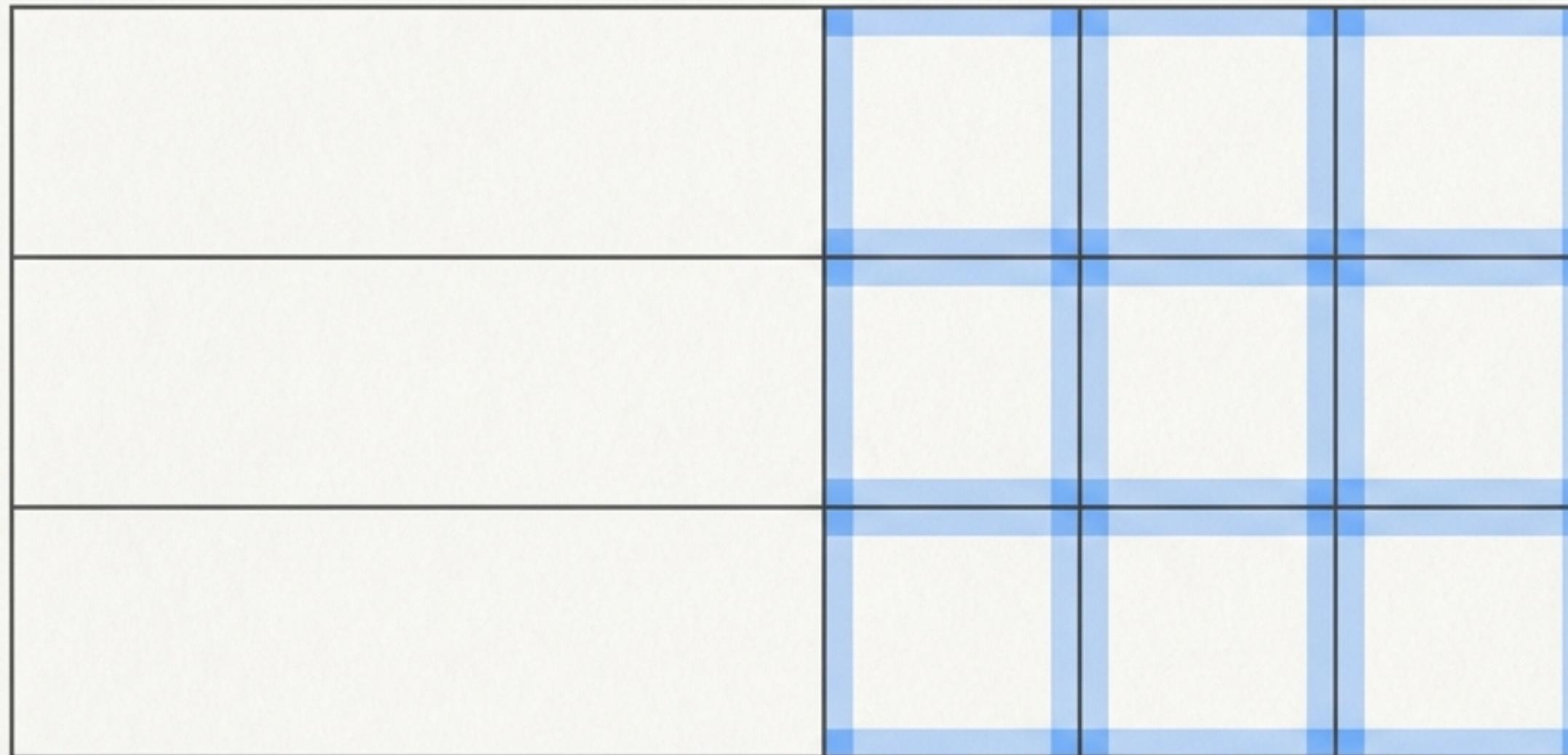


# Alignment & Gaps

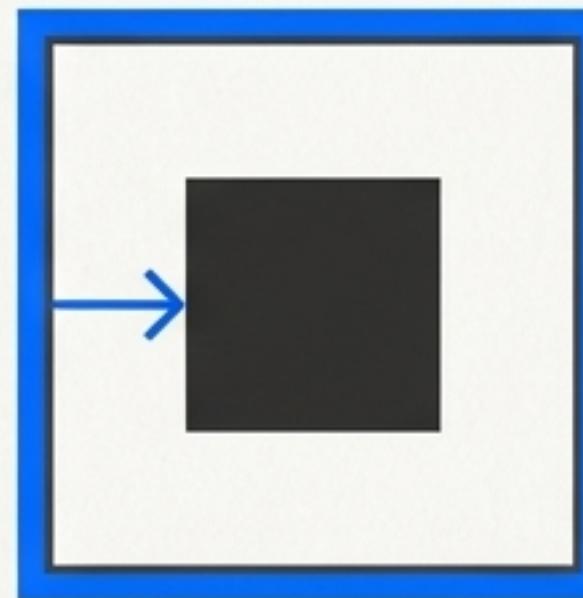
# Grid manages space, not just placement.



