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Sams Teach Yourself

HTML, CSS & JavaScript Web Publishing

in **One Hour** a Day



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The image doesn't have to be large, and it doesn't have to be at the beginning of the text. You can include an image anywhere in a block of text, as in the following:

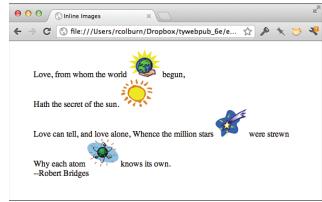
Input ▼

```
cblockquote>
   Love, from whom the world <img src="world.gif"> begun, <br>
   Hath the secret of the sun. <img src="sun.gif"> cbr>
   Love can tell, and love alone, Whence the million stars
   <img src="star.gif"> were strewn<br>
   Why each atom <img src="atom.gif"> knows its own.<br>
   --Robert Bridges
   </blockquote>
```

Figure 9.5 shows how this block looks.

Output ▼

FIGURE 9.5 Images can go anywhere in text.



Text and Image Alignment

In these examples, the bottom of the image and the bottom of the text are aligned. You can change how inline images align with text using the vertical-align CSS property.

The values supported by the vertical-align property are as follows:

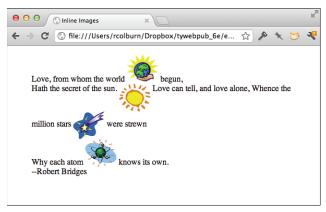
baseline	Aligns the bottom of the image with the baseline of its parent. This is the default.
top	Aligns the top of the image with the top of the line (which may be the top of the text or the top of another image).
middle	Aligns the center of the image with the middle of lowercase letters in the parent element.
bottom	Aligns the bottom of the image with the bottom of the line.
text-top	Aligns the top of the image with the top of the parent element's font (whereas top aligns the image with the topmost item in the line).
text-bottom	Aligns the bottom of the image with the bottom of the parent element's font.
sub	Aligns the element as if it were a subscript.
sup	Aligns the element as if it were a superscript.
length	Raises or lowers the element by the specified length. Negative values are allowed. $ \\$
%	Raises or lowers the element in a percent of the line-height property. Negative values are allowed.

Figure 9.6 shows the Robert Bridges poem from the previous section with the world image unaligned, the sun image aligned to the top of the line, the star image aligned to the middle, and the atom aligned to the bottom of the text.

Input ▼

Output ▼

FIGURE 9.6 Images unaligned, aligned top, aligned middle, and aligned bottom.



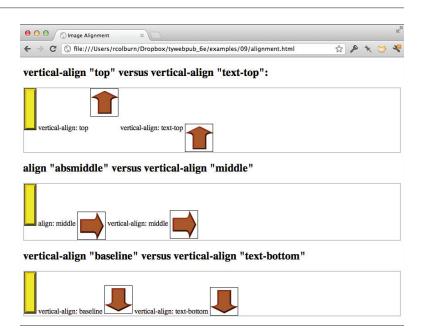
Other alignment options are shown in the following example.

Input ▼

Figure 9.7 shows examples of all the options as they appear in a browser. In each case, the line on the left side and the text are aligned with each other, and the position of the arrow varies.

Output ▼

FIGURE 9.7 Image alignment options.



Wrapping Text Next to Images

Including an image inside a line works fine if you have only one line of text. To control the flow of text around an image, you'll need to use CSS. Images are just like any other element as far as the float property goes, so you can use the float and clear CSS properties to control text flow around them, as discussed in the earlier lesson.

Floating Images

As you learned in Lesson 8, "Using CSS to Style a Site," the float property removes an element from flow of the page and aligns it with the left or right side of its container. You can float images the same way you float any other element, using the float property as shown in the example that follows:

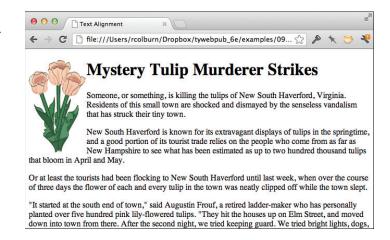
Input ▼

```
<img src="tulips.gif" style="float: left;">
<h1>Mystery Tulip Murderer Strikes</h1>
  Someone, or something, is killing the tulips of New South
 Haverford, Virginia. Residents of this small town are
  shocked and dismayed by the senseless vandalism that has
  struck their tiny town.
>
 New South Haverford is known for its extravagant displays
 of tulips in the springtime, and a good portion of its
  tourist trade relies on the people who come from as far as
 New Hampshire to see what has been estimated as up to two
 hundred thousand tulips that bloom in April and May.
>
 Or at least the tourists had been flocking to New South
 Haverford until last week, when over the course of three
 days the flower of each and every tulip in the town was
  neatly clipped off while the town slept.
<n>
  "It started at the south end of town," said Augustin Frouf,
  a retired ladder-maker who has personally planted over five
 hundred pink lily-flowered tulips. "They hit the houses up
  on Elm Street, and moved down into town from there. After
  the second night, we tried keeping guard. We tried bright
  lights, dogs, everything. There was always something that
  pulled us away, and by the time we got back, they were all
  gone."
```

Figure 9.8 shows an image with some text aligned next to it. In this case, the enclosing container for the image is the body of the page, and the image is floated to the left side of that container. The rest of the content of the page flows around it.

Output ▼

FIGURE 9.8
A floated image.



Stopping Text Wrapping

What if you want to stop the page content flowing around a floated image and start the next line underneath the image? A normal line break won't do it; it just breaks the line to the current margin alongside the image. A new paragraph also continues wrapping the text alongside the image. To stop wrapping text next to an image, use the clear CSS property. This enables you to return to the normal page flow past the floated element.

As mentioned in Lesson 8, the clear property can have one of three values:

Preak to an empty left margin, for left-aligned images

right Break to an empty right margin, for right-aligned images

both Break to a line clear to both margins

For example, the following code snippet shows a picture of a tulip with some text wrapped next to it. Adding a style attribute to the first paragraph with clear set to left breaks the text wrapping after the heading and restarts the text after the image: