

Cap 11

layout and positioning

Use the flow

Here's a little "abbreviated" XHTML

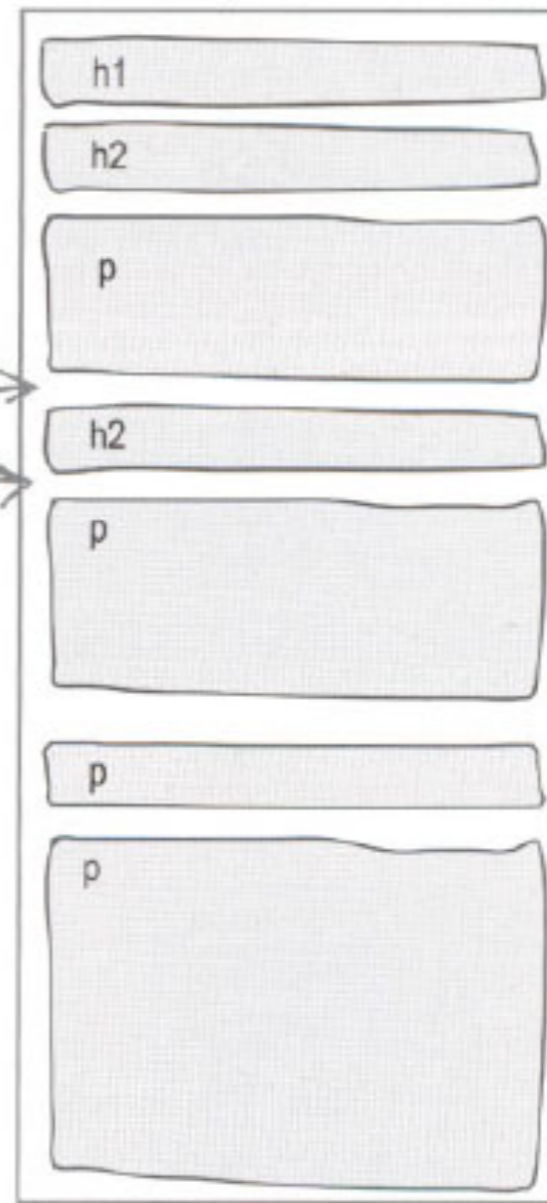
```
<html>
  <head>...</head>
  <body>
    <h1>...</h1>
    <h2>...</h2>
    <p>...</p>
    <h2>...</h2>
    <p>...</p>
    <p>...</p>
    <p>...</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

And here's the XHTML flowed onto a page.

Each block element is taken in the order it appears in the markup, and placed on the page.

Each new block element causes a linebreak.

Notice that elements take up the full width of the page.



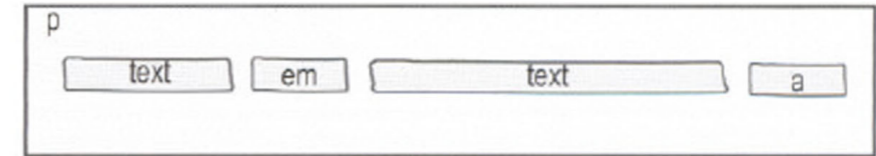
Inline elements

Here's another little snippet of XHTML.

```
<p>  
Join us <em>any evening</em> for  
these and all our other wonderful <a  
href="beverages/elixir.html" title="Head  
First Lounge Elixirs">elixirs</a>.  
</p>
```

If we take the inline content of this <p> element and flow it onto the page, we start at the top left.

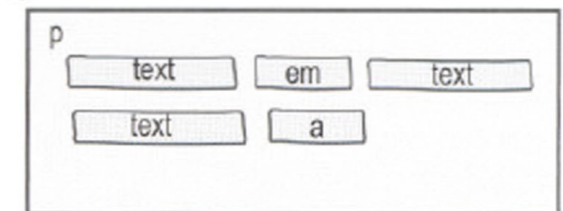
The inline elements are laid next to one another horizontally, as long as there is room on the right to place them.



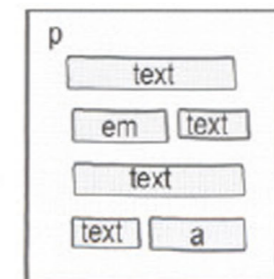
Here, there's room to fit all the inline elements horizontally. Notice that text is a special case of an inline element. The browser breaks it into inline elements that are the right size to fit the space.

So what if we make the browser window a little thinner, or we reduce the size of the content area with the width property? Then there's less room to place the inline elements in. Let's see how this works.

Now the content has been flowed left to right until there's no more room, and then the content is placed on the next line. Notice the browser had to break the text up a little differently to make it fit nicely.



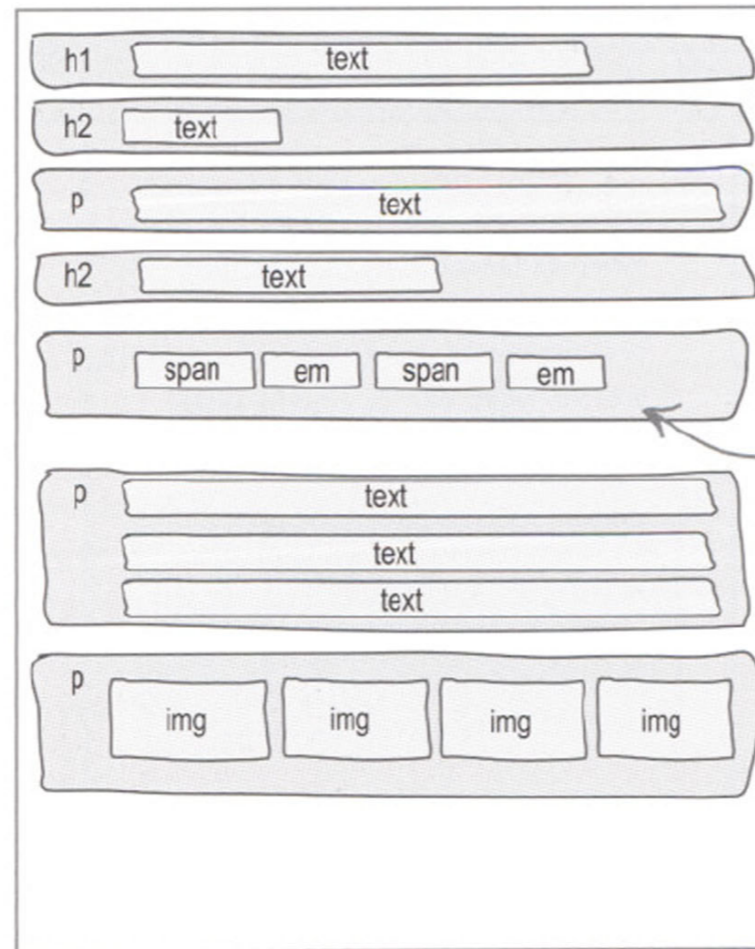
And if we make the content area even thinner, look what happens. The browser uses as many lines as necessary to flow the content into the space.



How it all works together

We're starting with a browser window that's been resized to a fairly wide width.

Each block element is flowed top to bottom as you'd expect, with a linebreak in between each.

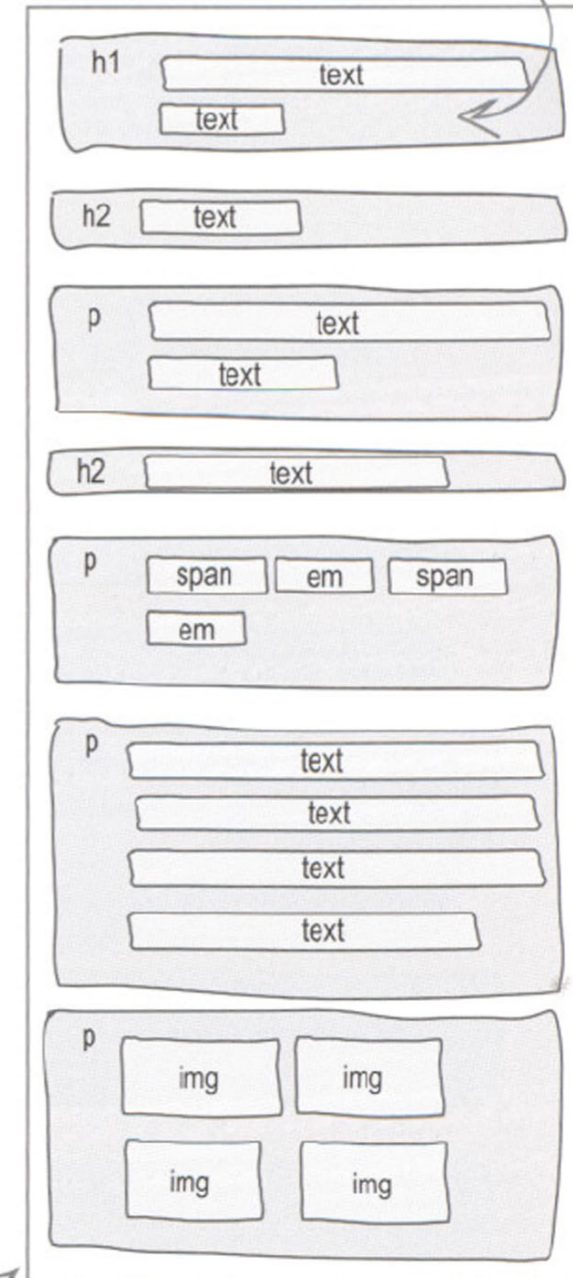


And the inline elements are flowed from the top left to the bottom right of the element's content area.

If the inline content of each block fits the width of the content area, then it's placed there; otherwise, more vertical room is made for the content and it's continued on the next line.

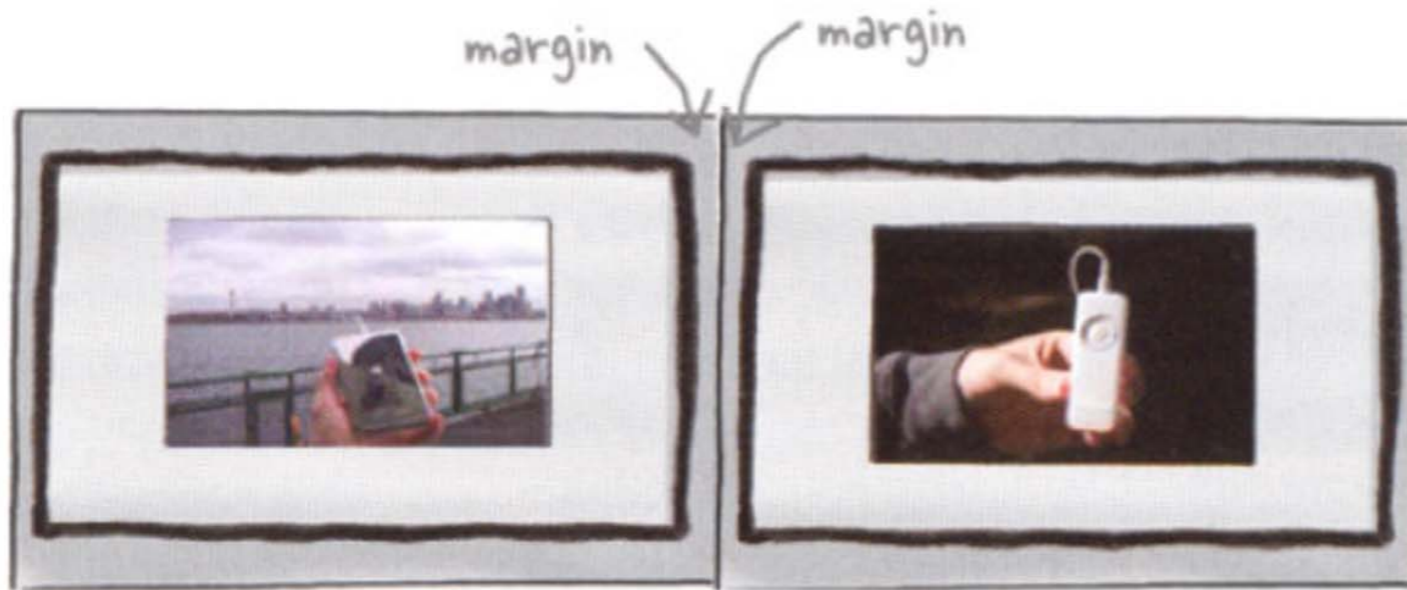
Here, we've resized the browser window, squeezing all the content into a smaller horizontal size.

Things flow the same way, although in some places, the inline elements take up more vertical lines to fit.



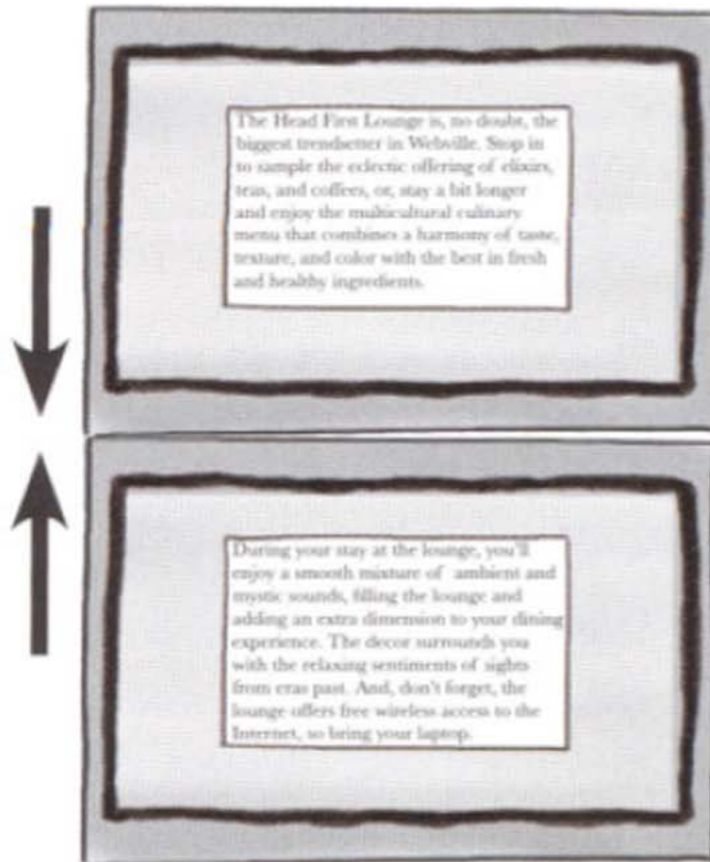
Now the block elements take up more vertical room because the inline content has to fit into a smaller horizontal space.

Inline

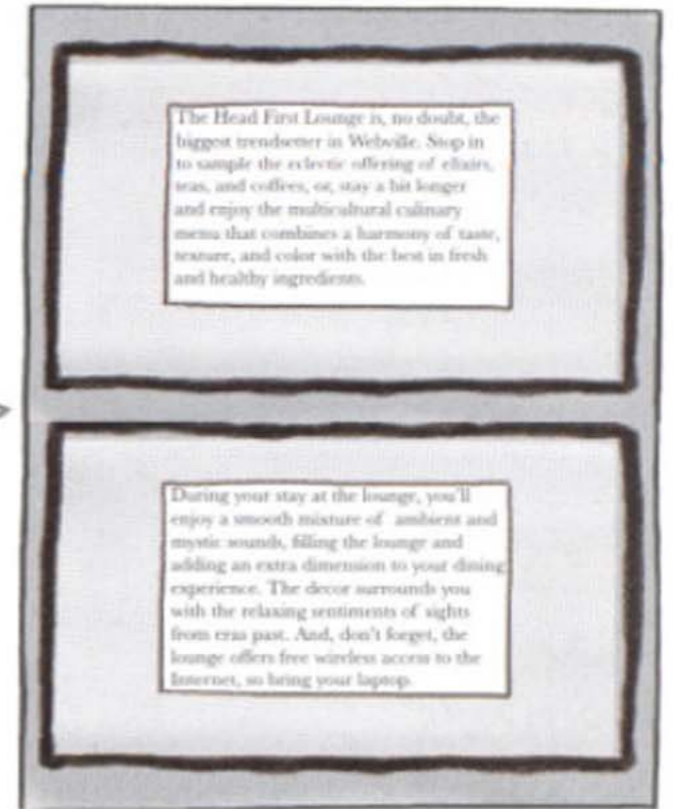


Here we've got two images side by side. Images are inline elements, right? So, the browser uses both of their margins to calculate the space that goes between them.

When the browser places two block elements on top of each other, it collapses their margins.



Their shared margin is the size of the larger of the two margins. Say the top element's bottom margin is 10 pixels, and the bottom element's top margin is 20 pixels. Then the collapsed margin will be 20 pixels.





We've been through seven pages of "flow." When are you going to explain that one little property we put into our CSS file? You know, the

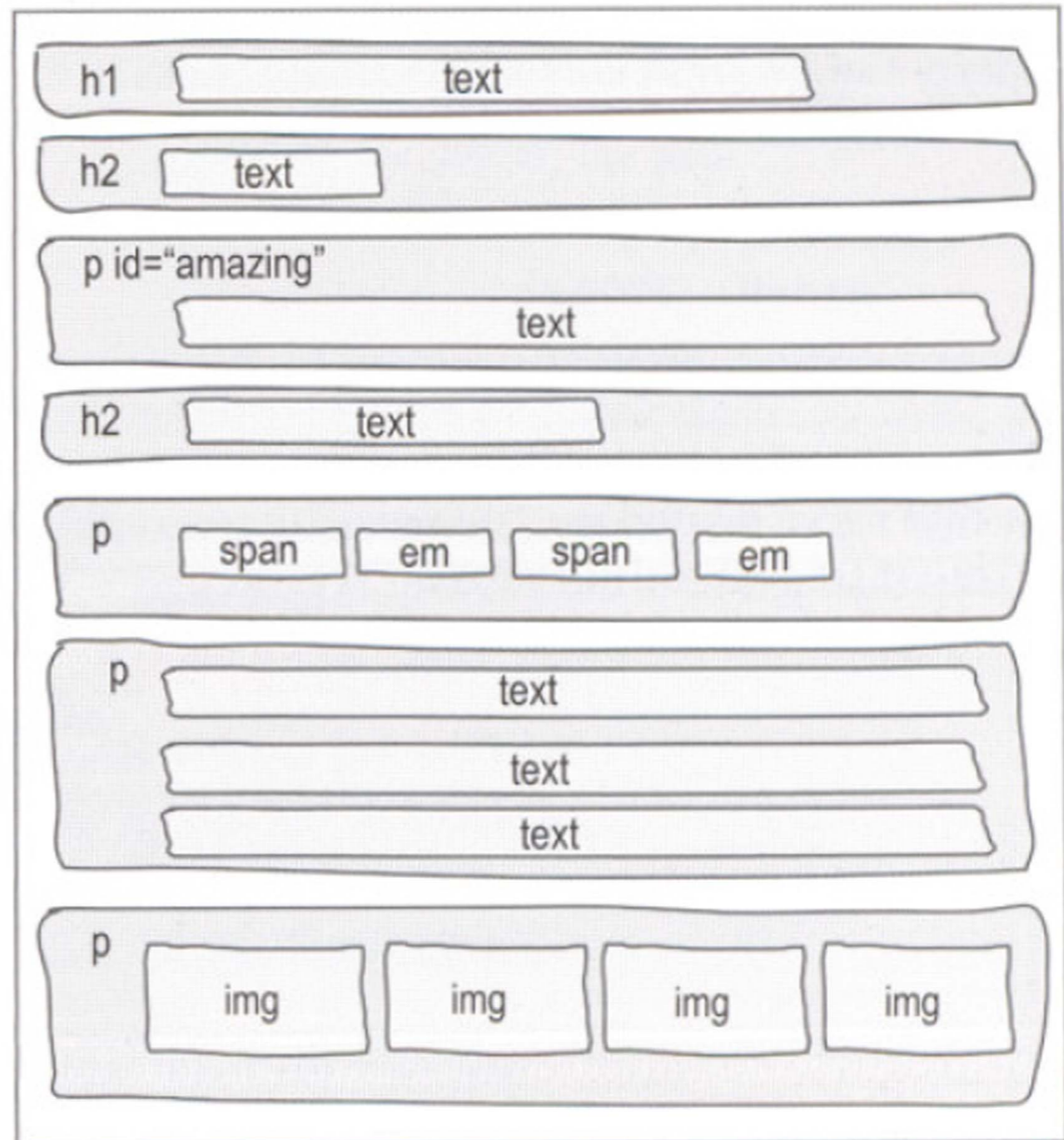
float: right;

Q: What if I have one element nested inside another and they both have margins? Can they collapse?

A: Yes, that can happen. Here's how to figure out when they will: whenever you have two vertical margins touching, they will collapse, even if one element is nested inside the other. Notice that if the outer element has a border, the margins will never touch, so they won't collapse. But if you remove the border, they will. This is sometimes puzzling when you first see it happen, so put it in the back of your mind for when it occurs.

How to float an element

First, give it an identity

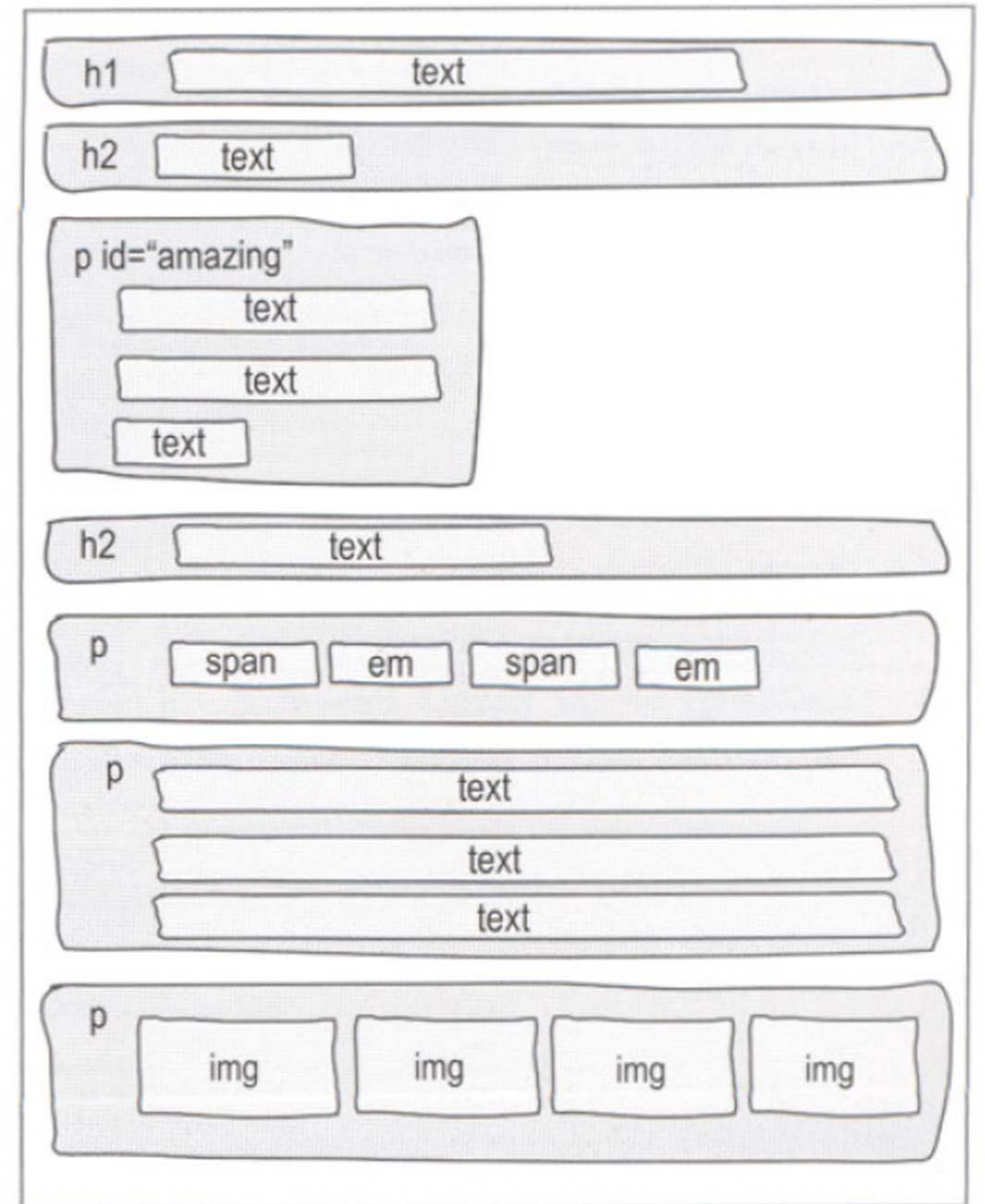


How to float an element

Now give it a width