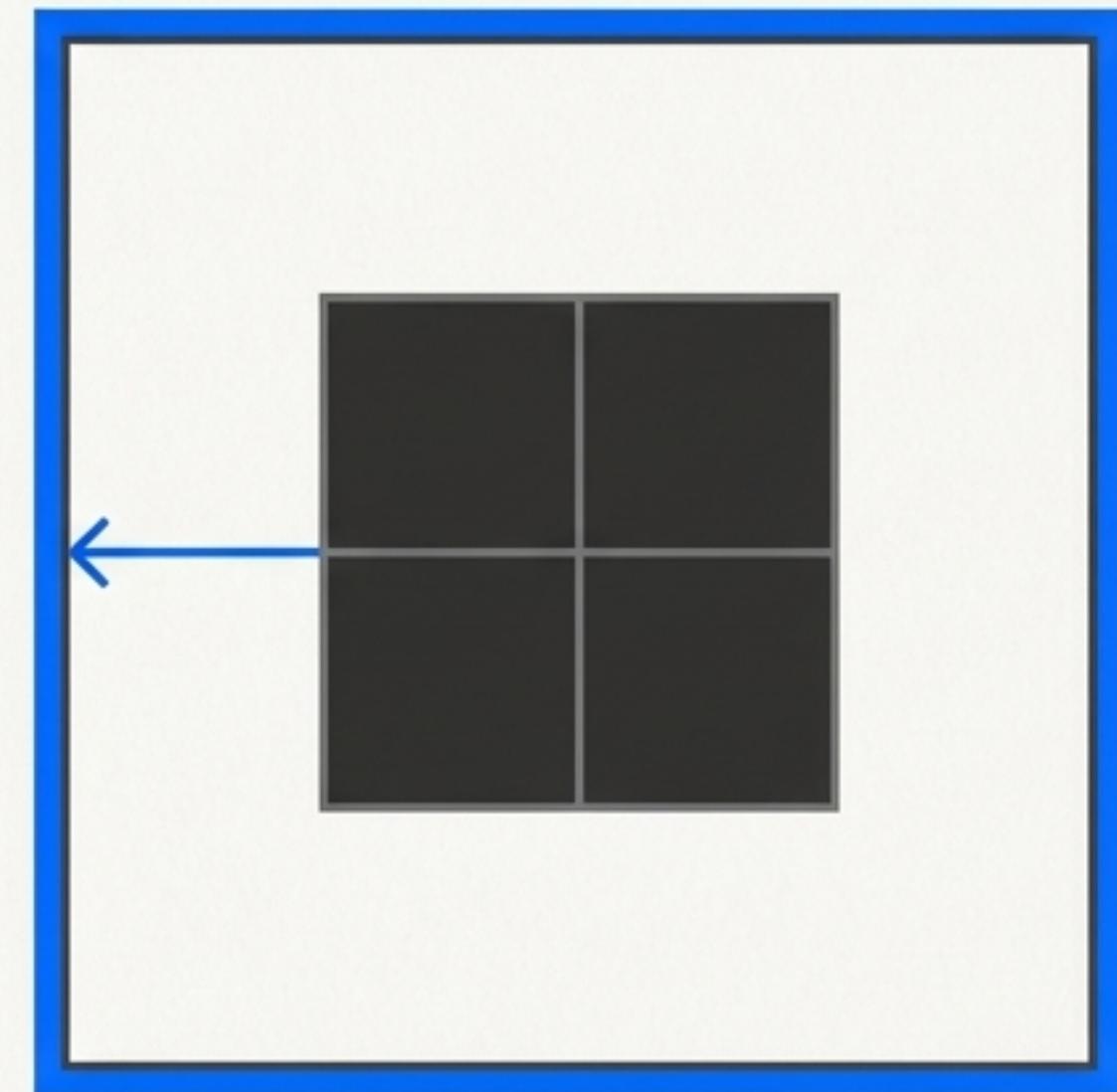
In CSS Grid, space is not an afterthought or a byproduct of margins. It is a fundamental element you control directly.

# There are two different alignment stories.

Story 1: How items align inside their cells.

