

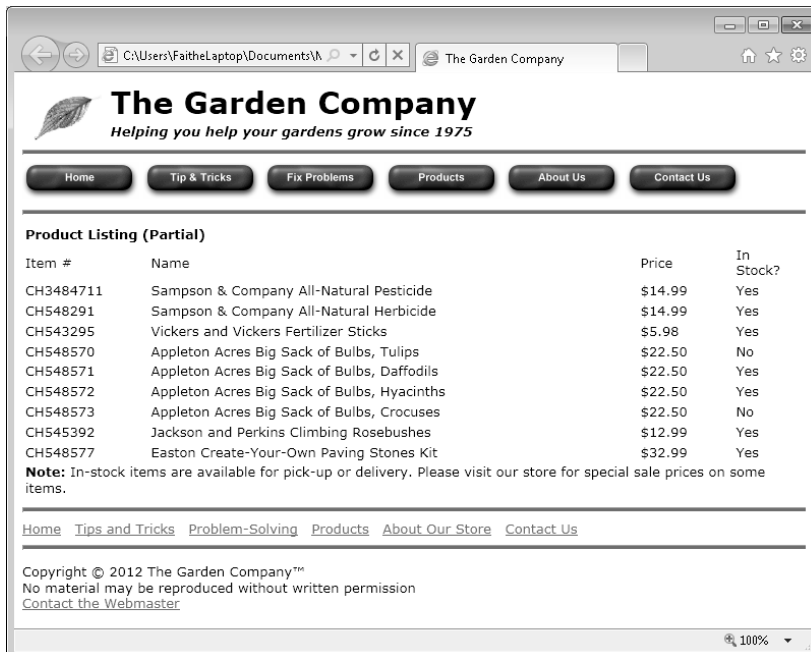
# 12 Creating Tables

In this chapter, you will learn how to

- ✓ Create a simple table.
- ✓ Specify the size of a table.
- ✓ Specify the width of a column.
- ✓ Merge table cells.
- ✓ Use tables for page layout.

If you've used a word-processing program before, you're probably already familiar with the task of creating tables. A *table* is a grid of rows and columns, the intersections of which form *cells*. Each cell is a distinct area, into which you can place text, graphics, or even other tables.

HTML handles tables very well, and you can use them to organize and present complex data to your site visitors. For example, you could display your store's inventory in a table.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'C:\Users\Faithelaptop\Documents\...' and the page title 'The Garden Company'. The website header features the company logo and tagline 'Helping you help your gardens grow since 1975'. Below the header is a navigation menu with buttons for 'Home', 'Tip & Tricks', 'Fix Problems', 'Products', 'About Us', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area is titled 'Product Listing (Partial)' and contains a table with the following data:

Item #	Name	Price	In Stock?
CH3484711	Sampson & Company All-Natural Pesticide	\$14.99	Yes
CH548291	Sampson & Company All-Natural Herbicide	\$14.99	Yes
CH543295	Vickers and Vickers Fertilizer Sticks	\$5.98	Yes
CH548570	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Tulips	\$22.50	No
CH548571	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Daffodils	\$22.50	Yes
CH548572	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Hyacinths	\$22.50	Yes
CH548573	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Crocuses	\$22.50	No
CH545392	Jackson and Perkins Climbing Rosebushes	\$12.99	Yes
CH548577	Easton Create-Your-Own Paving Stones Kit	\$32.99	Yes

Below the table, a note states: 'Note: In-stock items are available for pick-up or delivery. Please visit our store for special sale prices on some items.' The footer includes a copyright notice for 2012 The Garden Company and a link to contact the webmaster.

The most popular use of tables in HTML, however, is as a page-layout tool. You can create a large table that occupies the entire page, and then place content into the cells to position that content on the page. In the following figure, for example, each of the sections (the masthead, the navigation bar, the body, and the footer) resides in its own separate table cell. You will create this layout later in the chapter, learning the details of how it's done.



**Note** Now that division-based layouts are becoming more common (see Chapter 11, “Creating Division-Based Layouts”), some experts will tell you that table-based design is on its way out. However, for a small, non-professional Web site for personal or organizational use, tables are still a very viable way of laying out your pages.

In this chapter, you’ll learn the basic HTML for creating tables, rows, and cells. You’ll also learn how to specify cell sizes and merge cells to create larger areas. After you master these skills, you’ll put them to work by creating a table-based page layout grid. Then, in the next chapter, you’ll learn how to format tables.

**See Also** Do you need only a quick refresher on the topics in this chapter? See the Key Points at the end of this chapter.

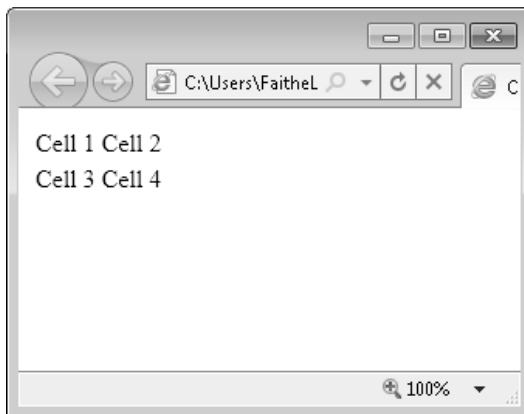
**Practice Files** Before you can use the practice files provided for this chapter, you need to install them from the book's companion content page to their default locations. See "Using the Practice Files" in the beginning of this book for more information.

## Creating a Simple Table

The `<table>` tag creates an HTML table. Within that tag, you include one or more `<tr>` tags, which define the table's rows, and within each `<tr>` tag, you define one or more `<td>` tags, which define the cells.

```
<table>
  <tr>
    <td>Cell 1</td>
    <td>Cell 2</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Cell 3</td>
    <td>Cell 4</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

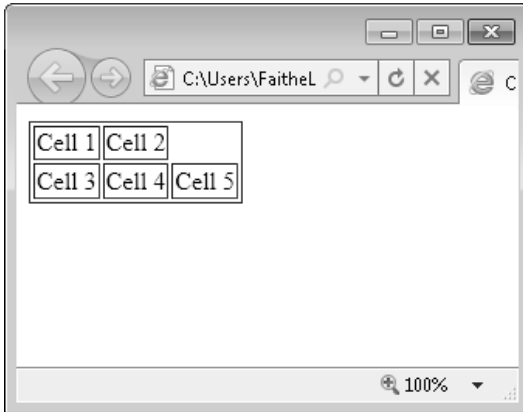
Displayed in a browser, the code just shown creates a table that looks like the following:



This table is not very interesting to look at in its default state. And because by default, HTML tables have no borders or shading, you can barely even tell it's a table at all. The text simply appears where it's supposed to appear according to the table's specification. (That's a big hint about how you will use tables for layout later in the chapter.)

The number of columns within a table is equal to the largest number of `<td>` tags in any given row. Watch what happens when I add another `<td>` tag to the second row. I'm also going to add a `border="1"` attribute in the `<table>` tag to make the table borders visible. so you can see what's going on more clearly. (You'll learn more about that attribute in Chapter 13, Formatting Tables.) The additions are shown in bold text in the following code:

```
<table border="1">
  <tr>
    <td>Cell 1</td>
    <td>Cell 2</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Cell 3</td>
    <td>Cell 4</td>
    <td>Cell 5</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```



Notice that because the rows do not have the same number of cells, the browser inserts a blank space in the row that doesn't include the extra cell. In the section "Merging Table Cells" on page 220, you will learn how to merge multiple cells into a single cell.

In this exercise, you will create a simple table.



**SET UP** Use the `products.htm` file in the practice file folder for this topic. This file is located in the `Documents\Microsoft Press\HTML5 SBS\12Tables\CreatingTable` folder. Open the `products` file in Microsoft Notepad and in Microsoft Internet Explorer.

1. In Notepad, in the empty space between the two consecutive `<hr>` tags, create the table, leaving a few blank lines between the opening and closing tags.

```
<table>

</table>
```

2. Within the table, create three rows. Indenting the lines as shown in the following code is optional but recommended.

```
<table>
  <tr>
  </tr>
  <tr>
  </tr>
  <tr>
  </tr>
</table>
```

3. Within the first row, create four columns.

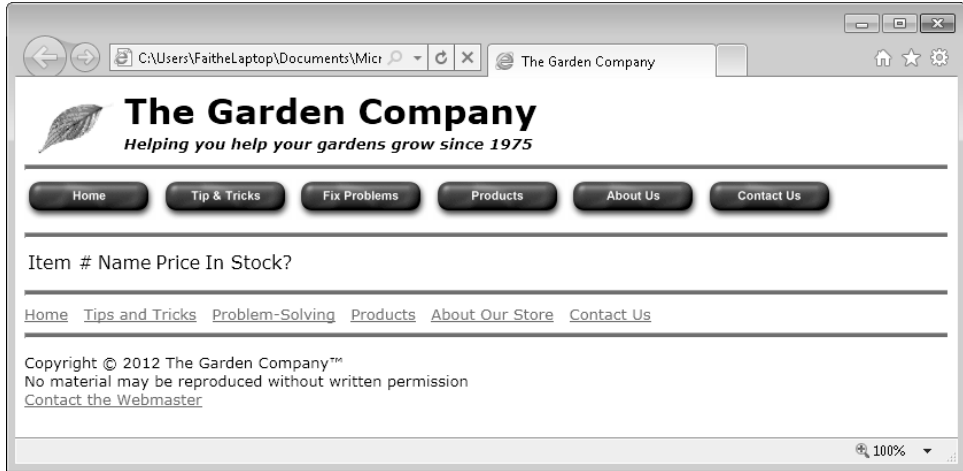
```
<table>
  <tr>
    <td> </td>
    <td> </td>
    <td> </td>
    <td> </td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
  </tr>
  <tr>
  </tr>
</table>
```

4. Enter the text that will appear in the first row of the table, as follows:

```
<table>
  <tr>
    <td>Item #</td>
    <td>Name</td>
    <td>Price</td>
    <td>In Stock?</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
  </tr>
  <tr>
  </tr>
</table>
```

**Tip** If you like, you can use `<th>` tags instead of `<td>` tags to indicate table headings. Some browsers automatically format table heading cells differently.

5. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer.



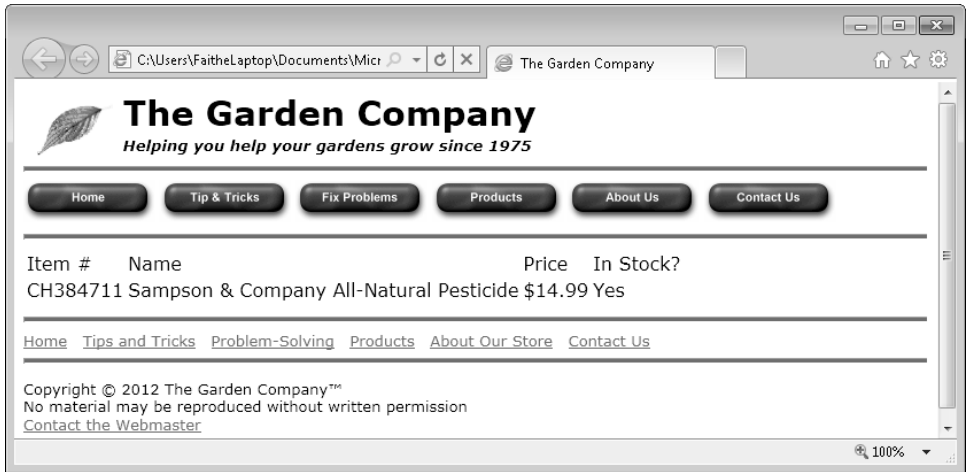
Notice that the browser ignores the two empty rows.