```
#amazing {  
  width: 200px;  
}
```

Now the paragraph is 200 pixels wide, and the inline content contained in it has adjusted to that width. Keep in mind, the paragraph is a block element, so no elements are going to move up beside it because all block elements have linebreaks before and after them.

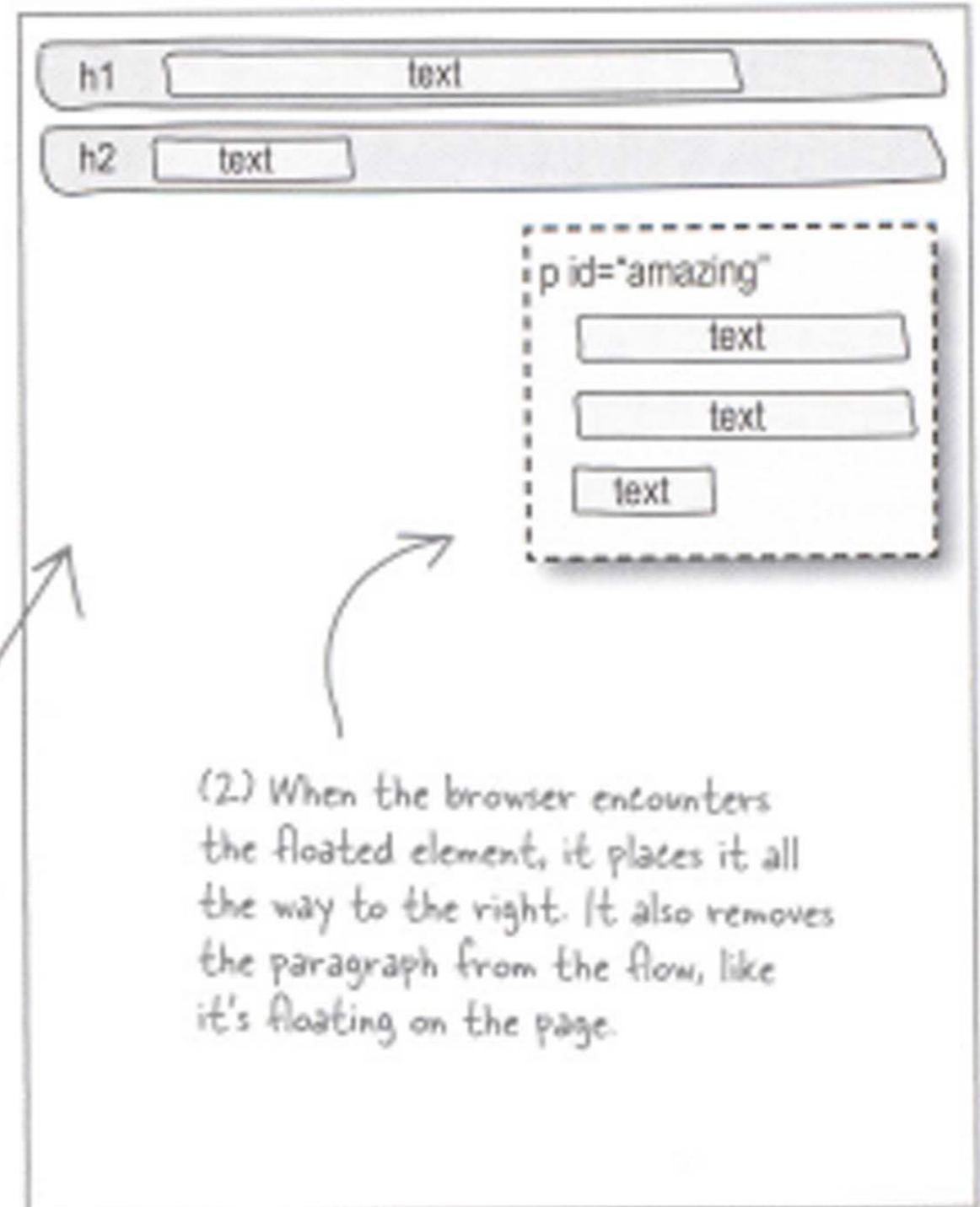


How to float an element

