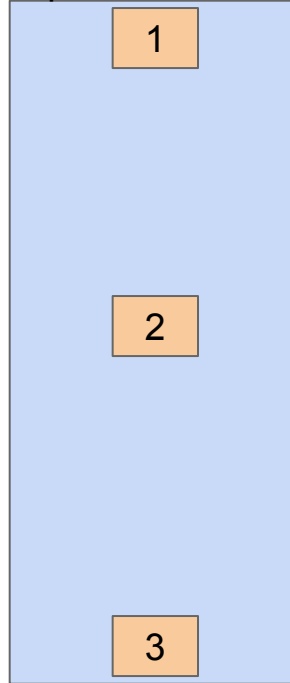
justify-content:
flex-end



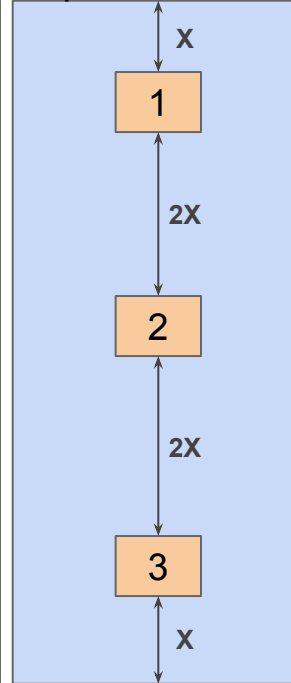
justify-content:
center



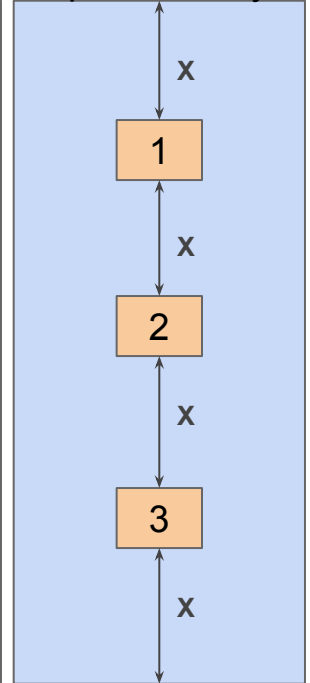
justify-content:
space-between



justify-content:
space-around

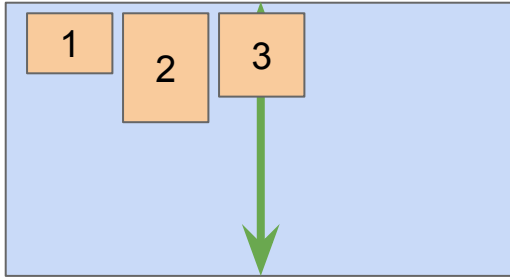


justify-content:
space-evenly

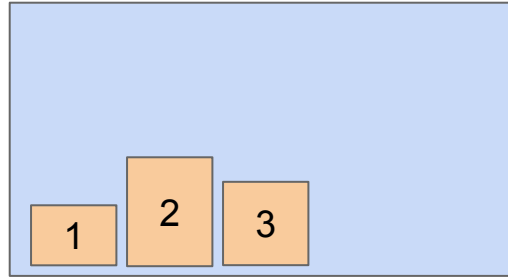


Align-items (horizontal box)