6. In Notepad, enter a product name in each cell of the first empty row, as shown here:

```
<table>
  <tr>
    <td>Item #</td>
    <td>Name</td>
    <td>Price</td>
    <td>In Stock?</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>CH384711</td>
    <td>Sampson & Company All-Natural Pesticide</td>
    <td>$14.99</td>
    <td>Yes</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
  </tr>
</table>
```

7. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer.

Notice that the columns have expanded to accommodate the longest entries.



**✕ CLEAN UP** Close the Notepad and Internet Explorer windows.

## Specifying the Size of a Table

By default, a table sizes itself to accommodate all of its cells, and each cell's height and width changes to accommodate the largest entry in that row or column. The table structure expands or contracts as needed when you add or remove cells or content within cells.

With these default settings, a table can end up looking rather cramped, especially if you don't use borders between cells (which you'll learn more about in Chapter 13). In the table from the previous exercise, for example, some extra space would be welcome.

One way to add extra spacing in this instance would be to set the overall size of the table to 100 percent. This forces the table to expand horizontally to fill the available space in the browser window. To do this, add a width attribute to the opening `<table>` tag like this:

```
<table width=100%>
```

Alternatively, you can place the width specification in a style, like this:

```
<table style="width: 100%">
```

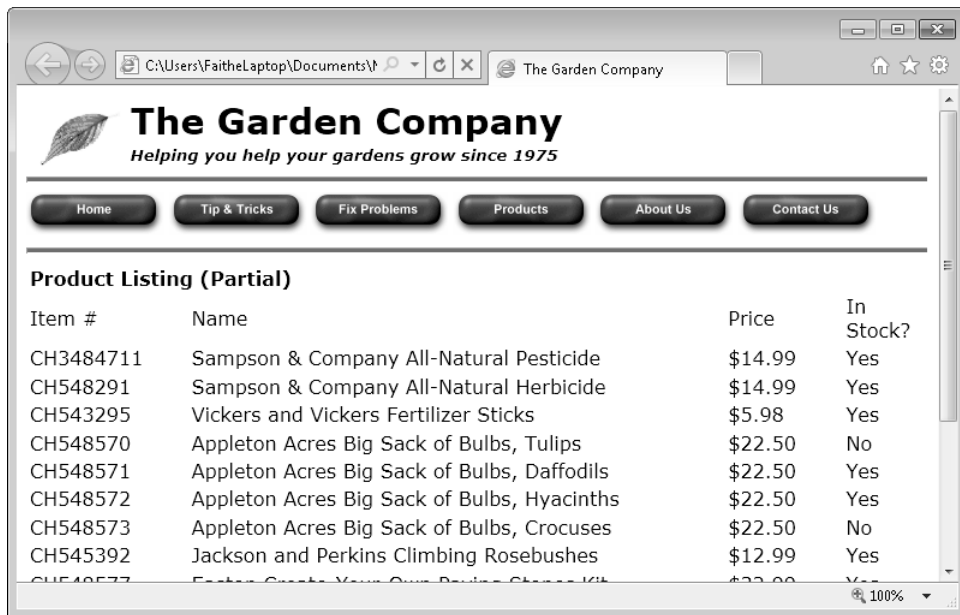
To apply the width specification to all tables, place it in a style sheet, as shown here:

```
table {width: 100%}
```

You don't need to specify 100 percent; you could also set the table's width to 50, 75, or any other percentage. You can do the same thing with table height, making it expand to fill the entire browser window vertically by using the following:

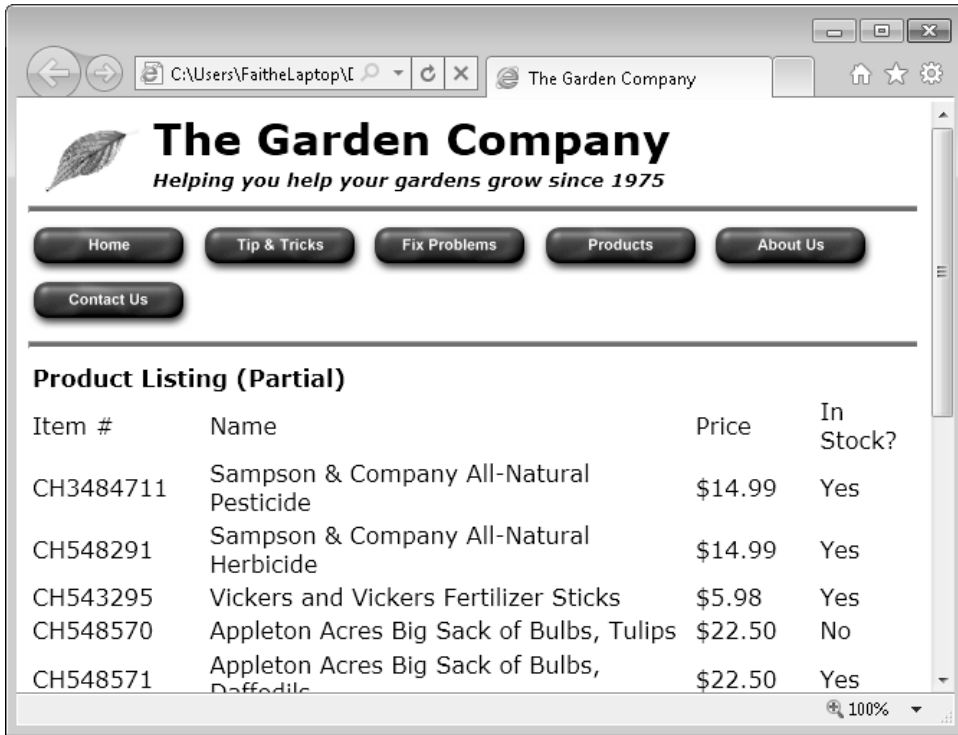
```
table (height: 100%)
```

The only drawback to specifying width and/or height by percentage is that you cannot be certain which size browser window the visitors to your site will be using. This example looks great in an 800 × 600 window, such as demonstrated here:



But in a smaller window, it becomes just as cramped as before, and the text wraps to multiple lines.