```
#amazing {  
  width: 200px;  
  float: right;  
}
```

(1) First the browser flows the elements on the page as usual, starting at the top of the file and moving towards the bottom.

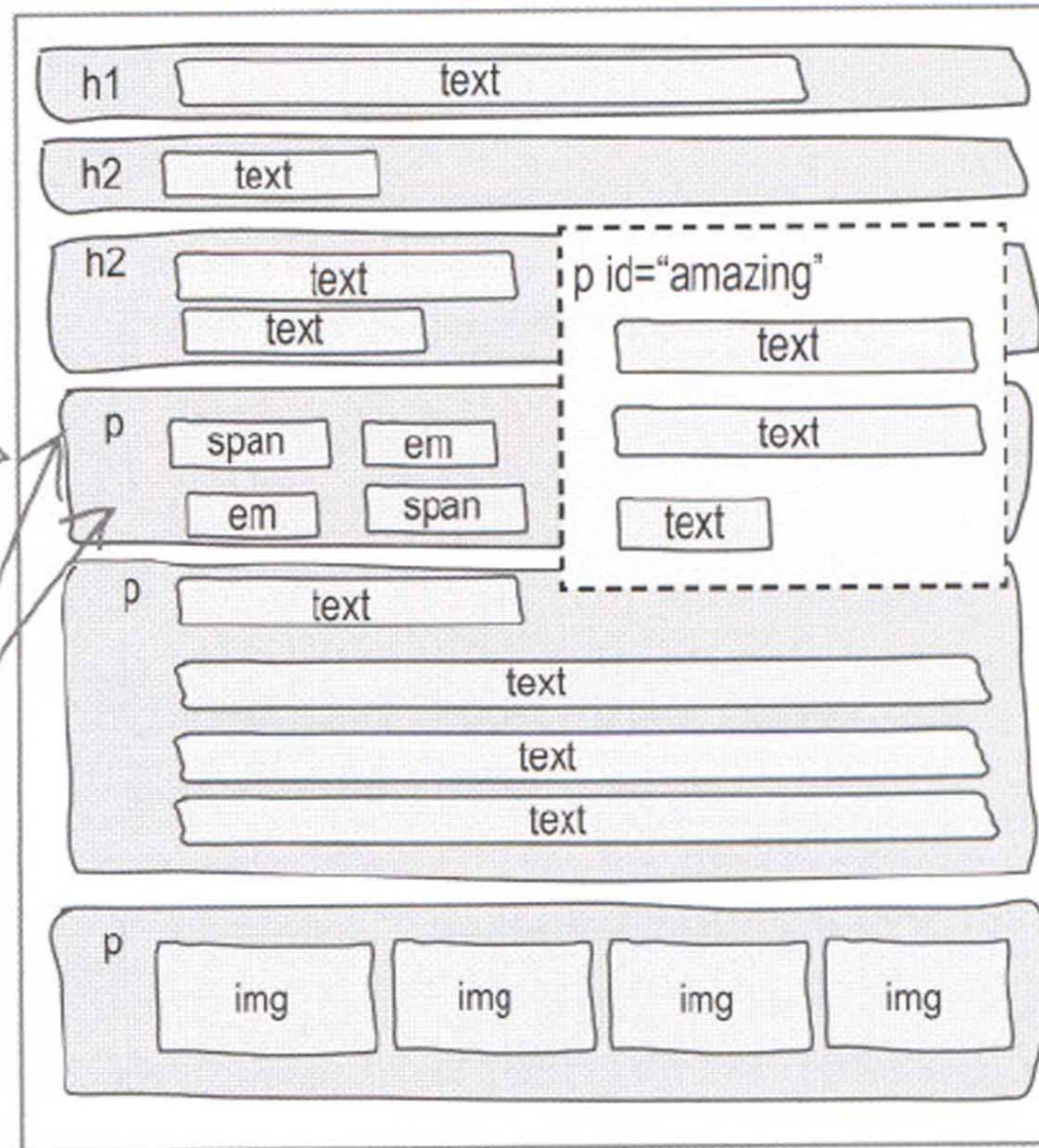
(2) When the browser encounters the floated element, it places it all the way to the right. It also removes the paragraph from the flow, like it's floating on the page.



How to float an element

(3) Because the floated paragraph has been removed from the normal flow, the block elements are filled in, like the paragraph isn't even there.

(4) But when the inline elements are positioned, they respect the boundaries of the floated element. So they are flowed around it.



Notice that the block elements are positioned under the floated element. That's because the floated element is no longer part of the normal flow.

However, when the inline elements are flowed within the block elements, they flow around the borders of the floating element.

Behind the scenes at lounge

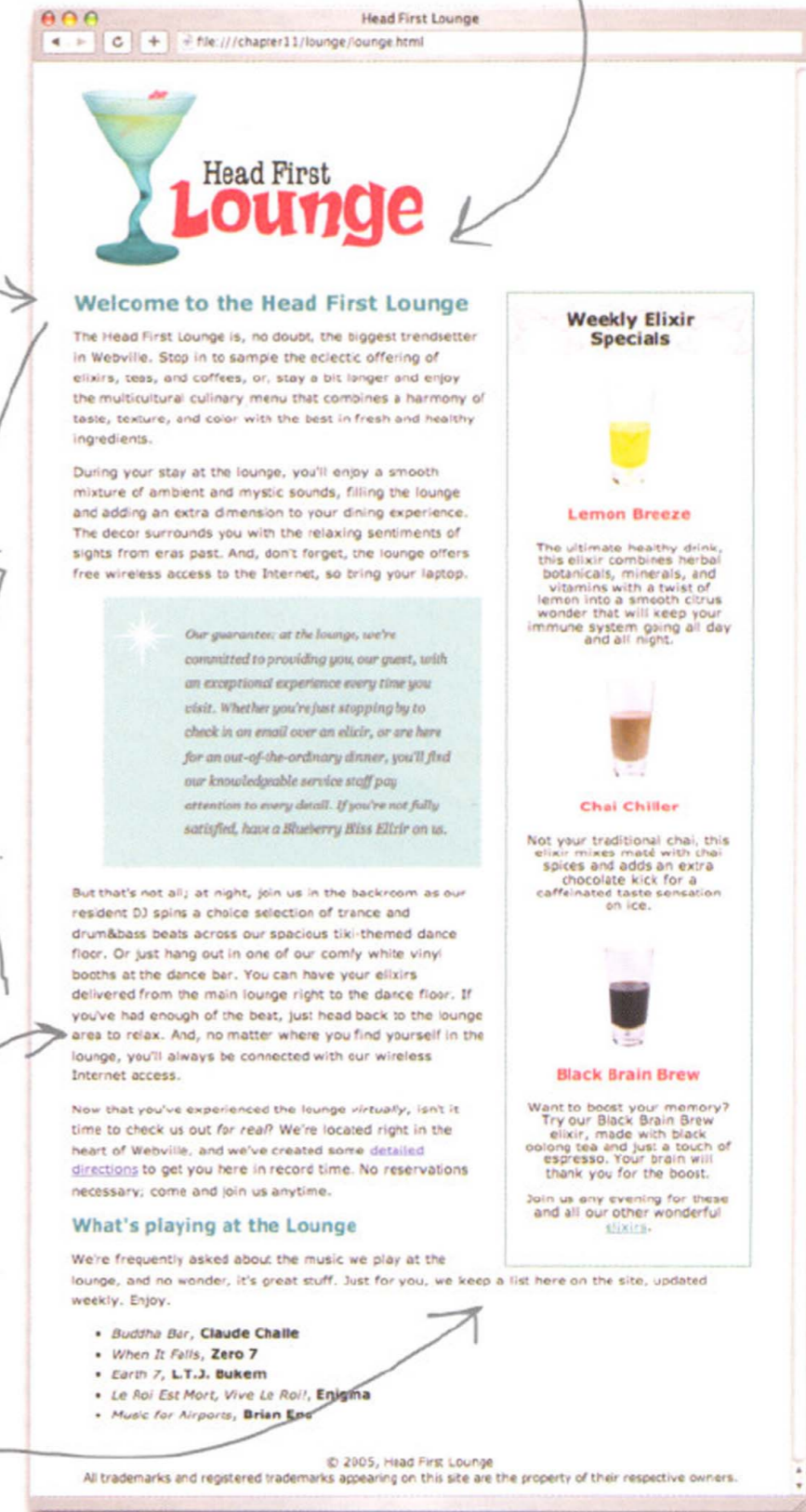
Remember, in addition to setting the elixirs <div> to float right, we also moved the <div> up just below the logo at the top of the page.

Moving the <div> allowed us to float it to the right and then have the entire page flow around it. If we had left the elixirs <div> below the music recommendations, then the elixirs would have been floated right after most of the page had been placed.

All these elements follow the elixirs in the XHTML, so they are flowed around it.

Remember that the elixirs <div> is floating on top of the page. All the other elements are underneath it, but the inline content respects the elixirs' boundaries when they are flowing into the page.

Also notice that the text wraps around the bottom of the elixirs, because the text is contained in a block element that is the width of the page. If yours doesn't wrap, try narrowing your browser window until the text wraps underneath the elixirs.



The new sturbuzz

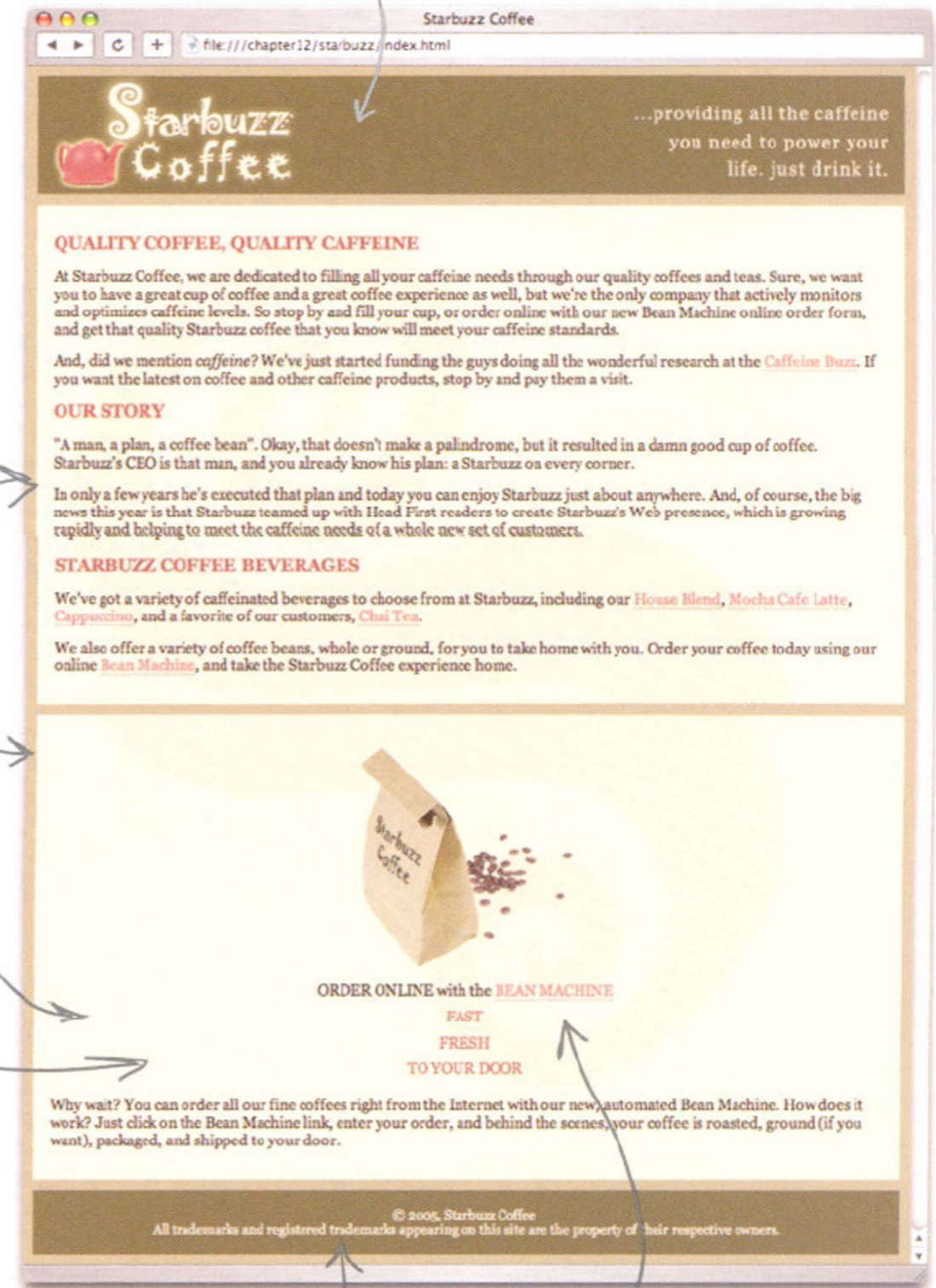
We've got a header now with a new spiffy Starbuzz logo and the company mission statement. This is actually just a GIF image.

We've got four sections: the header, a main content section, a section advertising something new called the "Bean Machine," and a footer.

Each section is a <div> that can be styled independently.

It looks like we've got one background color for the page as a whole, and then each <div> is using an image as a background.

Here's the "Bean Machine" area. This links to a new area of Starbuzz Coffee where you can order your coffee beans online. This link doesn't work just yet because you're going to build the Bean Machine in an upcoming chapter.



Here's the footer. It doesn't use a background image, just a background color.

Notice that we've styled the links in an interesting way, with dotted underlines...


```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
```

```
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
```

```
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" lang="en" xml:lang="en" >
```

```
<head>
```

```
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=ISO-8859-1" />
```

```
<title>Starbuzz Coffee</title>
```

```
<link type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" href="starbuzz.css" />
```

```
</head>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<div id="header">
```

```

```

```
</div>
```

```
<div id="main">
```

```
<h1>QUALITY COFFEE, QUALITY CAFFEINE</h1>
```

```
<p>
```

At Starbuzz Coffee, we are dedicated to filling all your caffeine needs through our quality coffees and teas. Sure, we want you to have a great cup of coffee and a great coffee experience as well, but we're the only company that actively monitors and optimizes caffeine levels. So stop by and fill your cup, or order online with our new Bean Machine online order form, and get that quality Starbuzz coffee that you know will meet your caffeine standards.

```
</p>
```

```
<p>
```

And, did we mention **caffeine**? We've just started funding the guys doing all the wonderful research at the [Caffeine Buzz](http://buzz.headfirstlabs.com "Read all about caffeine on the Buzz").

If you want the latest on coffee and other caffeine products, stop by and pay them a visit.

```
</p>
```

```
<h1>OUR STORY</h1>
```

```
<p>
```

"A man, a plan, a coffee bean". Okay, that doesn't make a palindrome, but it resulted in a damn good cup of coffee. Starbuzz's CEO is that man, and you already know his plan: a Starbuzz on every corner.

```
</p>
```

```
<p>
```

In only a few years he's executed that plan and today you can enjoy Starbuzz just about anywhere. And, of course, the big news this year is that Starbuzz teamed up with Head First readers to create Starbuzz's Web presence, which is growing rapidly and helping to meet the caffeine needs of a whole new set of customers.

```
</p>
```

```
<h1>STARBUZZ COFFEE BEVERAGES</h1>
```

```
<p>
```

We've got a variety of caffeinated beverages to choose

Here's all the usual
XHTML administravia.

Followed by a <div> for
the header and a <div>
for the main content area.

This is more of the main content area continued over here.

```
from at Starbuzz, including our
<a href="beverages.html#house" title="House Blend">House Blend</a>,
<a href="beverages.html#mocha" title="Mocha Cafe Latte">Mocha Cafe Latte</a>,
<a href="beverages.html#cappuccino" title="Cappuccino">Cappuccino</a>,
and a favorite of our customers,
<a href="beverages.html#chai" title="Chai Tea">Chai Tea</a>.
</p>
<p>
We also offer a variety of coffee beans, whole or ground, for you to
take home with you. Order your coffee today using our online
<a href="form.html" title="The Bean Machine">Bean Machine</a>,
and take the Starbuzz Coffee experience home.
</p>
</div>
```

```
<div id="sidebar">
  <p class="beanheading">
    
    <br />
    ORDER ONLINE
    with the
    <a href="form.html">BEAN MACHINE</a>
    <br />
    <span class="slogan">
      FAST <br />
      FRESH <br />
      TO YOUR DOOR <br />
    </span>
  </p>
  <p>
    Why wait? You can order all our fine coffees right from the Internet with our new,
    automated Bean Machine. How does it work? Just click on the Bean Machine link,
    enter your order, and behind the scenes, your coffee is roasted, ground
    (if you want), packaged, and shipped to your door.
  </p>
</div>
```

Here's the <div> for the Bean Machine. We've given it an id of "sidebar". Hmm, wonder what that could mean?

