

Real World HTML: The Printable Page

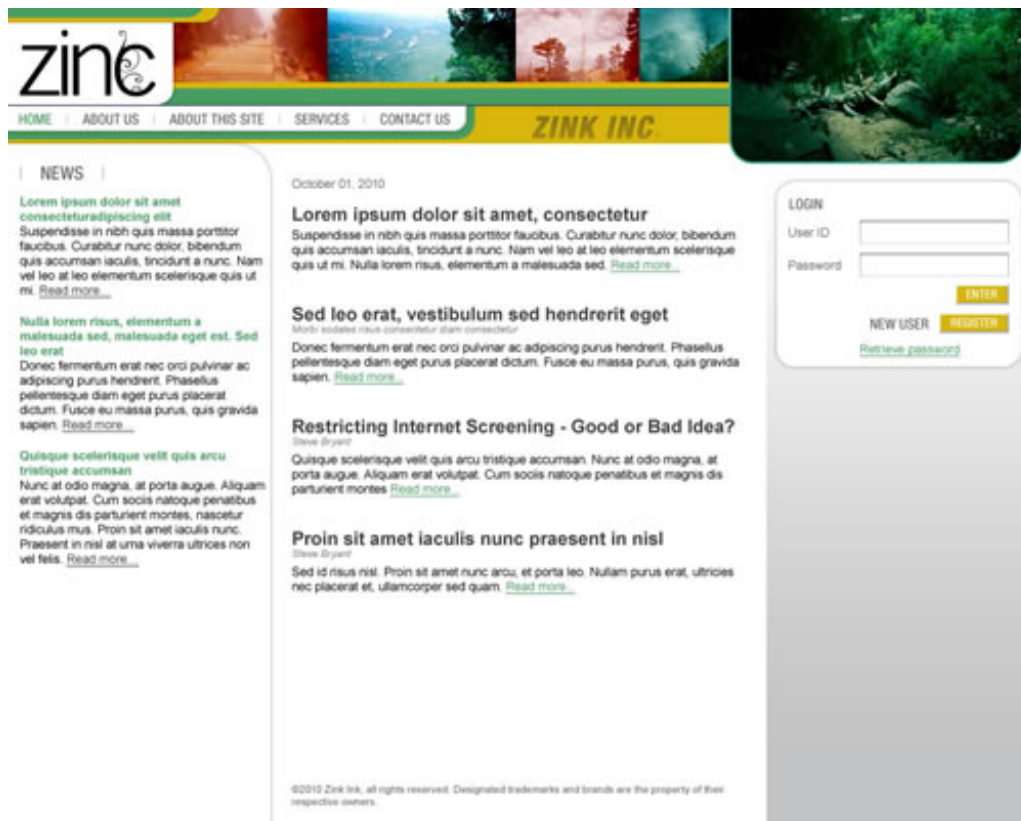
Posted At : January 20, 2011 3:45 PM | Posted By : Steve

Related Categories: HTML, CSS

In our last "[Real World HTML](#)" entry, we handled a [rounded corner box sitting on a gradient](#) - finishing up the implementation of the design. The only thing that remains now is making the printed page look good. Styling for print should be easy - especially if the HTML is structured well.

With that in mind, let's take a quick look at what we have so far.

Pre-Login State:



Post-Login State:



Subsection State:



The following code sample shows the outline of our code (for all of the elements from every design state), with much of the content removed for brevity.

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Strict//EN"> <html>
<head>
  <title>Real World HTML: Example 1 (Zinc)</title>
  <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8">
  <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/all.css">
  <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/print.css" media="print">
  <!--[if lte IE 6]><script type="text/javascript" src="/supersleight-min.js"></script><![endif]-->
</head>
<body>
<div id="container">
  <div id="header">
    <div id="logo"></div>
    <div id="header-pics">
      <div id="header-path"></div>
      <div id="header-plains"></div>
      <div id="header-fire"></div>
      <div id="header-mist"></div>
    </div>
    <div id="nav-primary" class="nav">
    </div>
    <div id="nav-secondary" class="nav">
    </div>
    <div id="nav-tertiary" class="nav">
    </div>
    <div id="header-zink"></div>
    <div id="header-image"></div>
    <div id="header-curve"></div>
  </div>
  <div id="hbborder"></div>
  <div id="body">
    <table border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0" id="body-table" width="100%">
      <tr>
        <td rowspan="2" id="col-news" class="content-cell">
          <div id="news" class="cell-div">
            <p></p>
          </div>
        </td>
        <td id="body-content" class="content-cell">
          <div class="cell-div">
          </div>
        </td>
      </tr>
    </table>
  </div>
</div>
```

```

    </td>
    <td rowspan="2" id="col-login" class="content-cell">
      <div class="cell-div">
        <div id="login">
          <div id="login-space">
            <h2>LOGIN</h2>
            <form>
            </form>
            <p class="login-forgot"><a href="">Retrieve password</a></p>
          </div>
        </div>
      </div>
    </td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td id="footer">
    </td>
  </tr>
</table>
</div>
</div>
</body>
</html>

```

So, what does our print style sheet in print.css look like?

```
.nav, #col-news, #col-login {display:none;}
```

That is literally all of the code in the print style sheet. It just hides any navigation as well as the news and login columns of the table. Since no width was defined on the center column, it will automatically take up the entire page. The footer (which we want on the printed page) will naturally go below the content.

The header is made up of a few background images (which won't show up in print) and the logo (which we want on top of the printed page).

Here is what the printed page looks like.



We should be done now, right? Right. Next time I will cover what happened when I showed it to my client.