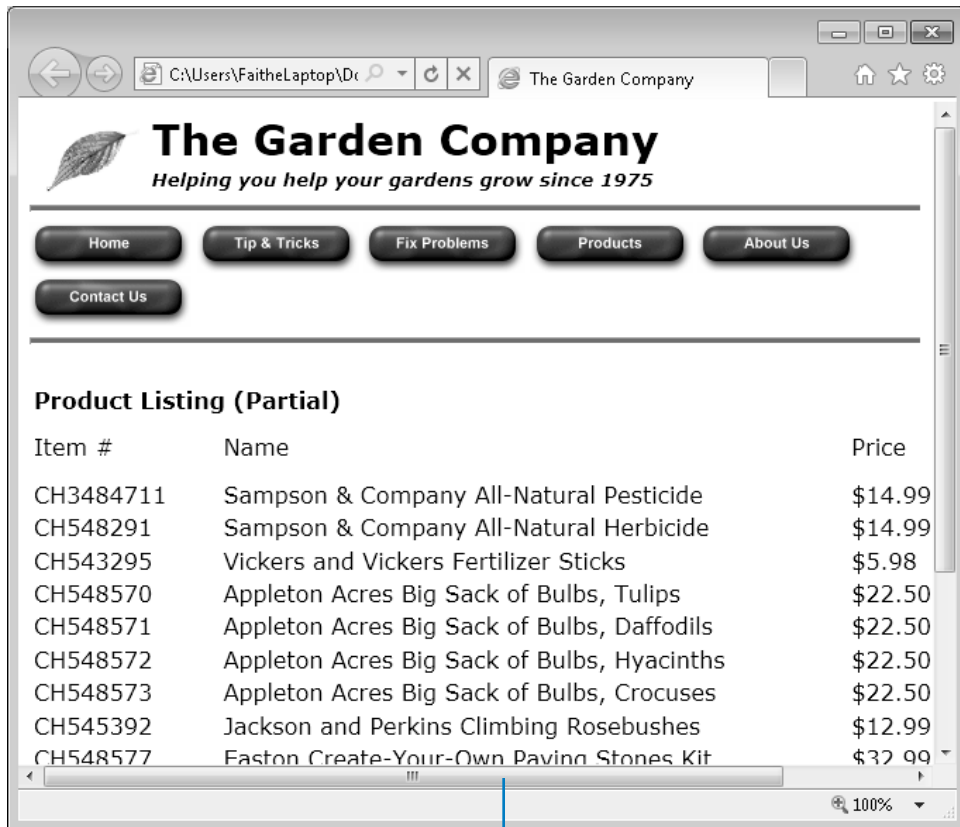
And in a larger window, the extra space between the columns becomes exaggerated.



An alternative approach is to specify a number of pixels for the table's width. That way, the width the table requires in pixels does not change no matter what the size of the browser window. For example, to lock the table to a width of 750 pixels, use the following:

```
<table width="750px">
```

When a browser renders a fixed-width table in a smaller browser window, a horizontal scroll bar appears in the window.



Horizontal scroll bar

When displayed in a larger window, extra horizontal space appears to the right of the table (assuming the table is left-aligned) rather than being distributed throughout the table.

Although it is less common, there might also be cases where it is useful to set a specific table height, either in percentage or pixels. You do this by using the same method, except you specify height instead. For example, in a tag, use this:

```
<table height="400px">
```

To specify height in a style rule, use this:

```
table {height: 400px}
```

In this exercise, you will change a table's width using two different methods and check its appearance in various browser window sizes.



**SET UP** Use the *products.htm* file in the practice file folder for this topic. This file is located in the Documents\Microsoft Press\HTML5 SBS\12Tables\SpecifyingSize folder. Open the *products* file in Notepad and in Internet Explorer.

1. Modify the opening `<table>` tag to make the table exactly 700 pixels wide.

```
<table width="700">
```

2. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer. Experiment with different browser window sizes, and note how the table looks at each size.
3. Edit the `<table>` tag to make the table fill the width of the browser window.

```
<table width=100%>
```

4. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer. Experiment with different browser window sizes, and note how the table looks at each size.
5. Remove the width attribute from the table tag.

```
<table>
```

6. Create a style rule in the `<style>` section that sets the default width for all tables to 100 percent of the browser window width.

```
<style>
table {width: 100%}
</style>
```

7. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer.

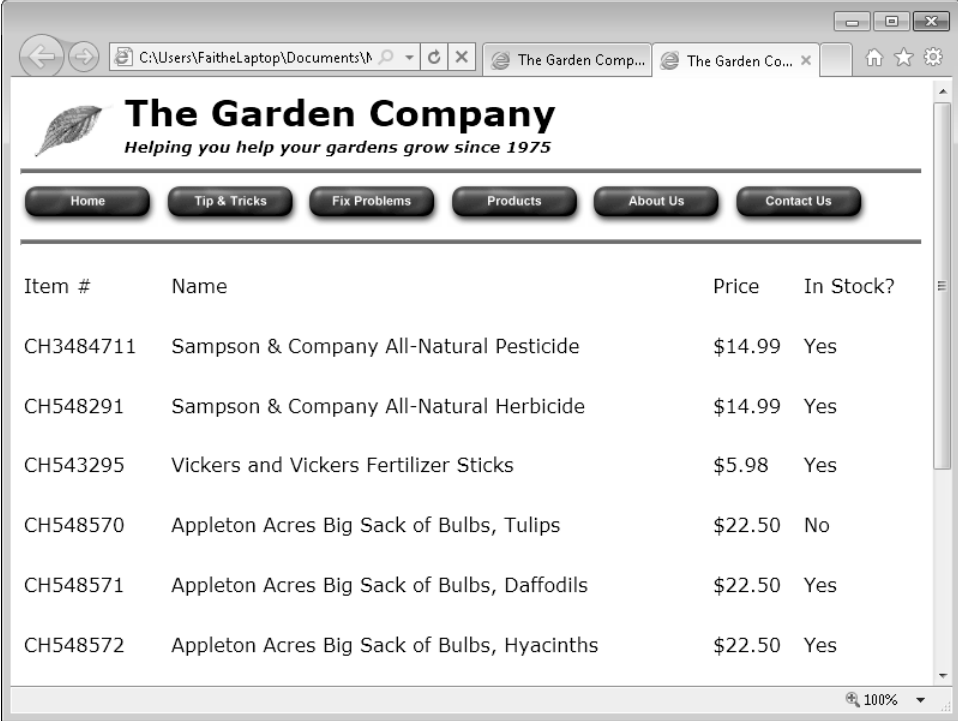
It should not have changed from the last time you looked at it.

