

HTML Structure (Builder 3.x)

HTML Structure

The following HTML markup represents a highly simplified version of the HTML output by pages when viewed with Theme Builder 3.x - if you're looking to go the extra mile with CSS customisation, this should help a lot:

```
<body class="atb-body context-$context mode-$mode" id="document">

  <table class="atb-shell" width="100%">
    <tr>
      <td style="vertical-align:top;">
        <div class="atb-p1">
          <div class="atb-p2">
            <div class="atb-p3">

              <table class="layout atb-page" width="100%">
                <tr>
                  <td class="layout atb-upper">
                    <div class="atb-ul">
                      <div class="atb-u2">
                        <table>
                          <tr>
                            <td id="header" class="layout atb-header" width="100%">
                              header
                            </td>
                          </tr>
                          <tr>
                            <td id="menu" class="layout atb-menu" width="100%">
                              menu
                            </td>
                          </tr>
                          <tr>
                            <td id="navigation" class="layout atb-navigation"
width="100%">
                              navigation
                            </td>
                          </tr>
                        </table>
                      </div>
                    </div>
                  </td>
                  <td class="layout atb-lower">
                    <div class="atb-l1">
                      <div class="atb-l2">
                        <table width="100%">
                          <tr class="layout">
                            <td id="leftSidebar" class="layout atb-sidebar atb-
leftSidebar" rowspan="2">
                              <div>
                                lsb
                              </div>
                            </td>
                            <td id="leftSidebar-slider" class="layout atb-slider
atb-leftslider noselect" rowspan="2">
                              <img class="layout atb-slider-img atb-leftslider-
img">
                              </td>
                          </tr>
                          <tr>
                            <td class="atb-titlecontent">
                              <div id="title" class="atb-title">
                                title
                              </div>
                              <div id="content" class="layout atb-content">
                                <!-- Confluence output -->
                                <div id="actionerrors" class="actionerrors"><
```


We had hoped to remove as many tables as possible in Theme Builder 3.0, however a number of factors prevented us from doing so:

- *Browser inconsistencies prevented us from making more extensive use of <div> elements*
- *Vertical alignment is far easier in table cells - it's possible but deeply painful with <div> elements*
- *We had to retain a high degree of backwards compatibility*
- *There's not a lot we can do about the TWO tables output by Confluence in the content area without causing problems when Confluence is upgraded*
- *Current <div> box models didn't provide the layout flexibility that we wanted and we also wanted to avoid using JavaScript to overcome height and positioning problems*

We're going to keep looking for ways to simplify the markup, however with 2000+ customers in 55+ countries using a wide range of browsers and operating systems, it's somewhat tricky and will take a while before we find a reliable alternative to using nasty tables. If you have any suggestions, we'd love to hear them!