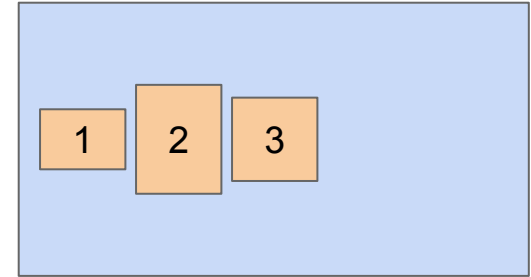
align-items: flex-start



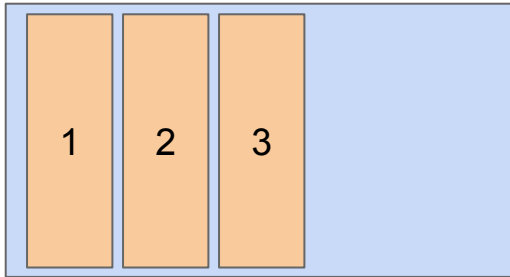
align-items: flex-end



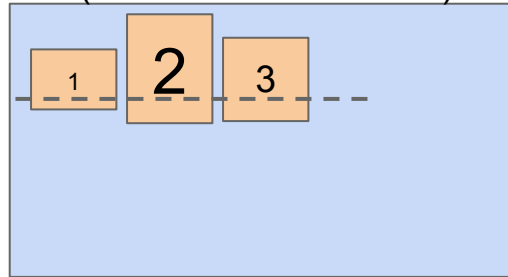
align-items: center



align-items: stretch

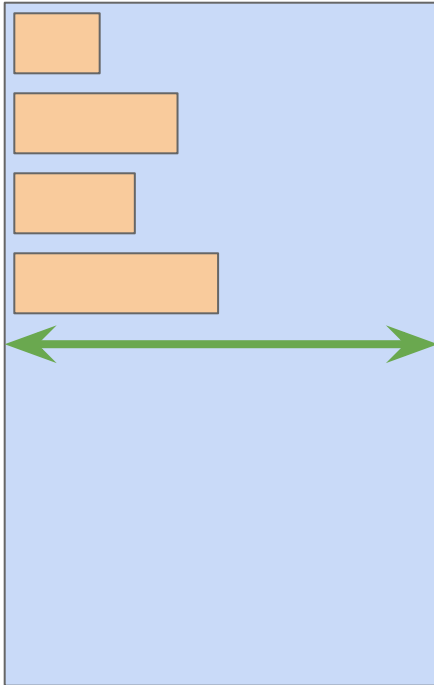


align-items: baseline
(the bottom of the text)

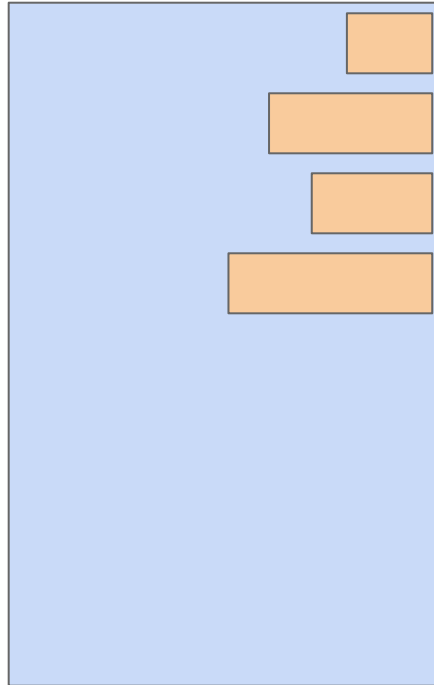


Align-items (vertical box)

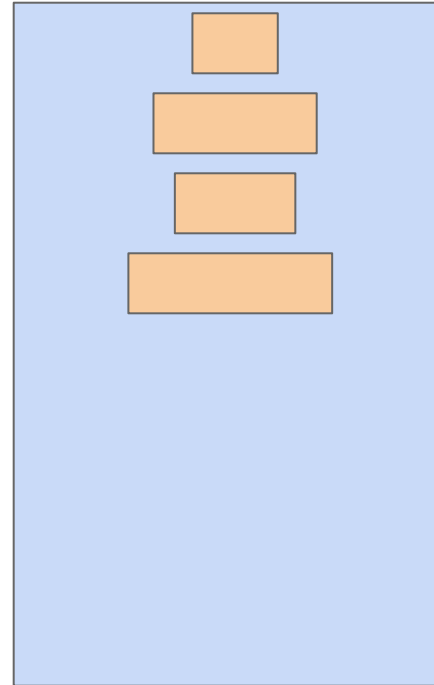
align-items: flex-start



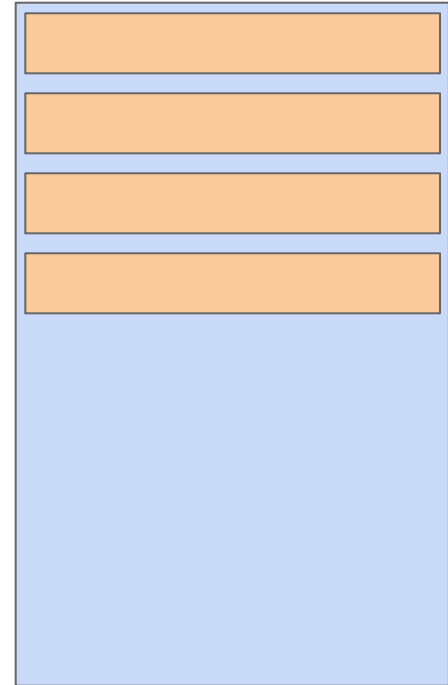
align-items: flex-end



align-items: center

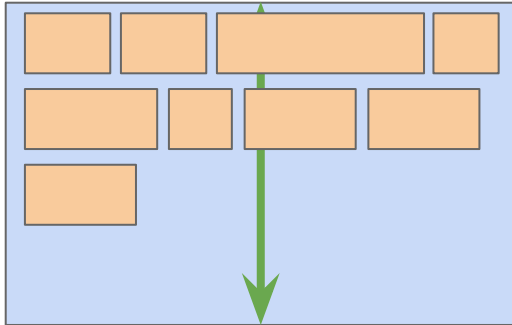


align-items: stretch

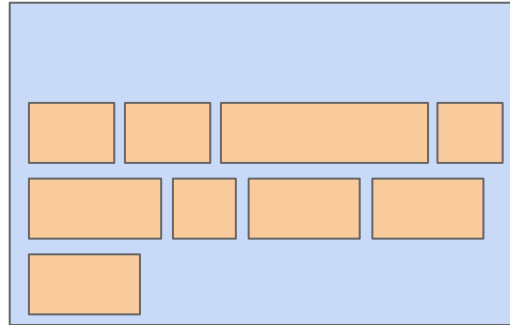


Align-content (horizontal box): multiple lines of flex items

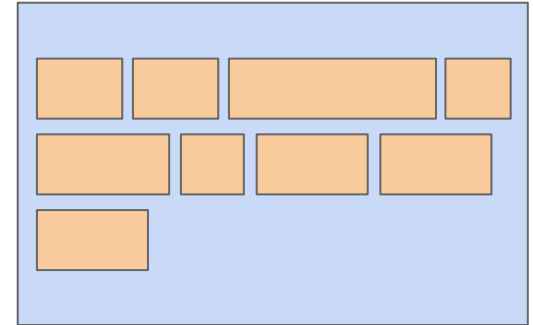
align-content: flex-start



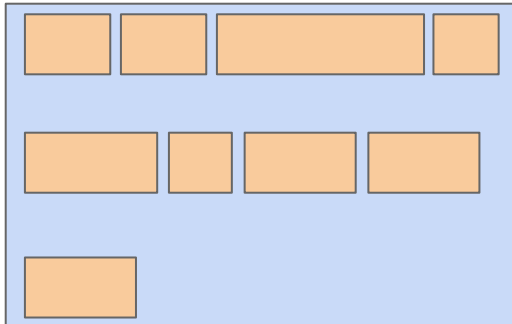
align-content: flex-end



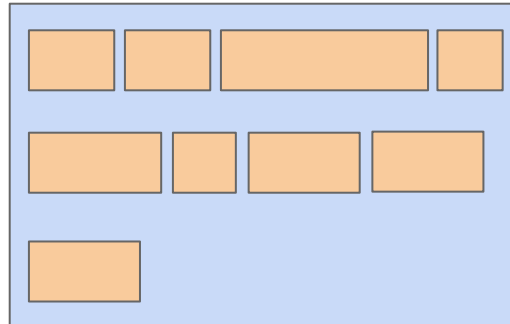
align-content: center



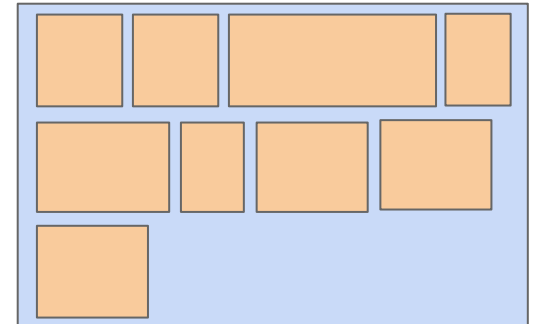
align-content: space-between



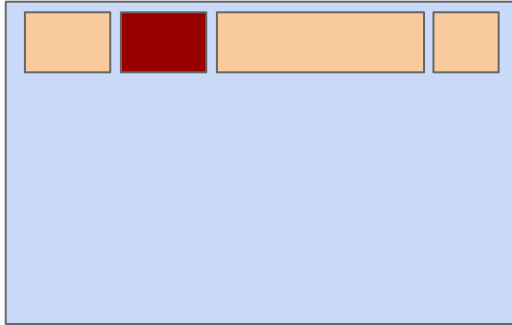
align-content: space-around



align-content: stretch

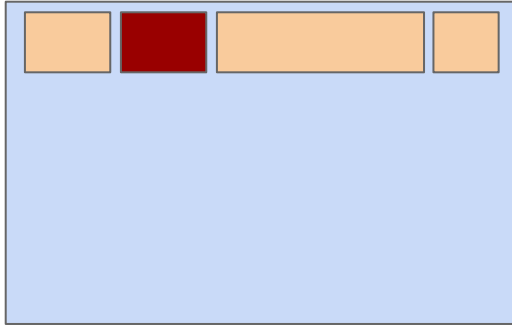


Align-self (horizontal box)



```
#parent-box {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: row;  
  align-items: flex-start;  
}
```

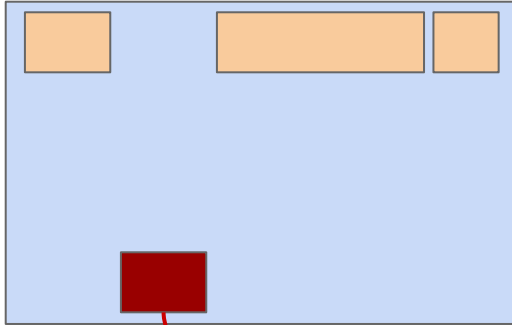
Align-self (horizontal box)



```
#parent-box {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: row;  
  align-items: flex-start;  
}
```

```
#red-box {  
  align-self: flex-end;  
}
```

Align-self (horizontal box)



```
#parent-box {  
  display: flex;  
  flex-direction: row;  
  align-items: flex-start;  
}
```

```
#red-box {  
  align-self: flex-end;  
}
```

Demo