8. Add a height attribute to the `<table>` tag that sets the table height at exactly 500 pixels.

```
<table height="500px">
```

9. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer.

Extra space has been distributed vertically throughout the table.



Item #	Name	Price	In Stock?
CH3484711	Sampson & Company All-Natural Pesticide	\$14.99	Yes
CH548291	Sampson & Company All-Natural Herbicide	\$14.99	Yes
CH543295	Vickers and Vickers Fertilizer Sticks	\$5.98	Yes
CH548570	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Tulips	\$22.50	No
CH548571	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Daffodils	\$22.50	Yes
CH548572	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Hyacinths	\$22.50	Yes

**✖ CLEAN UP** Close the Notepad and Internet Explorer windows.

## Specifying the Width of a Column

Setting the overall table size is useful, but for more control, you might prefer to set the width of each column separately. To set the width of a column to a certain minimum amount, specify a width in the `<td>` tag for any cell within that column. You can use the same method you used for the `<table>` tag in the preceding section, as shown in the following:

```
<td width="200px">
```

To specify the width of a column by using a style, use this:

```
<td style="width: 200px">
```

The traditional place to set the column width is in the first row of the table, but that is not a requirement; you can set a width for any cell in any row. The column as a whole will be as wide as the widest cell in that column.

In the following code, specific values are set for the column widths:

```
<table border="1">
  <tr>
    <td width="100px">&nbsp;</td>
    <td width="400px">&nbsp;</td>
    <td width="100px">&nbsp;</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>&nbsp;</td>
    <td>&nbsp;</td>
    <td>&nbsp;</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

This code creates a table that looks like this:

&nbsp;	&nbsp;	&nbsp;
&nbsp;	&nbsp;	&nbsp;

**Tip** The examples shown here use nonbreaking spaces (*&nbsp;*) as placeholders in empty cells. This is optional, but it makes an empty table appear as it will when you place content in the cells, which can be important when you are checking your work in a browser window as you build your page.

If you enter some text in one of the cells that exceeds the column's width, the browser wraps the text into multiple lines, as needed.

&nbsp;	&nbsp;	&nbsp;
Wildflower seed assortments	&nbsp;	&nbsp;

**Note** The text-wrapping behavior shown in the preceding example is not universal across all browsers. Some older versions of Internet Explorer, for example, will still expand the first column to fit all the text on one line. This illustrates the importance of checking your work in multiple browsers.

If you widen the browser window, the text remains wrapped because the column width is fixed.

You can also specify column width in percentages, for different wrapping and resizing behavior at different browser window widths. Suppose in the previous example that you specified 20 percent, 60 percent, and 20 percent for each of the three columns, respectively:

```
<table border="1">
  <tr>
    <td width="20%">&nbsp;</td>
    <td width="60%">&nbsp;</td>
    <td width="20%">&nbsp;</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>&nbsp;</td>
    <td>&nbsp;</td>
    <td>&nbsp;</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

You would start out with a very small table, because the table is only as large as it needs to be to hold its content.



However, when you add text to a cell, the table expands. Keep in mind that the table expands proportionally; the first column will always be 20 percent of the width of the entire table, the second column 60 percent, and so on. The width of the browser window determines how much that first column can expand while still maintaining the proportion. Here's what the example table looks like in an  $800 \times 600$  browser window, with sample text entered in the first cell, as in the previous example.

Wildflower seed assortments		

However, if you expand the browser window to, for example,  $1024 \times 768$ , the table cells stretch out to fill the available space, keeping their 20/60/20 percent proportions.

Wildflower seed assortments		

As you might guess, things can get complicated when you start combining overall table widths with individual cell widths. If a table doesn't turn out the way you expected, try removing all width specifications from the `<table>` and `<td>` tags and all width-related style rules from the style sheet, and then start over.

In this exercise, you will set specific widths for each column in a table.



**SET UP** Be sure to use the practice files provided specifically for this exercise, and not earlier versions. Use the *products.htm* file in the practice file folder for this topic. This file is located in the Documents\Microsoft Press\HTML5 SBS\12Tables\SettingWidth folder. Open the *products* file in Notepad and in Internet Explorer.

1. In Internet Explorer, examine the widths of the columns. Change the browser window to several different widths to see how the columns change.
2. In Notepad, set the width of the first column of the table to 100 pixels by using a *style* attribute.

```
<tr>
  <td style="width: 100px">Item #</td>
  <td>Name</td>
  <td>Price</td>
  <td>In Stock?</td>
</tr>
```

3. Set the width of the second column to 400 pixels.

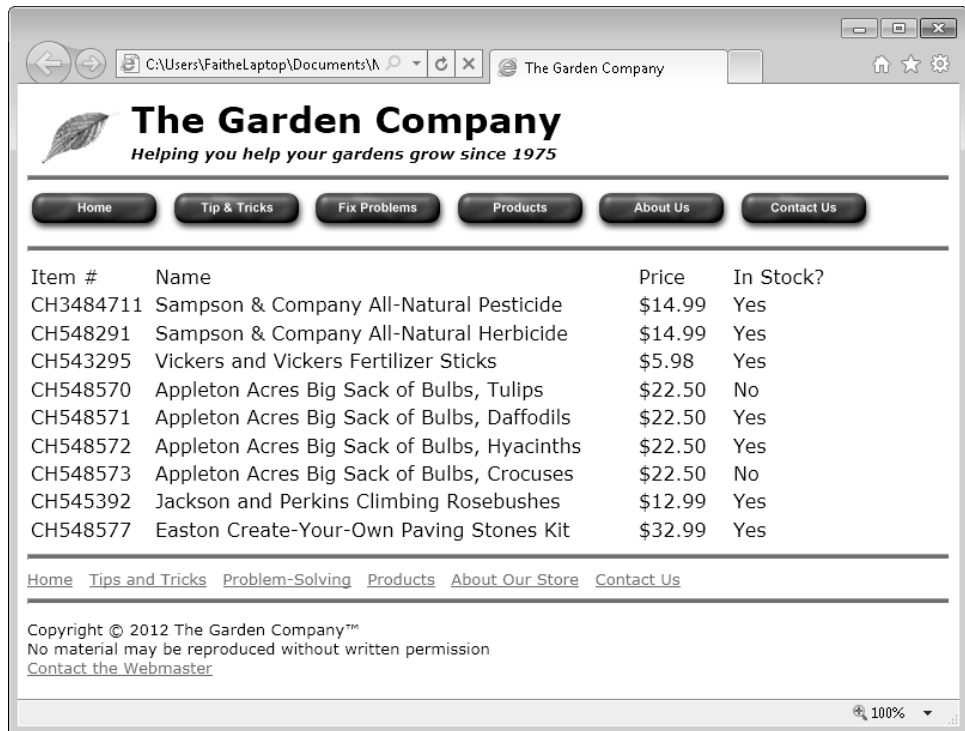
```
<tr>
  <td style="width: 100px">Item #</td>
  <td style="width: 400px">Name</td>
  <td>Price</td>
  <td>In Stock?</td>
</tr>
```

4. Set the width of the third column to 75 pixels.

```
<tr>
  <td style="width: 100px">Item #</td>
  <td style="width: 400px">Name</td>
  <td style="width: 75px">Price</td>
  <td>In Stock?</td>
</tr>
```

**Note** There is no need to set the width of the column farthest to the right at this point because its right edge is adjacent to blank space.

5. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer. Experiment with various window widths in Internet Explorer to see how the table's column widths behave compared to step 1.



**✘ CLEAN UP** Close the Notepad and Internet Explorer windows.

## Merging Table Cells

As you have seen in the preceding sections, every cell in a given row must be the same height, and every cell in a given column must be the same width. You can't make individual cells different heights or widths, but you can *span* (merge) two or more adjacent cells so that one cell spans multiple rows and/or columns. This technique is useful for centering text across several columns.

Title of the Table		
Cell 1	Cell 2	Cell 3
Cell 4	Cell 5	Cell 6



It also comes in very handy when creating table-based page layouts, which you'll learn about on page 224.

To merge a cell into adjacent cells to its right, use the *colspan* attribute and specify the number of columns to be spanned, like this:

```
<td colspan="3">
```

To merge a cell into adjacent cells below it, use the *rowspan* attribute and specify the number of rows to be spanned, as shown in the following:

```
<td rowspan="2">
```

Using those two attributes, you can create sophisticated table layouts. For example, the following table has five columns and five rows, but some of the cells span multiple columns or rows:

```
<table border="1">
  <tr>
    <td colspan="2" rowspan="2">Survey Results</td>
    <td colspan="3">Age</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>12 to 25</td>
    <td>26 to 40</td>
    <td>Over 40</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td rowspan="3">"What is your dream vacation destination?"</td>
    <td>Disneyworld</td>
    <td>25%</td>
    <td>50%</td>
    <td>25%</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Las Vegas</td>
    <td>25%</td>
    <td>50%</td>
    <td>25%</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Europe</td>
    <td>25%</td>
    <td>50%</td>
    <td>25%</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

The preceding code creates a table that appears as follows:

Survey Results		Age		
		12 to 25	26 to 40	Over 40
"What is your dream vacation destination?"	Disneyworld	25%	50%	25%
	Las Vegas	25%	50%	25%
	Europe	25%	50%	25%

In this exercise, you will create two simple column spans.



**SET UP** Be sure to use the practice files provided specifically for this exercise, and not earlier versions. Use the *products.htm* file in the practice file folder for this topic. This file is located in the Documents\Microsoft Press\HTML5 SBS\12Tables\SpanningCells folder. Open the *products* file in Notepad and in Internet Explorer.

1. View *products.htm* in Internet Explorer. Notice that the table title wraps to multiple lines, and that the note at the bottom of the table does not span all columns.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "C:\Users\FaithLaptop\Documents\... The Garden Company". The page content includes a logo for "The Garden Company" with the tagline "Helping you help your gardens grow since 1975". A navigation bar contains buttons for "Home", "Tip & Tricks", "Fix Problems", "Products", "About Us", and "Contact Us".

**Product Listing (Partial)**

Item #	Name	Price	In Stock?
CH3484711	Sampson & Company All-Natural Pesticide	\$14.99	Yes
CH548291	Sampson & Company All-Natural Herbicide	\$14.99	Yes
CH543295	Vickers and Vickers Fertilizer Sticks	\$5.98	Yes
CH548570	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Tulips	\$22.50	No
CH548571	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Daffodils	\$22.50	Yes
CH548572	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Hyacinths	\$22.50	Yes
CH548573	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Crocuses	\$22.50	No
CH545392	Jackson and Perkins Climbing Rosebushes	\$12.99	Yes
CH548577	Easton Create-Your-Own Paving Stones Kit	\$32.99	Yes

**Note:** In-stock items are available for pick-up or delivery. Please visit our store for special sale prices on some items.

Home [Tips and Tricks](#) [Problem-Solving](#) [Products](#) [About Our Store](#) [Contact Us](#)

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No material may be reproduced without written permission  
[Contact the Webmaster](#)

2. In Notepad, modify the table title to span all four columns.