```
<div id="footer">
  &copy; 2005, Starbuzz Coffee
  <br />
  All trademarks and registered trademarks appearing on
  this site are the property of their respective owners.
</div>
```

And finally, we have the <div> that makes up the footer of the page.

```
</body>
</html>
```



```

body {
  background-color: #b5a789;
  font-family: Georgia, "Times New Roman", Times, serif;
  font-size: small;
  margin: 0px;
}

#header {
  background-color: #675c47;
  margin: 10px;
  height: 108px;
}

#main {
  background: #efe5d0 url(images/background.gif) top left;
  font-size: 105%;
  padding: 15px;
  margin: 0px 10px 10px 10px;
}

#sidebar {
  background: #efe5d0 url(images/background.gif) bottom right;
  font-size: 105%;
  padding: 15px;
  margin: 0px 10px 10px 10px;
}

#footer {
  background-color: #675c47;
  color: #efe5d0;
  text-align: center;
  padding: 15px;
  margin: 10px;
  font-size: 90%;
}

h1 {
  font-size: 120%;
  color: #954b4b;
}

.slogan { color: #954b4b; }

.beanheading {
  text-align: center;
  line-height: 1.8em;
}

```

First we just set up some basics in the body: a background color, fonts, and we also set the margin of the body to 0. This makes sure there's no extra room around the edges of the page.

Next we have a rule for each logical section. In each, we're tweaking the font size, adding padding and margins and also - in the case of main and the sidebar - specifying a background image.

Next we set up the fonts and colors on the headings.

And then some colors on the class called slogan, which is used in the sidebar <div>. And likewise with the beanheading class, which is used there as well.

```
a:link {
  color: #b76666;
  text-decoration: none;
  border-bottom: thin dotted #b76666;
}
a:visited {
  color: #675c47;
  text-decoration: none;
  border-bottom: thin dotted #675c47;
}
```

We're setting the border-bottom as a shortcut

#b76666; ←
none;
thin dotted #b76666;

And for the last two rules in the Starbuzz CSS we use the a:link and a:visited pseudo-classes to style the links.

#675c47;
none;
thin dotted #675c47;

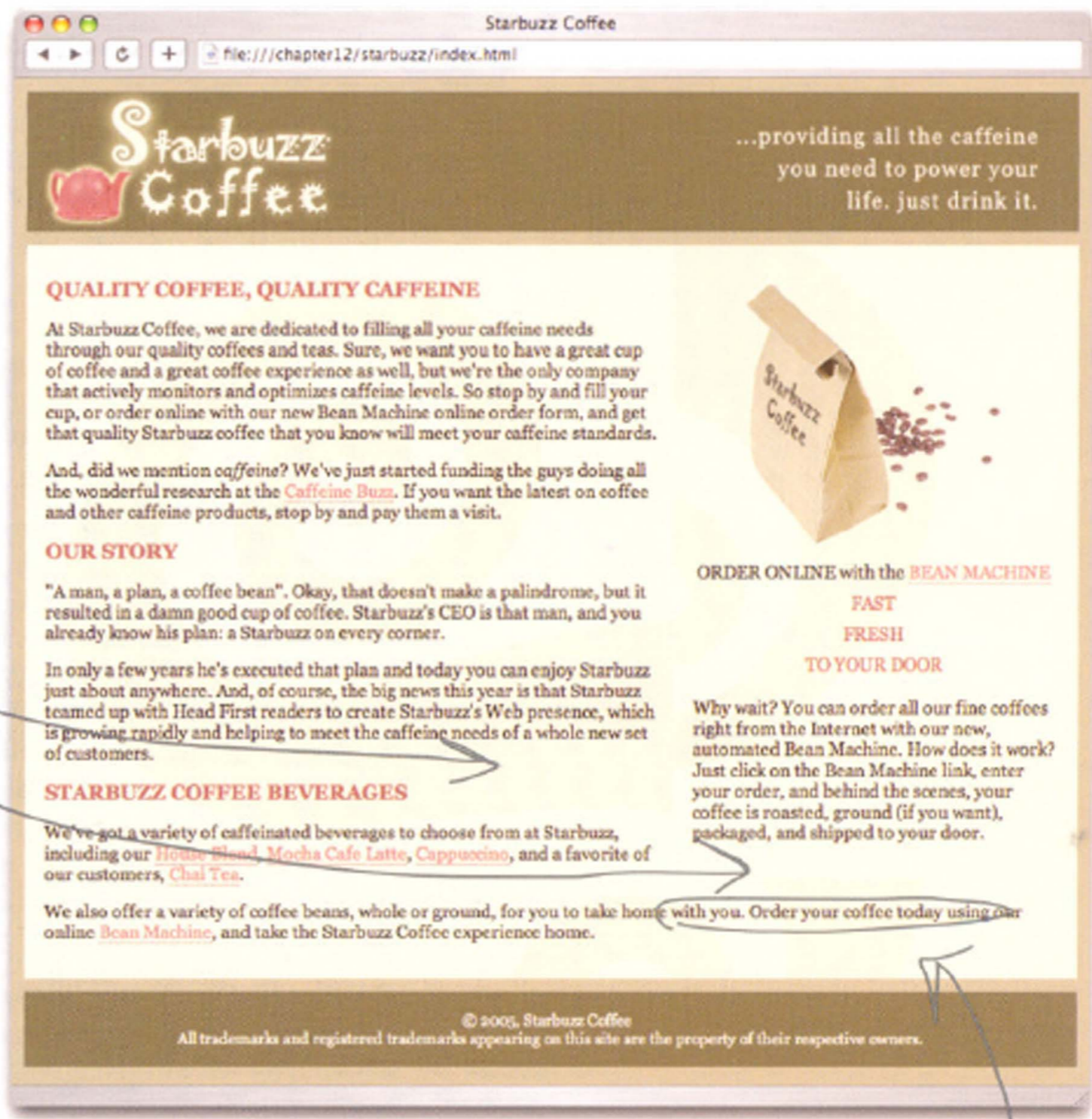
Notice that we're getting a nice dotted underline effect on the links by using a dotted bottom border instead of an underline. This is a great example of using the border property on an inline element.

Test driving Starbuzz

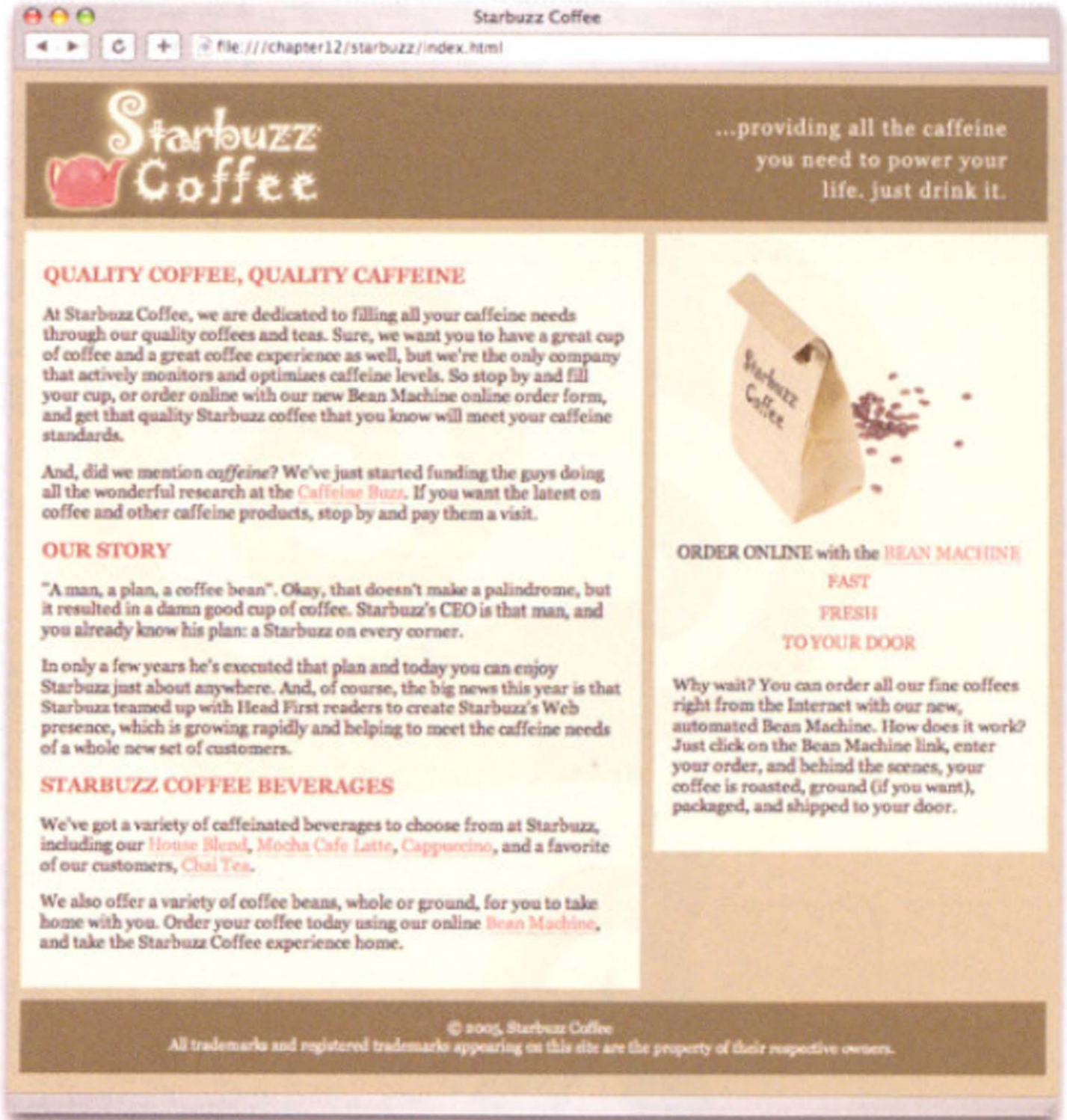
Hmm, this looks pretty good, but if you flip back three pages you'll see we're not quite where we want to be.

The main content and the sidebar are on the left and the right, but they don't really look like two columns yet.

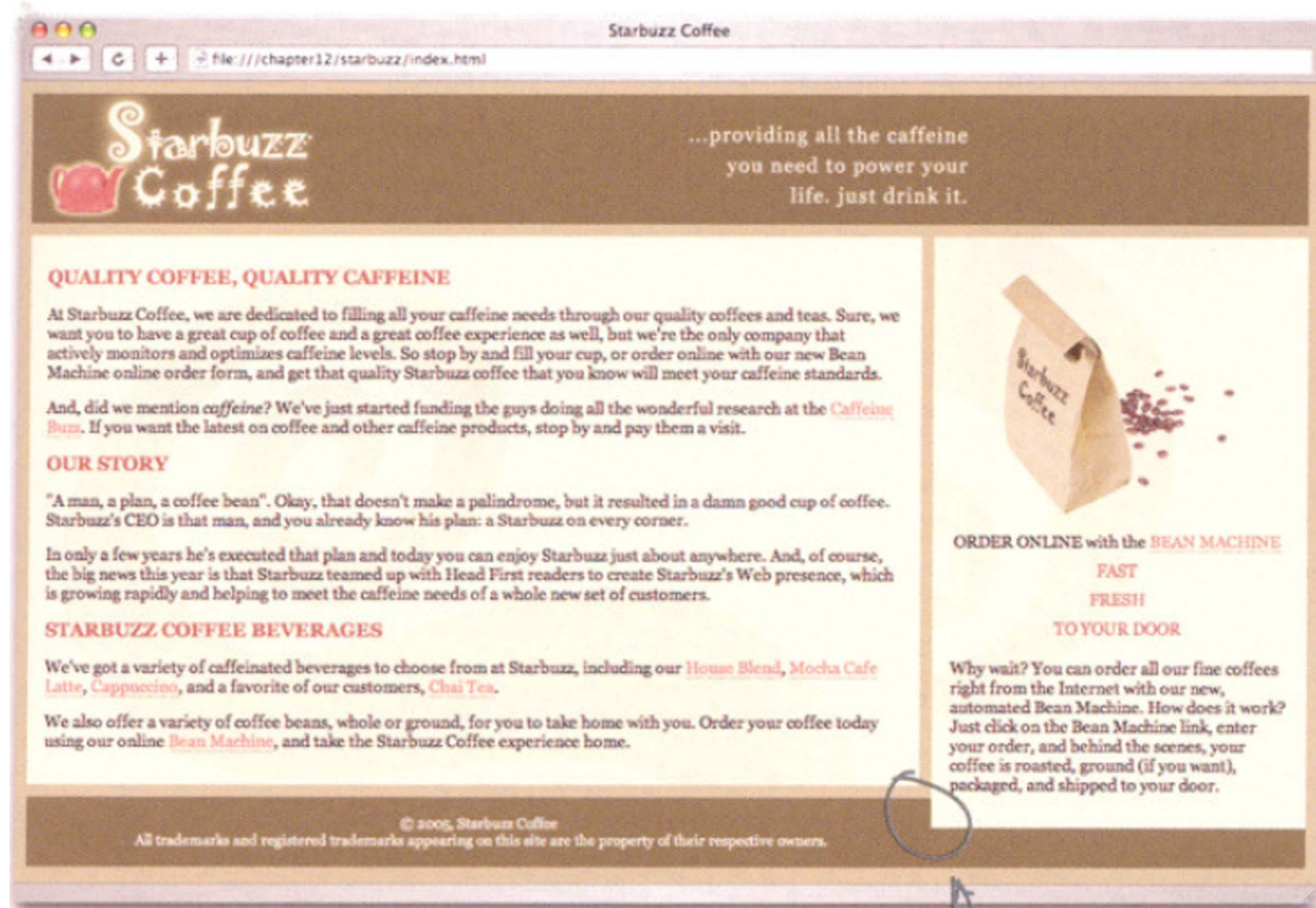
Look at how the background images of the two sections just run together. There's no separation between the columns.



And the text wraps around and under the sidebar, which doesn't make this look like two columns either. Hmm, that is actually how the lounge worked too - maybe we should have expected that.



By expanding the margin of the main <div>, we're creating the illusion of a two column layout, complete with a gutter in between.



We've got a problem. When you resize your browser to a wide position, the footer and the sidebar start to overlap.

Starbuzz Coffee

File:///chapter12/starbuzz/index.html

Starbuzz Coffee

...providing all the caffeine you need to power your life. Just drink it.

QUALITY COFFEE, QUALITY CAFFEINE

At Starbuzz Coffee, we are dedicated to filling all your caffeine needs through our quality coffees and teas. Sure, we want you to have a great cup of coffee and a great coffee experience as well, but we're the only company that actively monitors and optimizes caffeine levels. So stop by and fill your cup, or order online with our new Bean Machine online order form, and get that quality Starbuzz coffee that you know will meet your caffeine standards.

And, did we mention caffeine? We've just started funding the guys doing all the wonderful research at the [Caffeine Bean](#). If you want the latest on coffee and other caffeine products, stop by and pay them a visit.

OUR STORY


"A man, a plan, a coffee bean". Okay, that doesn't make a palindrome, but it resulted in a damn good cup of coffee. Starbuzz's CEO is that man, and you already know his plan: a Starbuzz on every corner.

In only a few years he's executed that plan and today you can enjoy Starbuzz just about anywhere. And, of course, the big news this year is that Starbuzz teamed up with [Head First](#) readers to create Starbuzz's Web presence, which is growing rapidly and helping to meet the caffeine needs of a whole new set of customers.

STARBUZZ COFFEE BEVERAGES

We've got a variety of caffeinated beverages to choose from at Starbuzz, including our [House Blend](#), [Mocha Cafe Latte](#), [Cappuccino](#), and a favorite of our customers, [Chai Tea](#).

We also offer a variety of coffee beans, whole or ground, for you to take home with you. Order your coffee today using our



ORDER ONLINE with the [BEAN MACHINE](#).
FAST
FRESH
TO YOUR DOOR

Why wait? You can order all our fine coffees right from the Internet with our new, automated Bean Machine. How does it work? Just click on the Bean Machine link, enter your order, and behind the scenes, your coffee is roasted, ground (if you want), packaged, and shipped to your door.

When the browser is wide,
the two totally separate.



And when the browser window is made small, the two start to overlap.



Starbuzz Coffee

...providing all
you need to
live.

QUALITY COFFEE, QUALITY CAFFEINE

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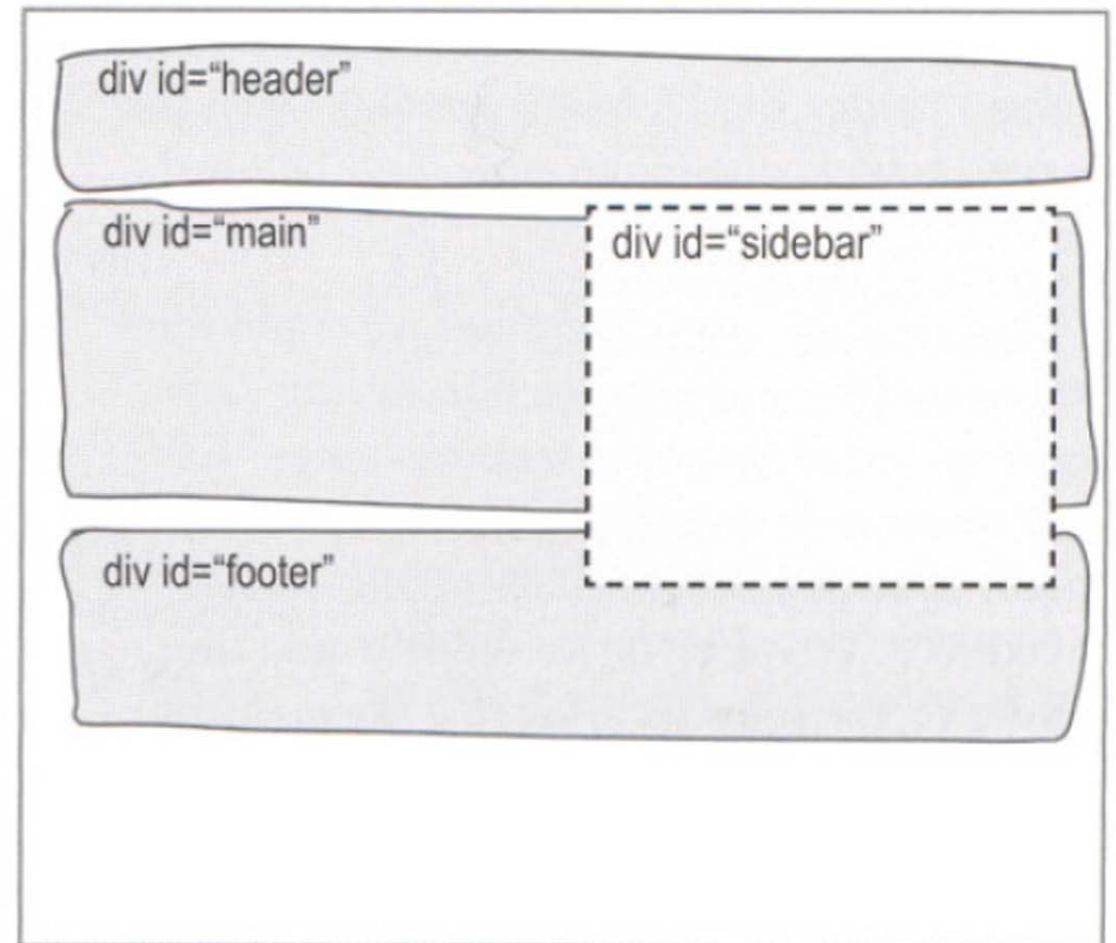


Wait a sec. Before you get way into solving that problem, I have to ask, why did we have to go to all this trouble of using a margin? Why don't we just set the width of the main area? Wouldn't that do the same thing?

Footer overlap

Here's what we've got now. The "main" <div> is short enough that the footer <div> is coming right up and overlapping with the sidebar <div>.


This happens because the sidebar has been pulled out of the flow. So, the browser just lays out the main and footer <div>s like it normally would, ignoring the sidebar (although remember that when the browser flows inline elements, it will respect the borders of the sidebar and wrap inline elements around it).



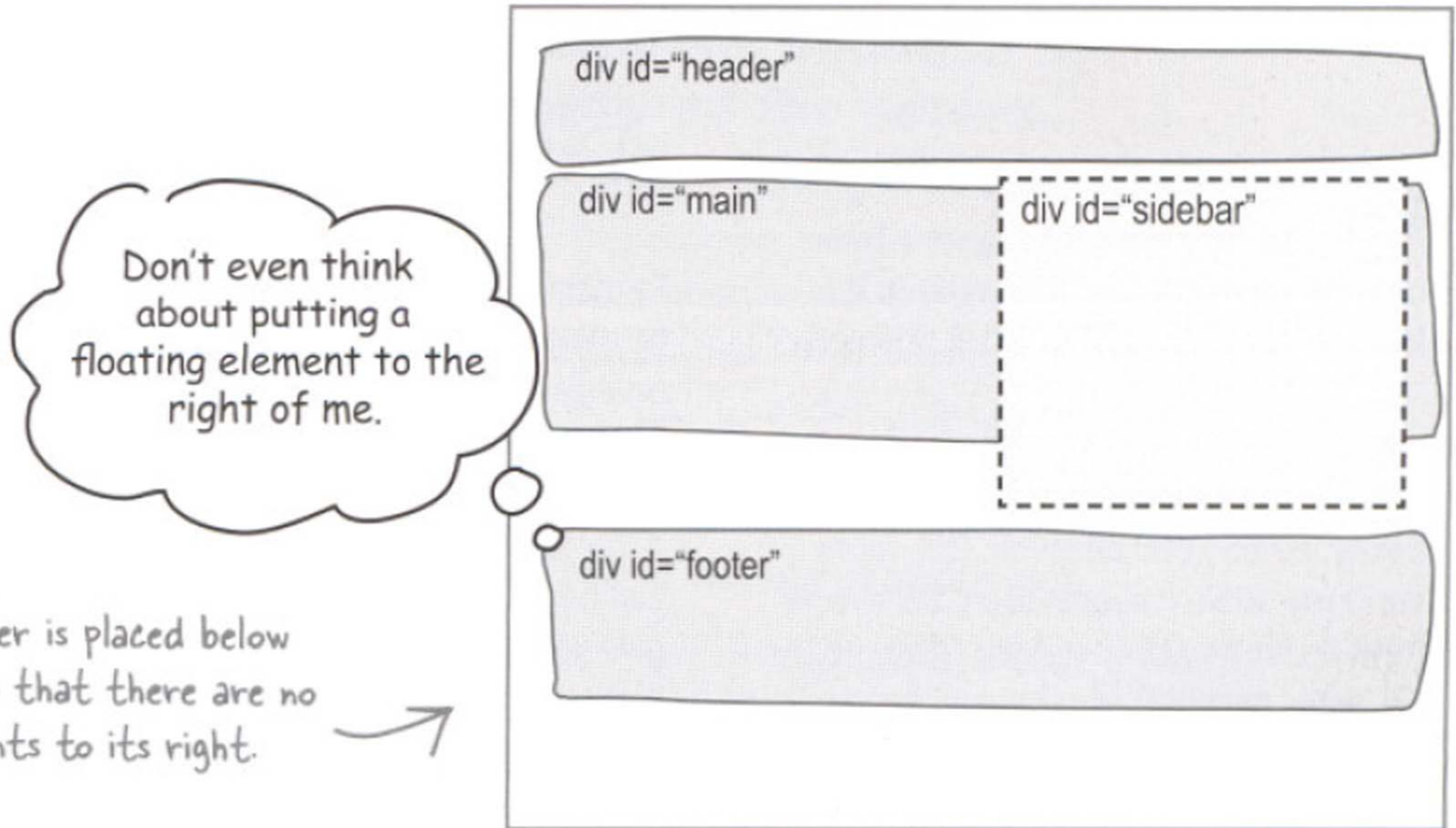
Footer overlap

```
#footer {  
  background-color: #675c47;  
  color:           #efe5d0;  
  text-align:     center;  
  padding:        15px;  
  margin:         10px;  
  font-size:      90%;  
  clear:          right;  
}
```

Here we're adding a property to the footer rule, which says that no floating content is allowed on the right of the footer.



Footer overlap



Now our footer problems are solved. The footer will always be below the sidebar, no matter how narrow or wide the browser.



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...providing all the caffeine you need to power your life. Just drink it.

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FRESH
TO YOUR DOOR

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© 2005, Starbuzz Coffee
All trademarks and registered trademarks appearing on this site are the property of their respective owners.

Step one: the sidebar

```
#sidebar {  
  background: #efe5d0 url(images/background.gif) bottom right;  
  font-size: 105%;  
  padding: 15px;  
  margin: 0px 10px 10px 470px;  
  width: 280px;  
  float: right;  
}
```

We're setting a fixed width on the main content <div>, so delete the sidebar width property along with the float.

Because the sidebar is now going to flow under the main content, we need to move the large margin to the sidebar. The total width of the main content area is 470 pixels. (Go ahead and compute that yourself in all that free time you have. Compute it in the same way as you did for the sidebar. You should know that we're going to set the width of the main content area to 420 pixels.)

Step two: the main content

```
#main {  
  background: #efe5d0 url(images/background.gif) top left;  
  font-size: 105%;  
  padding: 15px;  
  margin: 0px 10px 10px 10px;  
  width: 420px;  
  float: left;  
}
```

We're changing the right margin from 330 pixels back to 10 pixels.


We need to set an explicit width because we're going to float this element. Let's use 420 pixels.

We're going to float the main <div> to the left.

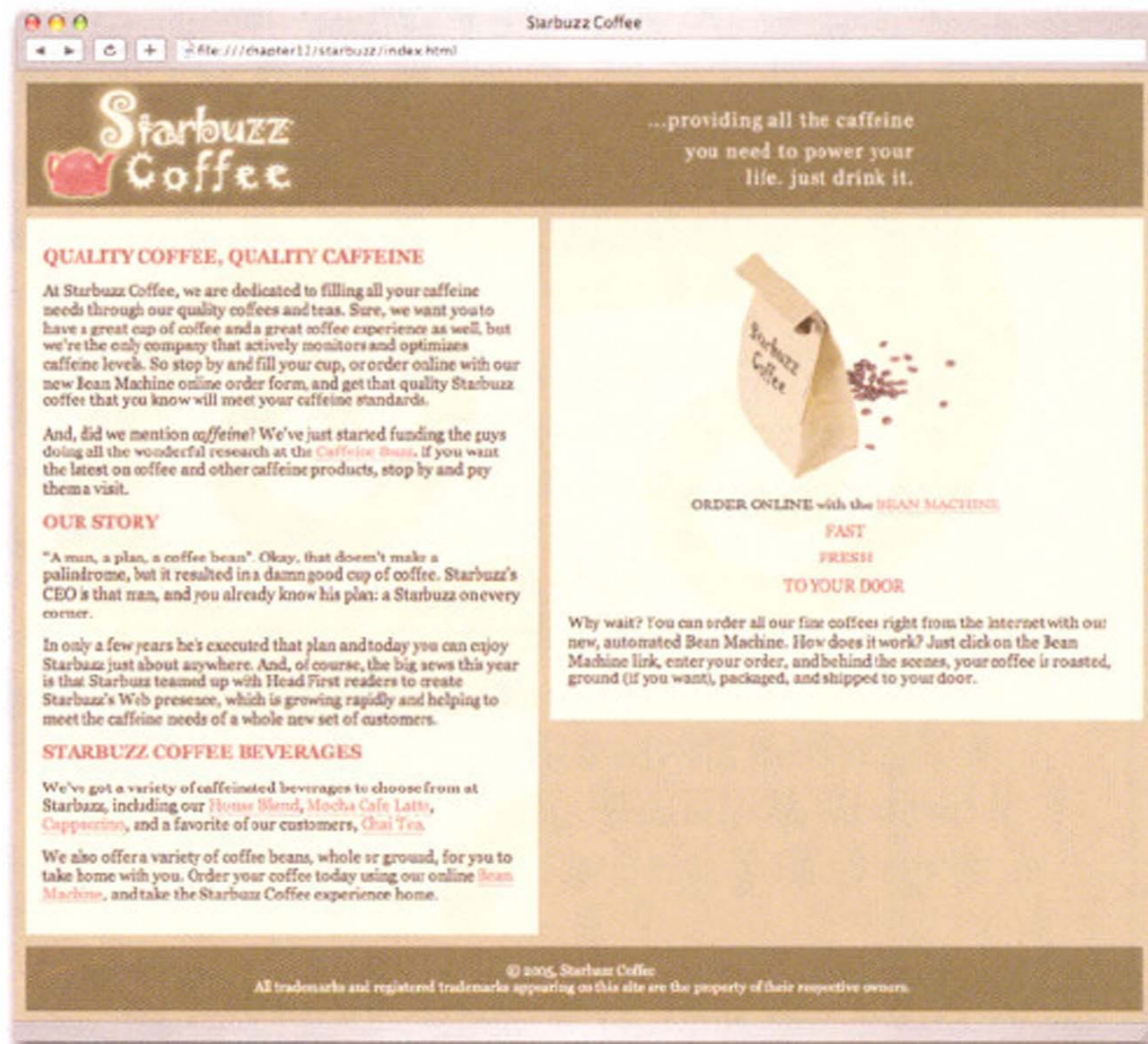
Step three: the footer

```
#footer {  
  background-color: #675c47;  
  color:           #efe5d0;  
  text-align:     center;  
  padding:        15px;  
  margin:         10px;  
  font-size:      90%;  
  clear:          left;  
}
```

Change the clear property to have a value of left, rather than right. That way the footer will stay clear of the main content area.



Actually, this looks pretty good, and we have the <div>s in the right order now. But it's not great that the sidebar expands; it looks a lot better fixed. Sidebars are often used for navigation and they don't look very good when expanded.



When we float the sidebar <div> right, then the design stays nice and tight, allowing the content to expand, but if we float the main content to the left, the design feels too loose, allowing the sidebar to expand.

Liquid and frozen layout



```
<body>
  <div id="allcontent">
    <div id="header">
      ... rest of the XHTML goes here ...
    </div>
  </div>
</body>
```

← Add a new <div> with the id of "allcontent" around all the other elements in the <body>.

← This <div> closes the footer <div>.

