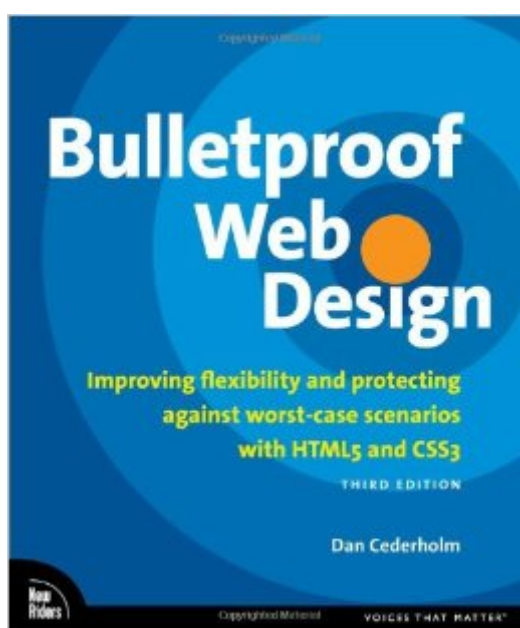


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# Bulletproof Web Design: Improving Flexibility And Protecting Against Worst-case Scenarios With HTML5 And CSS3 (3rd Edition) (Voices That Matter)



## Synopsis

No matter how visually appealing or content packed a web site may be, if it doesn't reach the widest possible audience, it isn't truly successful. In *Bulletproof Web Design, Third Edition*, bestselling author and web designer Dan Cederholm outlines standards-based strategies for building designs that can accommodate the myriad ways users choose to view the content. Each chapter starts out with an example of an unbulletproof approach--one that employs traditional HTML-based techniques--which Dan deconstructs, pointing out its limitations. He then gives the example a makeover using HTML and CSS, so you can learn to replace bloated code with lean markup and CSS for fast-loading sites that are accessible to all users. Finally, he assembles all of the page components discussed in prior chapters into a single-page template. This fully revised and updated third edition introduces CSS3 and HTML5 methods and features redesigned case studies including new responsive design examples. Size text using keywords, percentages, and ems to allow more user control. Plan for vertical expansion of horizontal page components. Use floats to achieve grid-like results. Ensure that content is still readable in the absence of images or CSS. Strip the presentation from data tables, and rebuild with CSS. Progressively enhance your designs using HTML5 and CSS3. Visit the companion website at [simplebits.com/bulletproof](http://simplebits.com/bulletproof) to download finished files, additional resources, and book updates.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As the owner of the first edition of the book, I immediately bought this 3rd Edition when I saw it available for Kindle. This would be a five-star book for someone who has taken the past five or ten years off from designing, but only warrants three stars as a current publication. Unfortunately the author (whom I admire and follow online) left a lot of material from the first edition intact. Thus probably 25% of the book is devoted to educating us on the downsides of designing web pages with table-based layouts, the examples of which are taken from websites dating back to 2005 in some cases. This was clearly a fresh perspective back then, heralding the approach of vastly superior CSS-based layouts, but is old news today. Spending the first pages of every chapter demonstrating why table-based layouts are inferior is essentially a waste of space. To his credit, he does provide CSS solutions to the problems detailed in the book, including some use of CSS3 for rounded corners, gradients, etc., but it seems a real opportunity was missed to spend more time on those solutions. All in all the book is solid in its information and advice, but devotes too much space to presenting and analyzing outdated practices. I hope the fourth edition will be a complete rewrite with more useful substance for present-day designers.

If you have previous editions of this book and want to get this one as an update my opinion is to save your money. I was especially looking forward to the final chapter and it turned out to be a big disappointment. Just when you want to put it all together he seems to skim through the project. It also seems to be incomplete. He goes ahead and styles his Bagel page nicely leaving the reader without assets, incomplete styling examples with no downloads at all? If you are looking to learn Responsive Web Design and are familiar with CSS go I'd find a more complete book on the subject. If you are learning CSS just pick up the previous edition for cheap. I'd give the 2nd edition x4 stars and the 3rd edition x2 just because of the last chapter.

This was an excellent overview of the best practices in html coding and a must-read for beginners. Moving away from layouts in tables and to HTML5 for content and CSS3 for design elements is certainly nothing new, but the book contains a wealth of tips and tricks that will definitely benefit the intermediate designer. I purchased the book eager to read the last chapter on responsive design with media queries. This was the only disappointing chapter in the book for me. (In a nutshell, in a responsive design the user will experience a different layout depending on the media used to access the page. So a site will look great on a 60" television, a PC, an iPad, or an android phone without the developer or designer having to create multiple web sites for each user experience. "Design once and run anywhere.") This area of coding is changing so fast that it is easier to stay

"leading edge" via web sites and forums dedicated to responsive design rather than through "dead tree" printed publications. All-in-all, though, it's a great book and I highly recommend it for your technology library.

One of the all time best reads in html design. Not because it teaches you specific HTML, but because it teaches you a process for writing HTML that will usually result in writing the smallest, most efficient HTML possible. Why does that matter? Well, it turns out that, when attempting responsive design or cross-browser compatibility, it's far simpler to debug and perfect that small HTML block, than it is to perfect one chock full of garbage HTML "extras".

I found this book to be enlightening on many points, and yet disappointing in others. I was under the impression this book was going to teach me how to use many of the new HTML5 and CSS3 features. To my dismay it focused largely on a How-To approach to design flexible and scalable web sites. It did a good job of illustrating how a designer should always keep a separation of concerns between the content and the design/layout of a web site. As a long-time Software Engineer this concept was not new to me, but it is always interesting to see someone else's approach to the problem. Because of this I would recommend this book for the beginner web designer to start you off on the right foot designing solid yet scalable web sites. I really appreciated the logical sequence the author used to lay out the problem scenarios with clear concise examples. They were very matter of fact and easy to understand. Most of the problem web sites were initially designed with table-based layouts. They were then redesigned using DIV tags, a few new HTML5 and CSS3 features to control the layout and flexible design of the new web site. There were quite a few tips and tricks throughout the book. I was happy to learn those new techniques and will be sure to use them in the future. I was really looking forward to learning about responsive web design through the use of media queries, but I was disappointed when this book did not go into much depth on this topic and only illustrated one small example. I feel I will need to review many of the new HTML5 and CSS3 features in depth, along with media queries to learn them on my own.

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