

CSS3 Techniques

Many of you have probably heard all the buzz around CSS3, but exactly which techniques can we use today? In this article I'll show you some different CSS3 techniques that work great in some of the leading browsers (i.e. Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Opera), and how they will degrade well in the non-supported browsers (i.e. Internet Explorer). Using browser specific extensions, many of the proposed CSS3 styles can be used today!

Drop Shadows

The drop shadow effect accepts multiple values. First is simply the color of the shadow. It will accept four length values, and the first two are the x (horizontal) offset and the y (vertical) offset. The next value is the amount of blur added to the shadow. The fourth and final value is the spread amount of the blur. Box shadow will also accept an inset keyword that will create an inset shadow.

```
box-shadow: #333 3px 3px 4px;
```

```
-moz-box-shadow: #333 3px 3px 4px;
```

```
-webkit-box-shadow: #333 3px 3px 4px;
```

Gradients

Gradients can be pretty confusing at first, especially when comparing the differences between -moz and -webkit. With -moz you first define the direction of the gradient, then determine the starting and ending color. -webkit gradients take a little more code. First you define the type of gradient. The next two values define the direction. Finally, the last two values define the starting and ending color of the gradient.

```
-moz-linear-gradient(-90deg,#1aa6de,#022147);
```

```
-webkit-gradient(linear, left top, left bottom, from(#1aa6de), to(#022147));
```

RGBA

The RGBA color method is actually easier than it may look at first. It takes four values, and in order they are: the amount of red, amount of green, amount of blue, and the level of opacity. Instead of using a hex (#) color, you set the color in RGB mode, while the level of opacity can give the color a transparent look. The opacity accepts values between 0 and 1, with 0 being fully opaque and 1 being the actual defined color. The example below has an opacity value of .5, causing the element to be 50% transparent. rgba doesn't actually require any of the browser extensions.

```
background-color: rgba(0, 54, 105, .5);
```

HSL

Along with RGBA, CSS3 may make the HSL color model available to us. This could give us a whole arsenal of colors and tones. In this color model, HSL stands for Hue, Saturation, and Lightness. Hue is a degree on the color wheel, while Saturation and Lightness are percentage values of the colors.

```
background-color: hsl(209,41.2%, 20.6%);
```

Source