```
<tr>
  <td colspan="4"><b>Product Listing (Partial)</b></td>
</tr>
```

3. In the last row of the table, move the cell containing the note to the first position.

```
<tr>
  <td><b>Note: </b>In-stock items are available for pick-up or delivery.
  Please visit our store for special sale prices on some items.</td>
  <td></td>
  <td></td>
  <td></td>
</tr>
```

**Note** Step 3 is necessary because columns can be spanned only from left to right.

4. Format the note to span all four columns.

```
<tr>
  <td colspan="4"><b>Note: </b>In-stock items are available for pick-
  up or delivery. Please visit our store for special sale prices on some
  items.</td>
  <td></td>
  <td></td>
  <td></td>
</tr>
```

5. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing 'C:\Users\Faithelaptop\Documents\N' and the page title 'The Garden Company'. The website header includes a leaf logo and the text 'The Garden Company Helping you help your gardens grow since 1975'. A navigation bar contains buttons for Home, Tip & Tricks, Fix Problems, Products, About Us, and Contact Us. The main content area is titled 'Product Listing (Partial)' and contains a table with the following data:

Item #	Name	Price	In Stock?
CH3484711	Sampson & Company All-Natural Pesticide	\$14.99	Yes
CH548291	Sampson & Company All-Natural Herbicide	\$14.99	Yes
CH543295	Vickers and Vickers Fertilizer Sticks	\$5.98	Yes
CH548570	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Tulips	\$22.50	No
CH548571	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Daffodils	\$22.50	Yes
CH548572	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Hyacinths	\$22.50	Yes
CH548573	Appleton Acres Big Sack of Bulbs, Crocuses	\$22.50	No
CH545392	Jackson and Perkins Climbing Rosebushes	\$12.99	Yes
CH548577	Easton Create-Your-Own Paving Stones Kit	\$32.99	Yes

**Note:** In-stock items are available for pick-up or delivery. Please visit our store for special sale prices on some items.

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text: Copyright © 2012 The Garden Company™. No material may be reproduced without written permission. Contact the Webmaster.

**✕ CLEAN UP** Close the Notepad and Internet Explorer windows.

## Using Tables for Page Layout

In addition to their value in laying out tabular data, tables are also useful in HTML for their page-structuring capabilities.

It is customary for a Web page to have a navigation bar at the top or on the left side. It is fairly easy to create a horizontal navigation bar with regular paragraphs, as you saw in Chapter 10, "Creating Navigational Aids," but to create a vertical navigation bar, you must somehow break the page into sections. One way to do that is by using divisions, as you learned in Chapter 11. Another way is to use a table.

When using a table for page layout, you might place your navigation hyperlinks in the column farthest to the left, and then place the body of your content in the other columns. The table cells act as containers into which you can put anything: paragraphs, lists, headings, graphics, and so on.

Some Web designers prefer to place everything in the table, and use row and column spans to merge cells where needed. Others place only certain content in a table, letting the rest of the text float around it.

The skills you have learned so far in this chapter will serve you well when creating table-based layouts. You can specify the exact widths of the columns by pixels or their relative width in percentages, and you can create row or column spans as needed.

In this exercise, you will convert a page with a horizontal navigation bar to one with a vertical bar by using a table.



**SET UP** Be sure to use the practice files provided specifically for this exercise, and not earlier versions. Use the *index.htm* file in the practice file folder for this topic. This file is located in the Documents\Microsoft Press\HTML5 SBS\12Tables\UsingTables folder. Open the *index* file in Notepad and in Internet Explorer.

1. View the *index* file in Internet Explorer. Note the navigation bar position.



2. In Notepad, insert opening `<table>` and `<tr>` tags after the first `<hr>` tag.

```
<body>
<a href="http://www.contoso.com" title="Home page">
</a>
<h1 class="pagetitle">The Garden Company</h1>
<h5 class="tagline"><i>Helping you help your gardens grow since 1975</i></
h5>
<hr>
<table>
<tr>
```

3. Enclose the top navigation bar in a `<td>` tag, and delete the `<hr>` below it.

```
<td>
<p style="margin:0px">
<a href="index.htm">
</a>
<a href="tips.htm"></a>
<a href="problems.htm"></a>
<a href="products.htm"></a>
<a href="about.htm">
</a>
<a href="contact.htm"></a></p>
</td>
```

4. Enclose the body of the document in a `<td>` tag, and then end the row and the table after it.

```
<td>
<p>
<b>Fruit trees are now in stock! </b>We have just received a large shipment
of peach, pear, apple, and plum trees with sturdy root systems and healthy
foliage, with prices as low as $29.99. Visit the <a href="products.htm">
Products</a> page for details.</p>

<p><b>New articles!</b> Check out these recently posted articles:
<li><a href="foliage.htm">Diagnosing Foliage Problems</a></li>
<li><a href="spray.htm">Spraying Techniques for Fruit Trees</a></li>
</ul>

<p><b>What does <i>that</i> mean?</b> Run into an unfamiliar gardening term?
Look it up in our <a href="glossary.htm" target="_blank">Glossary</a>.</p>
</td>
</tr>
</table>
```

5. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer.

It looks alright, except the navigation bar area is too wide.

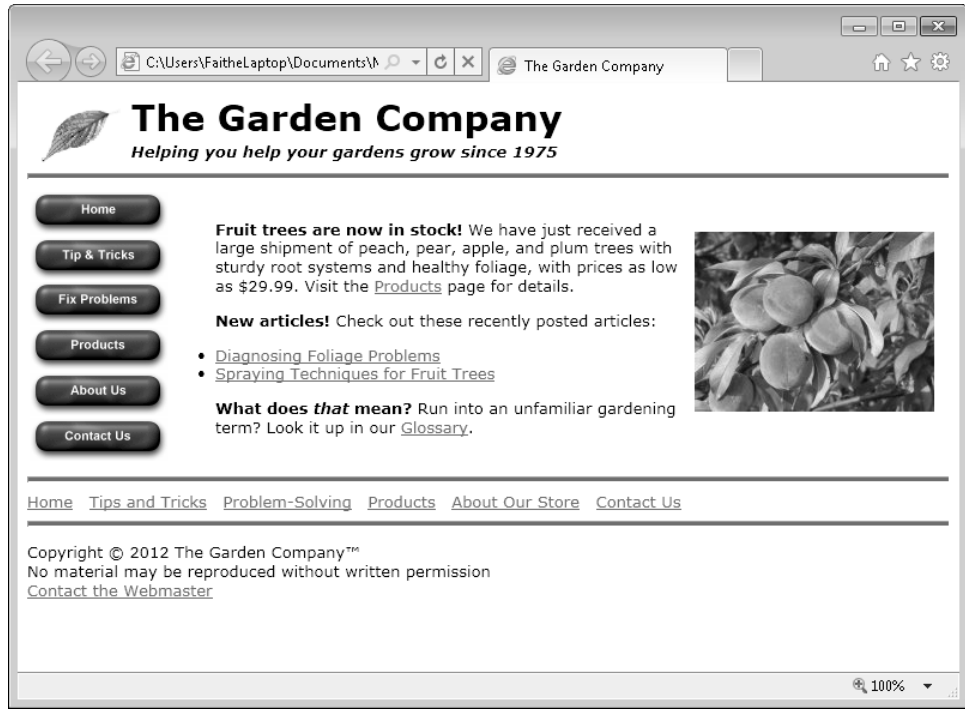


6. Format the first column to be exactly 150 pixels wide.

```
<table>
<tr>
<td style="width: 150px">
<p style="margin:0px">
<a href="index.htm"></a>
...

```

7. Save the file, and then refresh Internet Explorer. The navigation buttons are now set up vertically, one atop the other.



**✘ CLEAN UP** Close the Notepad and Internet Explorer windows.

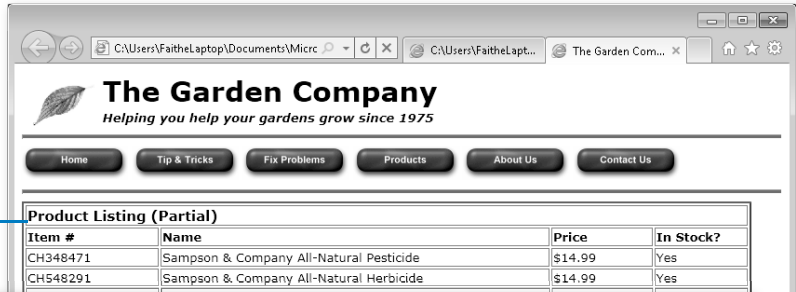


## Key Points

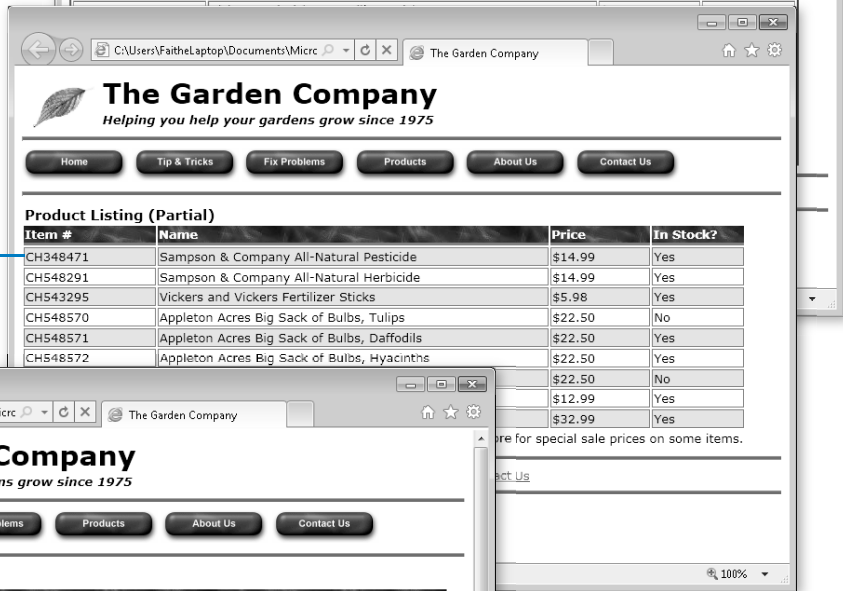
- To create a table, use the `<table>` tag. Enclose each row in a `<tr>` tag, and enclose each cell in each row in a `<td>` tag.
- You can specify table size in either pixels or as a percentage of the page width. Use the width attribute like this: `<table width="400">`.
- You can also set width by using a style rule like this: `<table style="width: 400">`.
- You can specify the width of each cell, either in percentages or pixels like this: `<td width="100">` or `<td style="width: 100">`.
- To merge (span) multiple cells, place the `colspan` or `rowspan` attribute in the cell at the top of or farthest to the left in the range to be spanned like this: `<td colspan="2">`.
- You can use tables as containers to facilitate page layout. You can place all or part of the body of a page in a table.

# Chapter at a Glance

Apply table borders,  
page 232



Apply background and  
foreground fill,  
page 241



Apply cell padding,  
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