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Tip of the Day

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Expertise: Beginner
Language: Web

November 13, 1998

Getting Table Cell Background Colors to Display

Some browsers do not display a table cell's background color unless the cell contains some HTML content. It is often handy to use table cell background colors to "paint" a whole region a different color than the page background. To ensure that every "empty" table cell displays background color, insert a non-breaking space ( ) in the table cell. The following code shows non-breaking spaces being used in the middle row of the table. The bottom row demonstrates what happens with no non-breaking spaces (the yellow will not display in some browsers).

```
<TABLE BORDER="1" CELLPADDING="0" CELLSPACING="2" WIDTH="400">
        <TR>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffcc00">Application</TD>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffcc00">Benchmark</TD>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffcc00">Results</TD>
        </TR>
        <TR>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffcc66">Photoshop</TD>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffcc66"> </TD>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffcc66"> </TD>
        </TR>
        <TR>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffff99"></TD>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffff99"></TD>
                <TD BGCOLOR="#ffff99"></TD>
        </TR>
</TABLE>
```

See this code in action:

Application	Benchmark	Results
Photoshop		

Erik Goetze

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