



JUMP START

# Bootstrap

By Syed Fazle Rahman

GET UP TO SPEED WITH BOOTSTRAP IN A WEEKEND

# Summary of Contents

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Preface .....	xiii
1. Up, Close, and Personal with Bootstrap .....	1
2. Bootstrap Grid System .....	17
3. Exploring Bootstrap Components .....	47
4. Bootstrap Plugins for Fun and Profit .....	89
5. Diving Deep: Customizing Bootstrap .....	139
6. Optimizing Bootstrap .....	155





# JUMP START BOOTSTRAP

BY SYED FAZLE RAHMAN

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Published by SitePoint Pty. Ltd.

48 Cambridge Street Collingwood

VIC Australia 3066

Web: [www.sitepoint.com](http://www.sitepoint.com)

Email: [business@sitepoint.com](mailto:business@sitepoint.com)

ISBN 978-0-9922794-3-1 (print)

ISBN 978-0-9922794-7-9 (ebook)

Printed and bound in the United States of America

## About Syed Fazle Rahman

Syed Fazle Rahman is a web developer and a blogger, with over four years of freelancing experience. His expertise includes HTML5, CSS3, Less, JavaScript, jQuery, and Ember.js. He's currently working on hybrid applications for smartphones and smart TVs.

## About SitePoint

SitePoint specializes in publishing fun, practical, and easy-to-understand content for web professionals. Visit <http://www.sitepoint.com/> to access our blogs, books, newsletters, articles, and community forums. You'll find a stack of information on JavaScript, PHP, Ruby, mobile development, design, and more.

## About Jump Start

Jump Start books provide you with a rapid and practical introduction to web development languages and technologies. Typically around 150 pages in length, they can be read in a weekend, giving you a solid grounding in the topic and the confidence to experiment on your own.



*To my lovely parents, troublesome  
brother, cute sister, and my best  
buddy, Sandeep.*



# Table of Contents

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<b>Preface</b> .....	xiii
Who Should Read This Book .....	xiii
Conventions Used .....	xiii
Code Samples .....	xiv
Tips, Notes, and Warnings .....	xv
Supplementary Materials .....	xv
Want to Take Your Learning Further? .....	xvi
<b>Chapter 1 Up, Close, and Personal with Bootstrap</b> .....	1
What is Bootstrap? .....	1
Why Does It Exist? .....	2
How Can It Help Me? .....	3
History of CSS Frameworks .....	3
The Need for CSS Prototyping .....	3
The Origins of Bootstrap .....	4
Bootstrap's Competition .....	6
Who Uses Bootstrap? .....	6
Overview of Responsive Web Design .....	7
Adjusting a Layout Based on Screen Size .....	7
Getting Bootstrap Ready .....	9
<b>Chapter 2 Bootstrap Grid System</b> .....	17
What Is a Grid System? .....	17
Building a Basic Grid .....	18
Case Study: Creating a Dynamic Layout .....	26

Designing for Desktops .....	29
Designing for Tablets .....	35
Designing for Mobile .....	36
Nesting Columns .....	39
Offsetting Columns .....	43
Reordering Grids Manually .....	44
Summary .....	45

## Chapter 3 Exploring Bootstrap

<b>Components</b> .....	47
Page Components .....	47
Page Headers .....	47
Panels .....	50
Media Object .....	51
Thumbnails .....	54
List Group .....	58
Navigation Components .....	63
Navs .....	64
Navbar .....	66
Breadcrumb .....	73
Standing Out .....	74
Label .....	74
Buttons .....	75
Glyphicons .....	77
Wells .....	78
Badges .....	79
Fun with Forms .....	80
Basic Form .....	80
Horizontal Forms .....	82
Inline Form .....	84

Helper Classes in Forms .....	86
Control Sizing .....	87
Summary .....	154

<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>Bootstrap Plugins for Fun and Profit</b> .....	89
Extending Functionality .....		90
Dropdowns .....		91
Dropdowns with JavaScript .....		94
Alert Messages .....		99
Alert Messages with JavaScript .....		101
Buttons .....		102
Buttons with JavaScript .....		105
Managing Content .....		106
ScrollSpy .....		106
ScrollSpy with JavaScript .....		110
Tabs .....		111
Tabs with JavaScript .....		113
Collapse .....		114
Collapse with JavaScript .....		118
Tooltip .....		120
Tooltip with JavaScript .....		122
Popovers .....		125
Popovers with JavaScript .....		127
Getting Fancy .....		128
Carousel .....		129
Carousel with JavaScript .....		132
Modals .....		133
Modals with JavaScript .....		136
Summary .....		154

<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>Diving Deep: Customizing Bootstrap</b> .....	139
	Customizing Bootstrap Stylesheets .....	140
	Customizing Bootstrap Using CSS .....	141
	Customizing Bootstrap Using Less .....	144
	Overriding Styles Using Less .....	147
	Compiling Less .....	151
	Customizing Bootstrap before Downloading .....	152
	Media Queries and Bootstrap .....	153
	Summary .....	154
<b>Chapter 6</b>	<b>Optimizing Bootstrap</b> .....	155
	Optimization Techniques .....	155
	Optimizing CSS .....	156
	Optimizing JavaScript .....	158
	Optimizing Images .....	160
	Avoiding Common Pitfalls .....	161
	Where to Go From Here .....	162

# Preface

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Crafting a modern, professional website from scratch takes a lot of time and effort. Sites today need to be responsive, mobile first, slickly designed, and fast. Bootstrap helps designers and developers by providing a vast array of HTML components and a grid system that make creating professional, responsive templates a snap, and can greatly cut down development time.

Bootstrap is useful for everyone, but it's a blessing for novice developers. All the intricate CSS and JavaScript required to create complex web components are pre-written. Only some HTML markup is needed to make them work. More experienced developers can take advantage of the number of customization options that Bootstrap offers, including Less and Sass support.

Throughout this book, I have tried to provide a complete guide to the Bootstrap framework. We'll cover how we can build beautiful responsive websites without needing to gain expertise in advanced web development techniques. We'll discuss the various useful CSS components and JavaScript plugins that Bootstrap provides out of the box. We'll also cover various ways of customizing the look and feel of Bootstrap to generate completely unique designs.

Hopefully by now that you're excited to start building your first websites using the Bootstrap framework. By the end of this book, I am confident that you will have the skills to quickly create a beautiful responsive website template. I hope both this book, and the Bootstrap framework, satisfy your web designing needs.

## Who Should Read This Book

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This book is suitable for beginner to intermediate level web designers and developers. Experience of HTML and CSS is assumed, and some knowledge of JavaScript is helpful.

## Conventions Used

---

You'll notice that we've used certain typographic and layout styles throughout this book to signify different types of information. Look out for the following items.

## Code Samples

Code in this book will be displayed using a fixed-width font, like so:

```
<h1>A Perfect Summer's Day</h1>
<p>It was a lovely day for a walk in the park. The birds
were singing and the kids were all back at school.</p>
```

If the code is to be found in the book's code archive, the name of the file will appear at the top of the program listing, like this:

```
example.css
```

```
.footer {
  background-color: #CCC;
  border-top: 1px solid #333;
}
```

If only part of the file is displayed, this is indicated by the word *excerpt*:

```
example.css (excerpt)
```

```
border-top: 1px solid #333;
```

If additional code is to be inserted into an existing example, the new code will be displayed in bold:

```
function animate() {
  new_variable = "Hello";
}
```

Also, where existing code is required for context, rather than repeat all it, a `:` will be displayed:

```
function animate() {
  :
  return new_variable;
}
```

Some lines of code are intended to be entered on one line, but we've had to wrap them because of page constraints. A ➤ indicates a line break that exists for formatting purposes only, and that should be ignored.

```
URL.open("http://www.sitepoint.com/responsive-web-design-real-user-
➤testing/?responsive1");
```

## Tips, Notes, and Warnings



### Hey, You!

Tips will give you helpful little pointers.



### Ahem, Excuse Me ...

Notes are useful asides that are related—but not critical—to the topic at hand. Think of them as extra tidbits of information.



### Make Sure You Always ...

... pay attention to these important points.



### Watch Out!

Warnings will highlight any gotchas that are likely to trip you up along the way.

## Supplementary Materials

<http://www.sitepoint.com/store/jump-start-bootstrap/>

The book's website, containing links, updates, resources, and more.

<https://github.com/spbooks/jsbootstrap1>

The downloadable code archive for this book.

<http://www.sitepoint.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?53-CSS-amp-Page-Layout>

SitePoint's forums, for help on any tricky web problems.

**books@sitepoint.com**

Our email address, should you need to contact us for support, to report a problem, or for any other reason.

## **Want to Take Your Learning Further?**

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# Chapter 1

## Up, Close, and Personal with Bootstrap

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In this chapter, we'll learn the basics of Bootstrap and understand how it can speed up the web development process. We'll start with a brief overview of the history of CSS frameworks and then move on to explain the term **Responsive Web Design**, or RWD. Finally, we'll see how to set up a new Bootstrap project and use it to create our first basic web page.

### What is Bootstrap?

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Bootstrap is a front-end framework that helps developers to jump start the web development process. Developers who are moving to front-end development from hardcore server-side programming languages such as Java or PHP can find it very difficult to come to grips with CSS and JavaScript; however, with Bootstrap they only have to concentrate on writing proper HTML, leaving the tricky CSS and JavaScript to Bootstrap.

Bootstrap is not only useful for novice web developers. As we proceed throughout the book, you will come to see how Bootstrap can be a boon for expert coders too.