```
#allcontent {
  width: 800px;
  padding-top: 5px;
  padding-bottom: 5px;
  background-color: #675c47;
}
```

← We're going to set the width of "allcontent" to 800 pixels. This will have the effect of constraining everything in it to fit within 800 pixels.

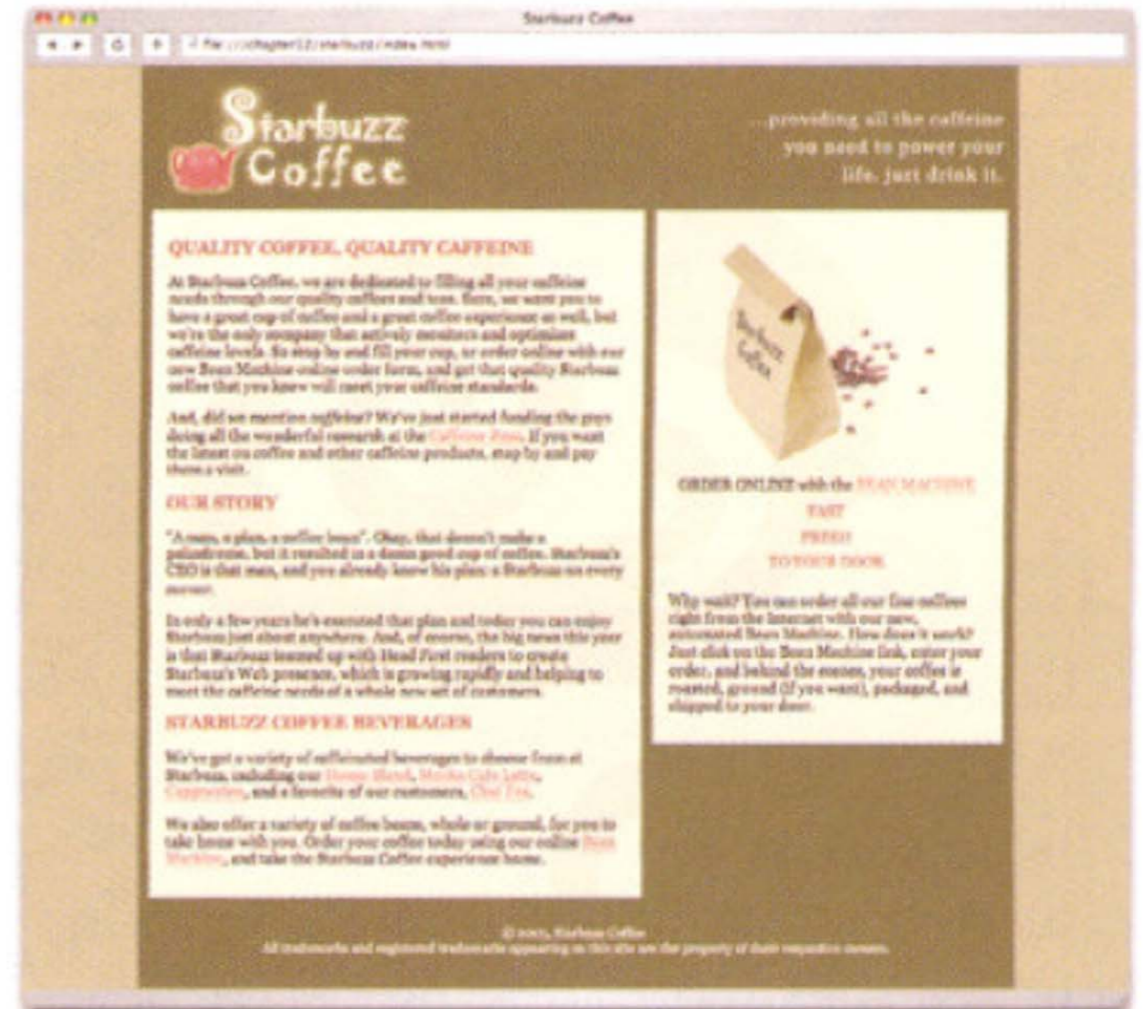
While we're at it, since this is the first time we're styling this <div>, let's add some padding and give it its own background color. You'll see this helps to tie the whole page together.

The outer "allcontent" <div> is always 800 pixels, even when the browser is resized, so we've effectively frozen the <div> to the page, along with everything inside it.

Driving with a tank of jello



Narrow.




Wide.



Absolute positioning

The first thing we do is use the position property to specify that the element will be positioned absolutely.



```
#sidebar {  
  position: absolute;  
  top: 100px;  
  right: 200px;  
  width: 280px;  
}
```

Next we set top and right properties.

And we also give the <div> a width.

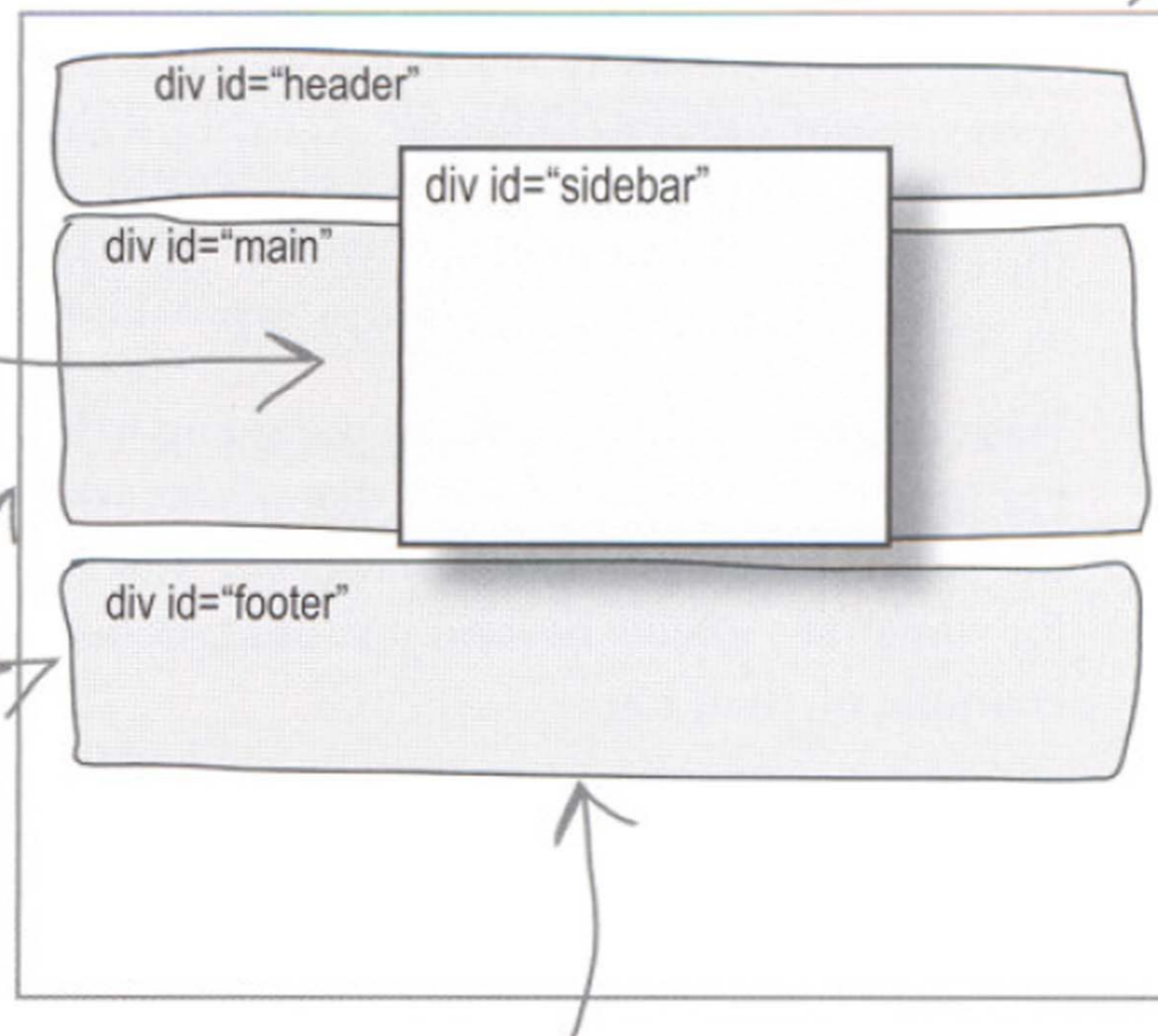
Absolute positioning

The sidebar is positioned 200 pixels from the right of the page.

And, the sidebar is positioned 100 pixels from the top of the page.

Because sidebar is now absolutely positioned, it is removed from the flow and positioned according to any top, left, right, or bottom properties that are specified.


Because the sidebar is out of the flow, the other elements don't even know it is there, and they ignore it totally.



Elements that are in the flow don't even wrap their inline content around an absolutely positioned element. They are totally oblivious to it being on the page.

Another example of absolute positioning

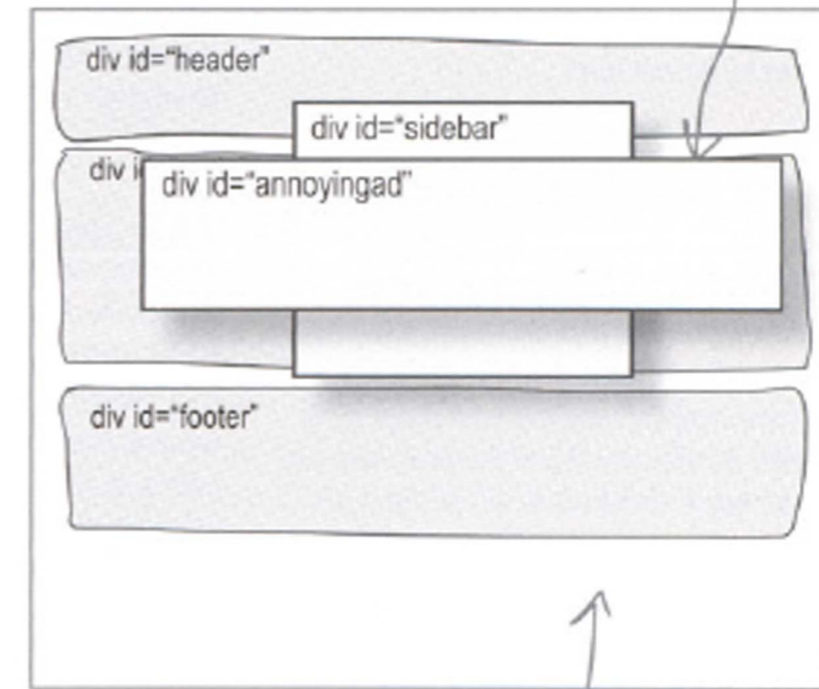
```
#annoyingad {  
  position: absolute;  
  top:    150px;  
  left:   100px;  
  width:  400px;  
}
```



The annoying ad is being positioned 100 pixels from the left, and 150 pixels from the top. It's also a bit wider than the sidebar, at 400 pixels.

Another example of absolute positioning

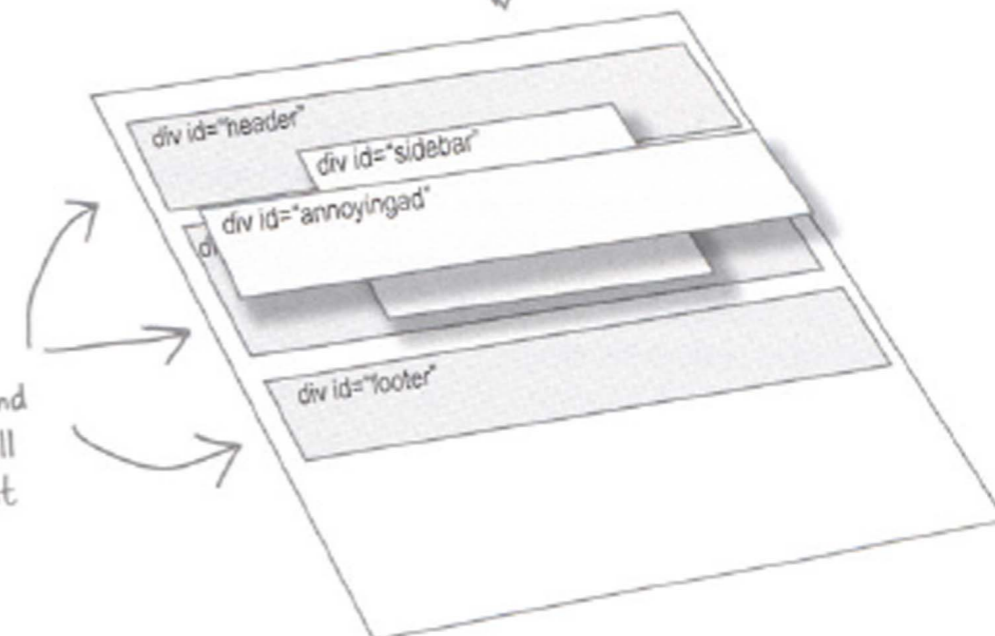
Now we have a second <div>, positioned absolutely, about 100 pixels from the left and 150 pixels from the top.



Notice the annoyingad <div> is on top of the sidebar <div>.

The sidebar and annoyingad <div>s are layered on the page, with the annoyingad having a greater z-index than the sidebar, so it's on top.

The header, main, and footer <div>s are all in the flow, and flat on the page.



Changing the Starbuzz CSS

