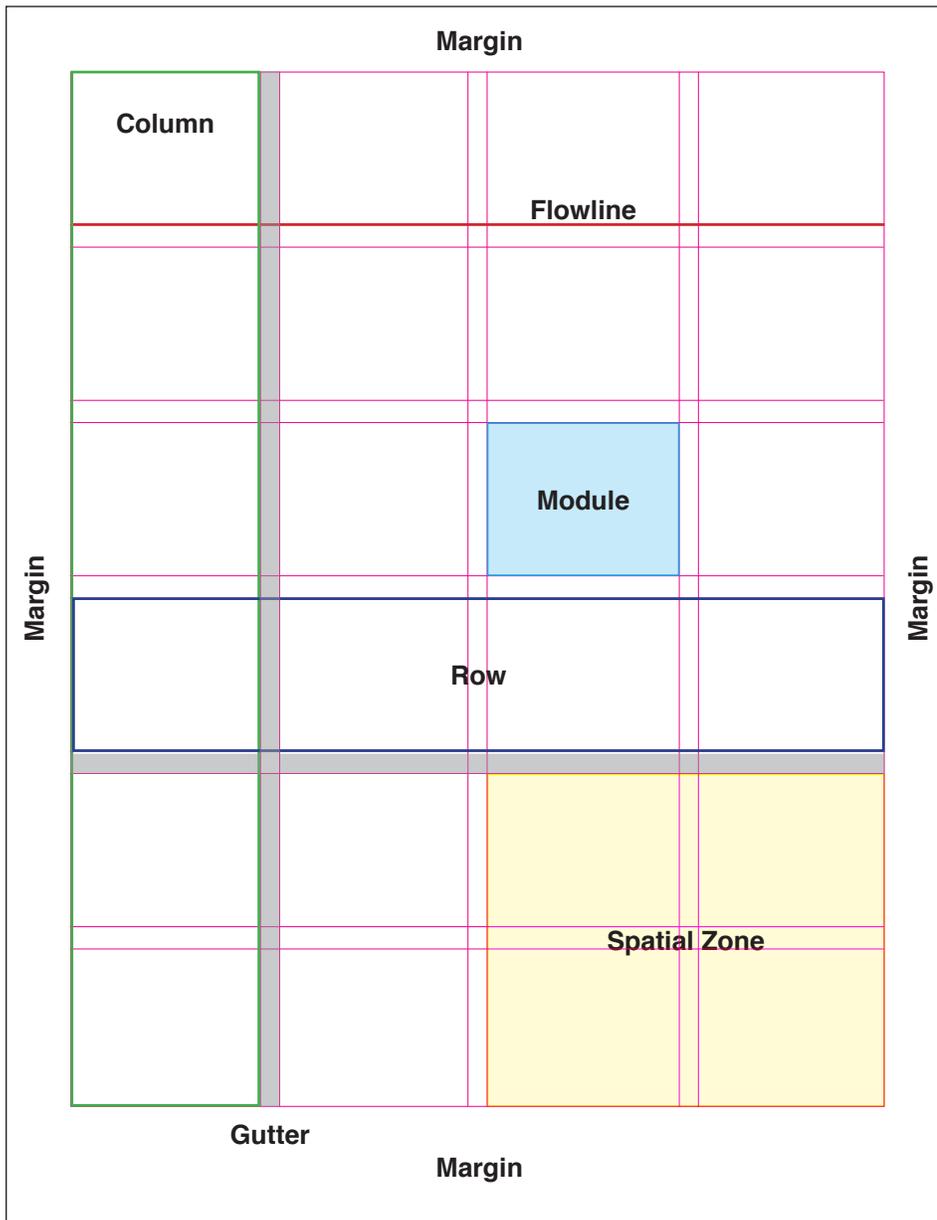




Grids

Read the following information to learn the parts of a grid.

Parts of the grid



Format

The format is the area in which the design sits. In a book or magazine the format is the page. On a website the format is the browser window.

Spatial Zones

Spatial zones are fields of adjacent modules. Each field can be assigned a specific function within the design.

Columns

Columns are vertical bands of modules. There can be any number of columns in a grid. More columns leads to more flexibility, but can also make the grid difficult to work with.

Rows

Rows are the horizontal equivalent of columns. Online it's harder to plan for rows as the height of the format is often inconsistent and dynamic.

Gutters

Gutters are the spaces separating modules either vertically or horizontally. Typically we think of gutters as the space between columns, but they are also the space between rows.

Margins

Margins are the negative space between the edge of the format and the outer edge of the content.

Flowlines

Flowlines are horizontal lines that break the space into horizontal bands. They can be used to help guide the eye across the page and can be used to impose starting and stopping points for text and images to be aligned.

Modules

Modules are individual units of space that are separated by regular intervals. Modules are the basic building blocks of grids. When repeated they create columns and rows.

Grids act as guides for the placement of elements in a design. No matter how simple or complex, grids share some common parts, each fulfilling a specific function. Not every one of these parts needs to be present in every grid.