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**Procedure:** Controlling the width of SELECT lists (HTML)

**Source:** [**LINK**](http://www.blooberry.com/indexdot/html/topics/selectwidth.htm)

**Permalink:** [**LINK**](http://heelpbook.altervista.org/2012/controlling-the-width-of-select-lists-html/)

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# [**Controlling the width of SELECT lists (HTML)**](http://heelpbook.altervista.org/2012/controlling-the-width-of-select-lists-html/)

### **The Issue**

The default width of a **SELECT** form control is usually dependent on the width of the widest **OPTION** item in the list; the width of the **SELECT** list will basically be not much greater (but no less) than this width.

The **HTML** standards don’t allow for a way to control this width. **CSS**, on the other hand, would be perfect for controlling this, but historical support for **CSS** on form controls is rather weak.

### **Solution**

Since Netscape 4 has only the proprietary attribute that will give the desired effect, it will not hurt anything to combine the use of **CSS** and the **WIDTH** attribute.

#### ****Example****

<**select** name=”foo” width=”300″ style=”width: 300px”>  
<**option**>one </**option**>  
<**option**>two </**option**>  
<**option**>three </**option**>  
</**select**>