```
#sidebar {  
  background: #efe5d0 url(images/background.gif) bottom right;  
  font-size: 105%;  
  padding: 15px;  
  margin: 0px 10px 10px 10px;  
  position: absolute;  
  top: 128px;  
  right: 0px;  
  width: 280px;  
}
```

Okay, now we're going to specify that the sidebar is absolutely positioned 128 pixels from the top, and 0 pixels from the right of the page. We also want the sidebar to have a width, so let's make it the same as the float version: 280 pixels.

↑
You'll see where the "128" came from in a sec...

↑
0 pixels from the right will make sure that the sidebar sticks to the right side of the browser.

Wow, this looks amazingly like the float version; however, you know that the sidebar is being positioned absolutely.

The main content area has a margin that is exactly the width of the sidebar, and the sidebar sits on top of that space.



As you resize the browser, the sidebar always sits 128 pixels from the top, and sticks to the right of the page.

And the sidebar has a 10 pixel right margin, so it has spacing between it and the edge of the page.

And we've still got a nice gutter between the two columns.

Starbuzz Coffee

...providing all the caffeine you need to power your life. Just drink it.

QUALITY COFFEE, QUALITY CAFFEINE

In Starbuzz Coffee, we are dedicated to filling all your caffeine needs through our quality coffee and tea. Sure, we want you to have a great cup of coffee and a great coffee experience as well, but we're the only company that actively monitors and optimizes caffeine levels. So stop by and fill your cup, or order online with our new Bean Machine online order form, and get that quality Starbuzz coffee that you know will meet your caffeine standards.

And, did we mention caffeine? We've just started looking the guys doing all the wonderful research at the [Coffee Bean](#). If you want the latest on coffee and other caffeine products, stop by and pay them a visit.

OUR STORY

"A man, a plan, a coffee bean". Okay, that doesn't make a political sense, but it resulted in a damn good cup of coffee. Starbuzz's CEO is that man, and you already know his plan: a Starbuzz on every screen.

In only a few years he's executed that plan and today you can enjoy Via from just about anywhere. And, of course, the big news this year is that Starbuzz teamed up with Intel's Intel Inside to create Starbuzz's Web presence, which is growing rapidly and helping to meet the caffeine needs of a whole new set of customers.

STARBUZZ COFFEE BEVERAGES

We've got a variety of caffeinated beverages to choose from at Starbuzz, including our [Ibuprofen Free](#), [Mocha Cafe Latte](#), [Cappuccino](#), and a favorite of our customers, [Oat Tea](#).

We also offer a variety of coffee beans, whole or ground, for you to take home with you. Order your coffee today using our online [Bean Machine](#), and take the Starbuzz Coffee experience home.

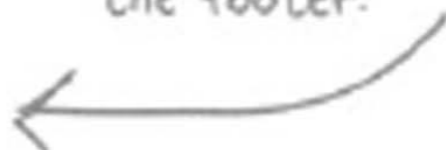


ORDER COFFEE with the **BEAN MACHINE**
FAST
FRESH
TO YOUR DOOR

Why wait? You can order all our fine coffee right from the Internet with our new, automated Bean Machine. How does it work? Just click on the Bean Machine link, enter your order, and behind the scenes, your coffee is roasted, ground (if you want), packaged, and shipped to your door.

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When the browser is wide, the vertical space of the main content area is reduced, and the sidebar can come down over the footer.



Ricapitolando

The Floating Layout

Ahh, how cute, remember your first two-column Starbuzz page? You used a **float** property along with a **clear** on the footer and life was good. The only problem is that this solution often results in putting your content in an order your users might not appreciate if they are using another kind of browser, like a screen reader that reads the content aloud to the user.

The Jello Layout

First we created a frozen layout by wrapping a fixed size `<div>` around all the content in the page, and then we made it jello by allowing the margins to expand with the “auto” property value. This makes for a great looking layout, and lots of pages on the Web use this design. This also solved the problem of our content ordering. The disadvantage here is that the content doesn't expand to fill the entire browser window (which many people don't find to be a disadvantage at all).

The Absolute Layout

Finally, we were on a mission to have a liquid layout and yet have the content ordered like we wanted. So, we used absolute positioning and actually achieved our goal. But, there was a downside: since you can't use the **clear** property with absolute elements, the footer creeps up under the sidebar when the browser is wide.

Holy beans! Starbuzz just won the Roaster of the Year Award. This is huge. Can we get it on the page front and center? All our customers need to see this. Top priority, make it happen!



←
The award.



```

<div id="award">
  
</div>

```



The <div>
contains the
image of the
award.

Positioning the award

```
#award {  
  position: absolute;  
  top:     30px;  
  left:    365px;  
}
```

We're using an absolute position for the award <div> that is 30 pixels from the top and 365 pixels from the left.

```
#award {  
  position: absolute;  
  top:     30px;  
  left:    365px;  
  z-index: 99;  
}
```

Let's give the award <div> a really high number to make sure it is always on top.

On some browsers the sidebar will overlap and occlude the awards image. Oh dear.



About absolute positioning

```
<div id="sidebar">
```

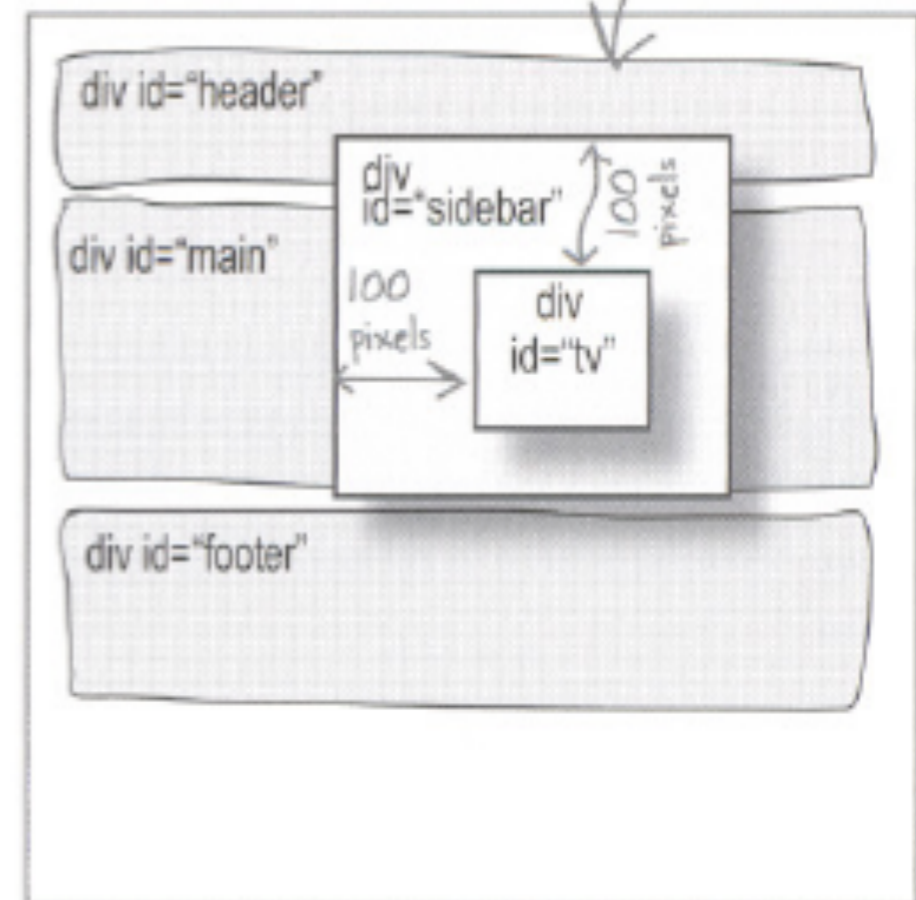
```
<div id="tv">  
    
</div>
```

```
<p class="beanheading">  
  ... more XHTML here ...  
</p>
```

```
...  
</div>
```

Here's a new <div> nested inside the sidebar.

The "tv" <div> is positioned relative to the sidebar <div>, not to the page.



About absolute positioning

```
#tv {  
  position: absolute;  
  top: 100px;  
  left: 100px;  
  width: 100px;  
}
```

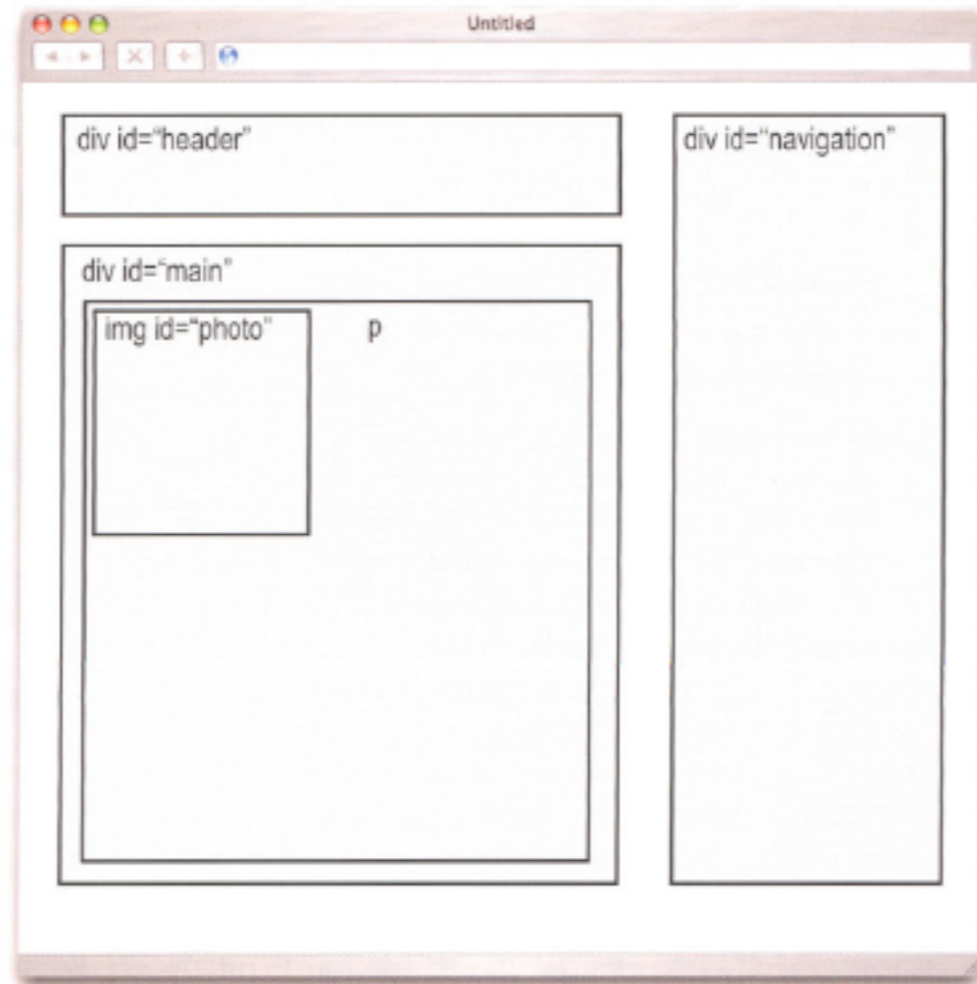


Watch it

If you're positioning with respect to the `<html>` element, then the `bottom` property may not do what you'd expect. You'd think the "bottom" would be the very bottom of the Web page itself, but the `<html>` element actually defines this as the bottom of the browser window. So, if you want to absolutely position an element from the bottom of the page, rather than the browser window, you need to place your element inside an element that extends to the bottom of your page, and is positioned. One way to do this is to put your element into a relatively positioned element at the bottom of the page. We'll look at relative positioning later in the chapter.

Sharpen your pencil

Time to put all this knowledge about floating and positioning to a test! Take a look at the Web page below. There are four elements with an id. Your job is to correctly match each of these elements with the CSS rules on the right, and fill in the correct id selector for each one. Check your answers at the end of the chapter.



Fill in the selectors to complete the CSS.

```
_____ {  
  margin-top: 140px;  
  margin-left: 20px;  
  width: 500px;  
}
```

```
_____ {  
  position: absolute;  
  top: 20px;  
  left: 550px;  
  width: 200px;  
}
```

```
_____ {  
  float: left;  
}
```

```
_____ {  
  position: absolute;  
  top: 20px;  
  left: 20px;  
  width: 500px;  
  height: 100px;  
}
```

Hey, can we get a coupon on the site and put it right in customers' faces so they can't miss it? I'd like to offer one free coffee to everyone who clicks on the coupon, for a limited time, of course.



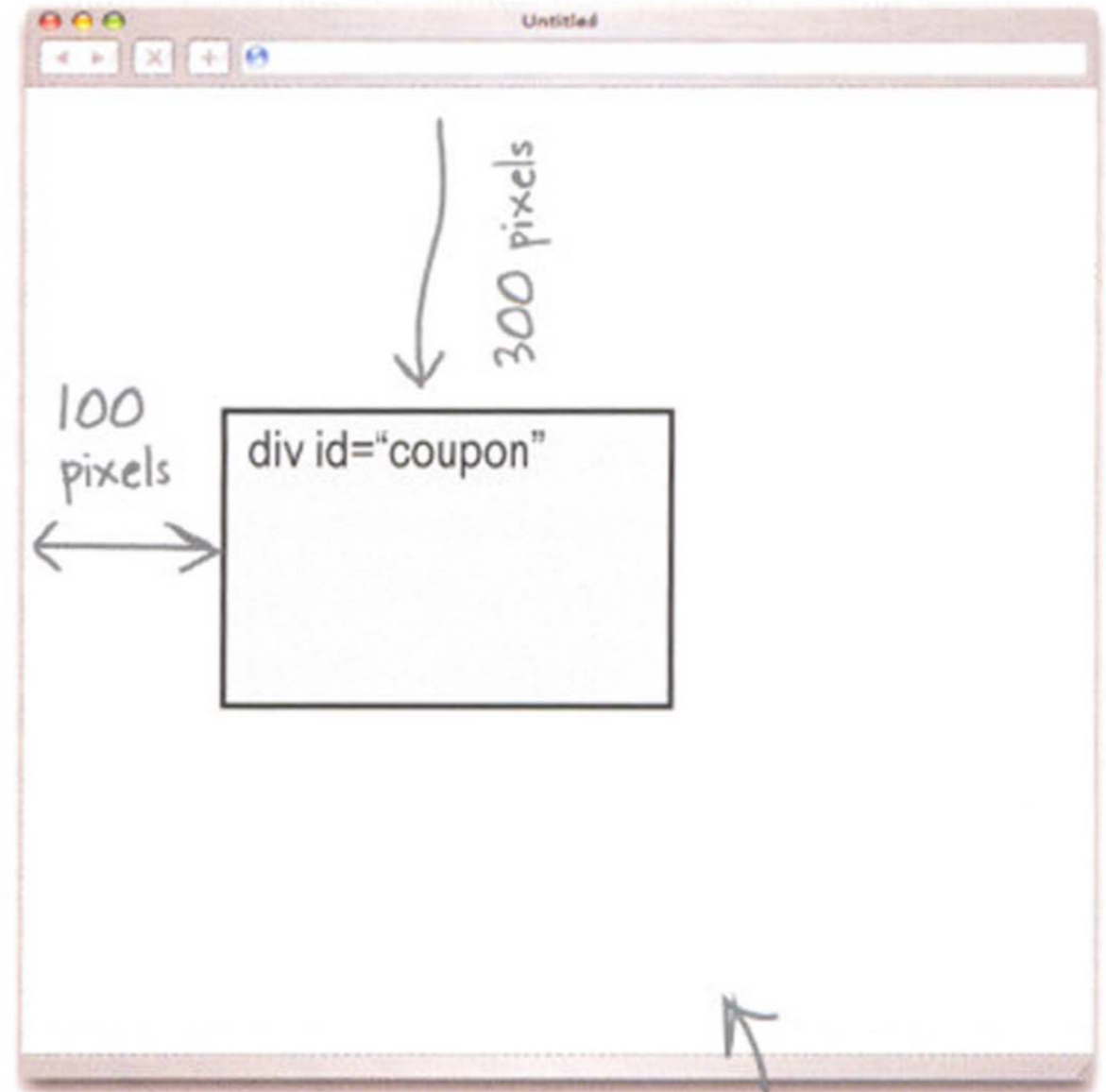
Fixed positioning

Here's the id selector for the coupon <div>.

```
#coupon {  
  position: fixed;  
  top:      300px;  
  left:     100px;  
}
```

We're using fixed positioning.

Position the coupon 300 pixels from the top, and 100 pixels from the left. You can also use right and bottom, just like with absolute positioning.



Here's where the element gets positioned within the viewport.

Putting the coupon on the page

Here's the `<div>` with an id of "coupon".



Inside we've got an image of the coupon, which you'll find in the "chapter12/starbuzz/images" folder.



```
<div id="coupon">  
  <a href="freecoffee.html" title="Click here to get your free coffee">  
      
  </a>  
</div>
```



And we've wrapped the image in an `<a>` element so that users can click on the image to be taken to a page with a coupon they can print.

Putting the coupon on the page

```
#coupon {  
  position: fixed;  
  top: 300px;  
  left: 0px;  
}
```

← We're going to set the coupon to fixed positioning, 300 pixels from the top of the viewport, and let's put the left side right up against the edge of the viewport. So we need to specify 0 pixels from the left.

```
#coupon img {  
  border: none;  
}
```

← We need to style the image and the links, too; otherwise, we may have borders popping up on the image because it is clickable. So, let's set the border on the image to none, and do the same on both links and visited links.

```
#coupon a:link {  
  border: none;  
}  
#coupon a:visited {  
  border: none;  
}
```

← Remember that we have a rule in the CSS that says to turn off text-decoration, and use a border to underline links, instead. Here, we're overriding that rule for the link in the coupon <div> and saying we don't want any border on the link. Go back and look at the original CSS if you need to remind yourself of the other rules for the links.

Putting the coupon on the page



The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Starbuzz Coffee website. The browser's address bar shows the file path: file:///chapter12/starbuzz/index.html. The website has a brown header with the Starbuzz Coffee logo on the left and a coffee grinder on the right. Below the header, there are two main columns of text. The left column contains a coupon for 'ONE FREE COFFEE' with the code '151332'. The right column features an image of a coffee bag and text promoting online ordering with the 'Bean Machine'. The footer contains copyright information for 2002 Starbuzz Coffee.

Starbuzz Coffee

...providing all the caffeine you need to power your life. just drink it.

QUALITY COFFEE, QUALITY CAFFEINE

At Starbuzz Coffee, we are dedicated to filling all your caffeine needs through our quality coffees and teas. Sure, we want you to have a great cup of coffee and a great coffee experience as well, but we're the only company that actively monitors and optimizes caffeine levels. So stop by and fill your cup, or order online with our new Bean Machine online order form, and get that quality Starbuzz coffee that you know will meet your caffeine standards.

ONE FREE COFFEE 151332

... first started funding the guys doing *as they*. If you want the latest on *by* and pay them a visit.

... t doesn't make a palindrome, coffee. Starbuzz's CEO is that man, *and you* *anyway* *starw* *sun* *pass*: a Starbuzz on every corner.

In only a few years he's executed that plan and today you can enjoy Starbuzz just about anywhere. And, of course, the big news this year is that Starbuzz teamed up with Head First readers to create Starbuzz's Web presence, which is growing rapidly and helping to meet the caffeine needs of a whole new set of customers.

STARBUZZ COFFEE BEVERAGES

We've got a variety of caffeinated beverages to choose from at Starbuzz, including our *House Blend*, *Mocha Cafe Latte*, *Cappuccino*, and a favorite of our customers, *Chai Tea*.

We also offer a variety of coffee beans, whole or ground, for you to take home with you. Order your coffee today using our online *Bean Machine*, and take the Starbuzz Coffee experience home.

ORDER ONLINE with the **BEAN MACHINE**
FAST
FRESH
TO YOUR DOOR

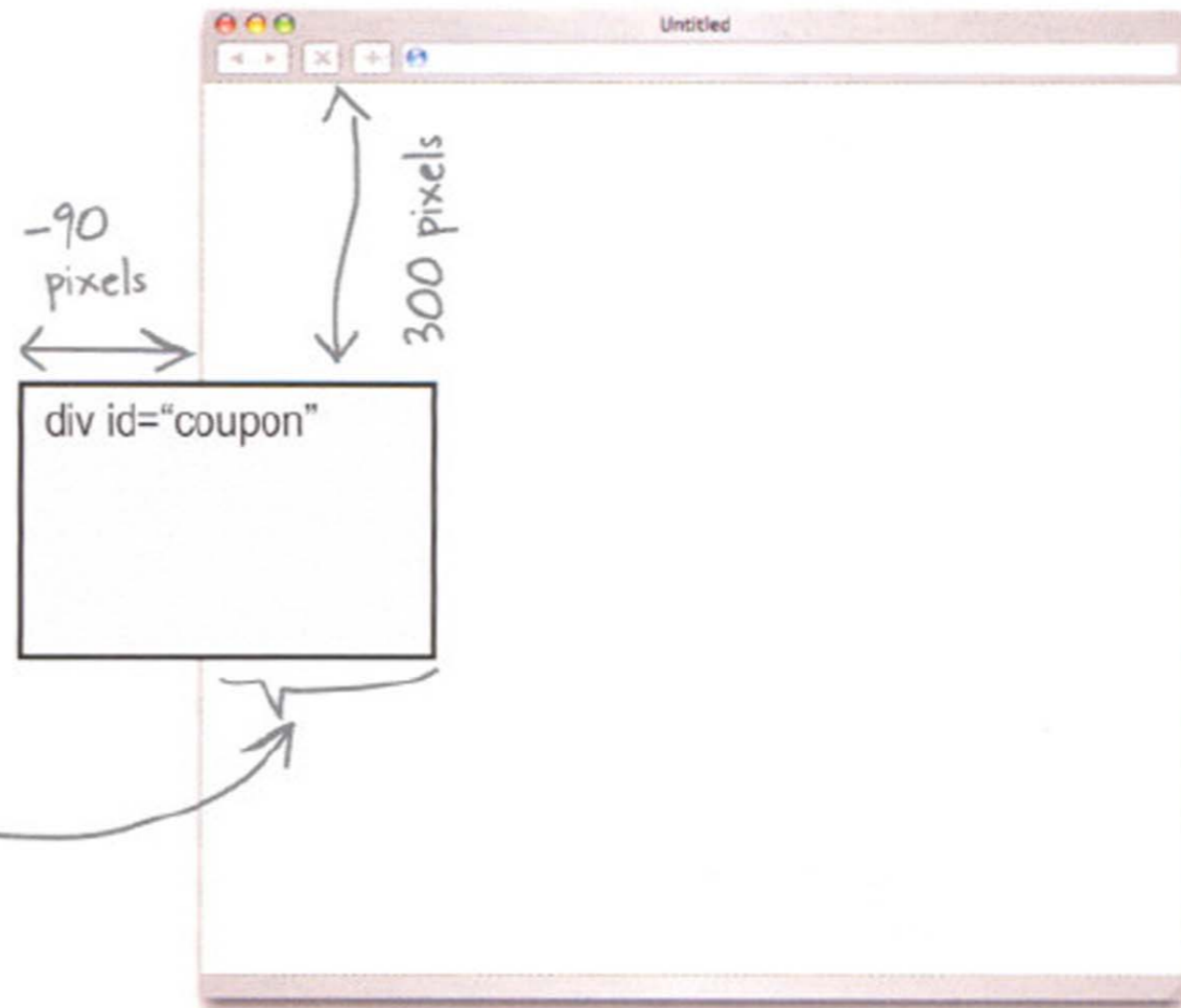
Why wait? You can order all our fine coffees right from the Internet with our new, automated Bean Machine. How does it work? Just click on the Bean Machine link, enter your order, and behind the scenes, your coffee is roasted, ground (if you want), packaged, and shipped to your door.

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Using a negative left property value

```
#coupon {  
  position: fixed;  
  top: 300px;  
  left: -90px;  
}
```

By specifying -90 pixels, we're telling the browser to position the image 90 pixels to the left of the edge of the viewport.



The browser will gladly position the image to the left of the viewport for you, and only the part of the image that is still on the screen will be viewable.

Negative test drive

Just remember, using fixed positioning to cover up your content is not the most user-friendly thing to do, but it is FUN.



Starbuzz Coffee Beverages

House Blend, \$1.49

A smooth, mild blend of coffees from Mexico, Bolivia and Guatemala.

Mocha Cafe Latte, \$2.35

Espresso, steamed milk and chocolate syrup.

Cappuccino, \$1.89

A mixture of espresso, steamed milk and foam.

Chai Tea, \$1.85

A spicy drink made with black tea, spices, milk and honey.



...providing all the caffeine
you need to power your
life. just drink it.

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And did we mention caffeine? We've just started funding the guys doing all this at the **STARBUZZ** store. If you want the latest in coffee news, stop by and pay them a visit.

ONE
FREE
COFFEE

151332

...beans. Okay, that doesn't make a palindrome, but it is a use of coffee. Starbuzz's CEO is that man, and you get a Starbuzz on every occasion.

It only a few years he's existed that plan and today you can enjoy Starbuzz just about anywhere. And, of course, the big news this year is that Starbuzz teamed up with *Word First* readers to create Starbuzz's Web presence, which is growing rapidly and helping to meet the caffeine needs of a whole new set of customers.

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TO YOUR DOOR.

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WOW! What a difference!

Getting relative

Here's a new rule that selects the image. We're using a descendant selector here to select only images inside the beanheading.

Notice that images are inline elements, but that's okay. You can use any of the positioning techniques, or even a float, on inline elements too.

```
.beanheading img {  
  position: relative;  
  left: 120px;  
}
```

Then we specify a position of relative, and whatever offsets we want on the image. The offset is from the position where it is placed in the flow.

So here we're specifying that the image should be displayed 120 pixels from the left of where it sits in the flow of the document. You can use right, top, and bottom as well, when specifying offsets.

We want to take the Starbuzz Coffee bag and move it about 100 pixels to the right.



With absolute positioning, the coffee bag moves, but since it is no longer in the flow, the rest of the page moves up underneath.

t the

Test drive

Starbuzz Coffee

...providing all the caffeine you need to power your life. just drink it.

QUALITY COFFEE, QUALITY CAFFEINE

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...caffeine? We've just started funding the guys doing [this](#) at the [Caffeine Bank](#). If you want the latest on [these](#) products, stop by and pay them a visit.

...man". Okay, that doesn't make a palindrome, but it is a good cup of coffee. Starbuzz's CEO is that man, and you already know his plan: a Starbuzz on every corner.

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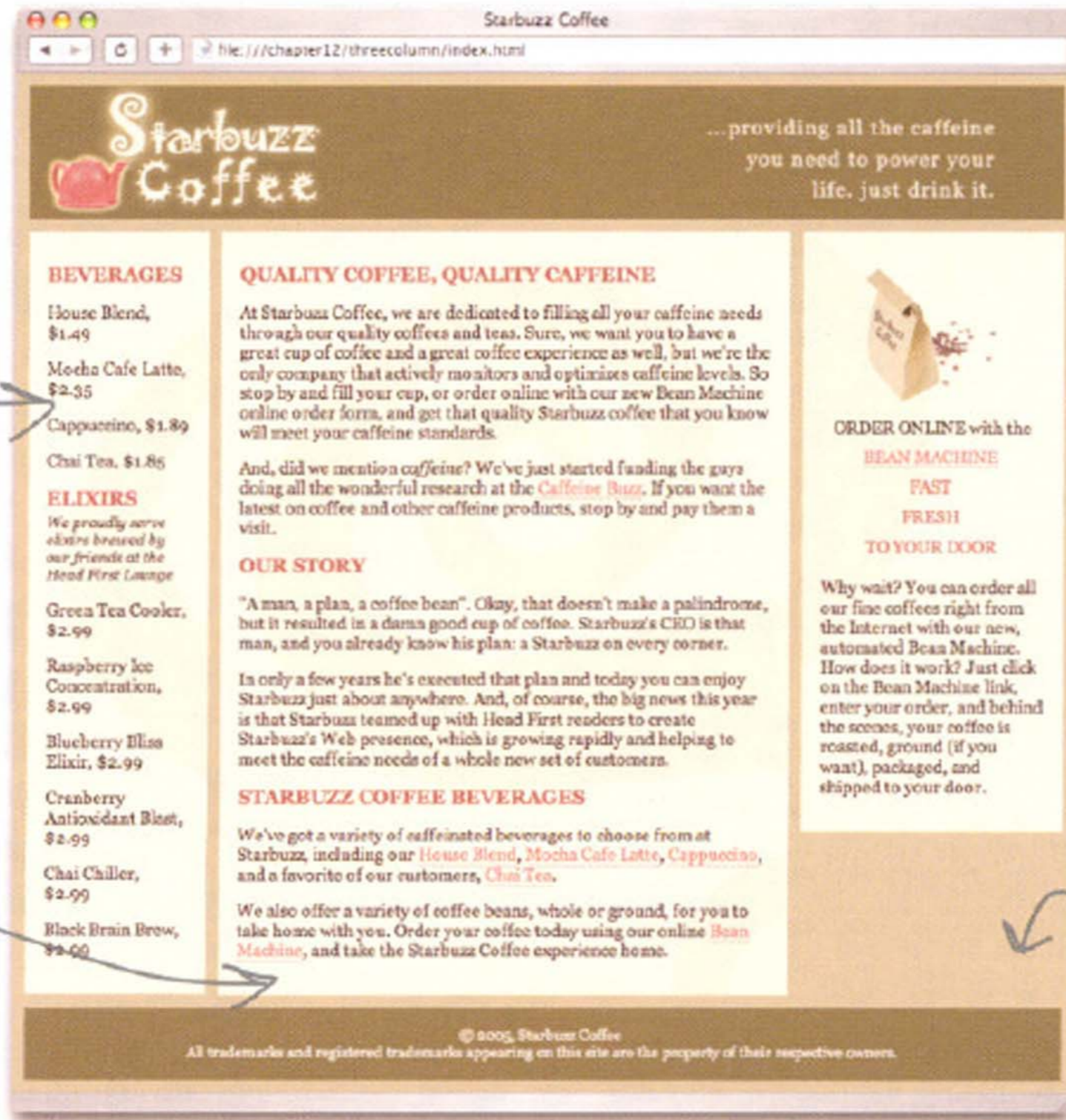
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To three column and beyond



This <div> is floated left.

And this <div> is floated right.

The content area now has left and right margins that sit under the two floated <div>s.

And the footer has its clear property set to "both".