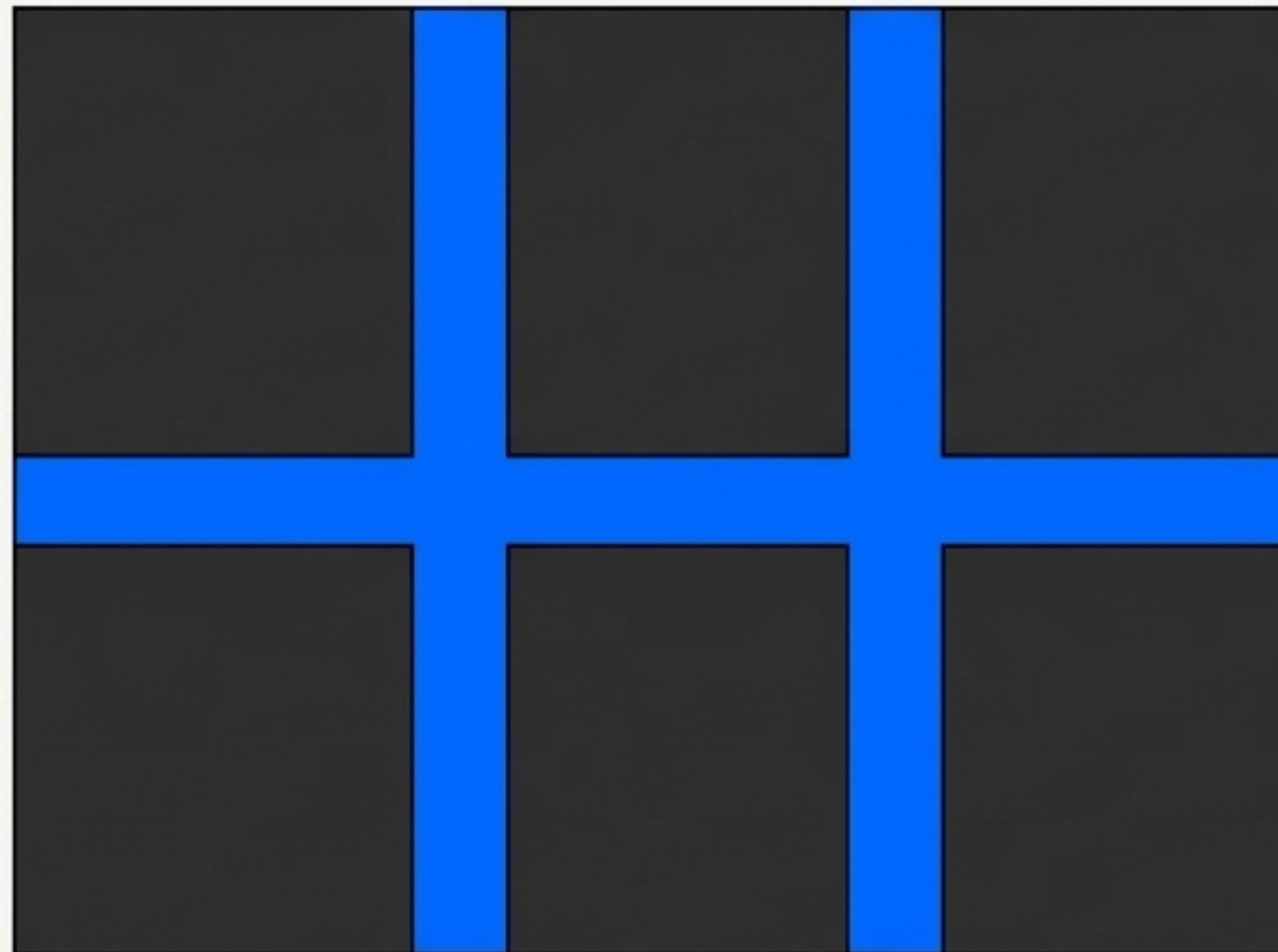


Story 2: How the grid aligns inside its container.

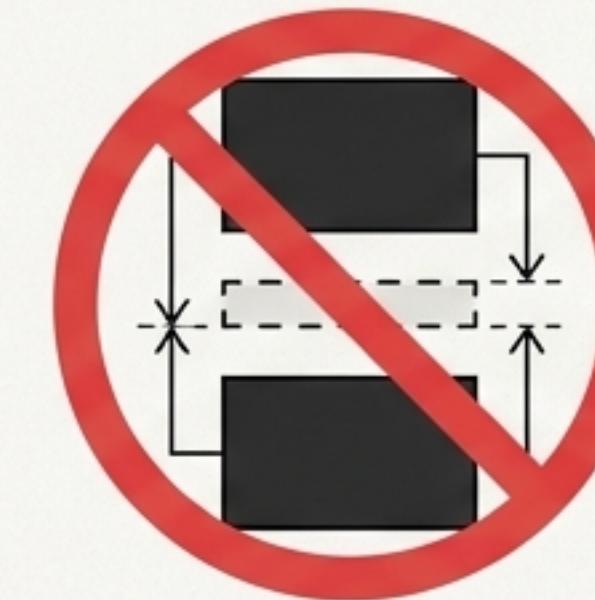


# Gaps Are Not Margins

gap (JetBrains Mono)



- Works in both directions (row and column)
- Doesn't collapse
- Doesn't leak outside the grid

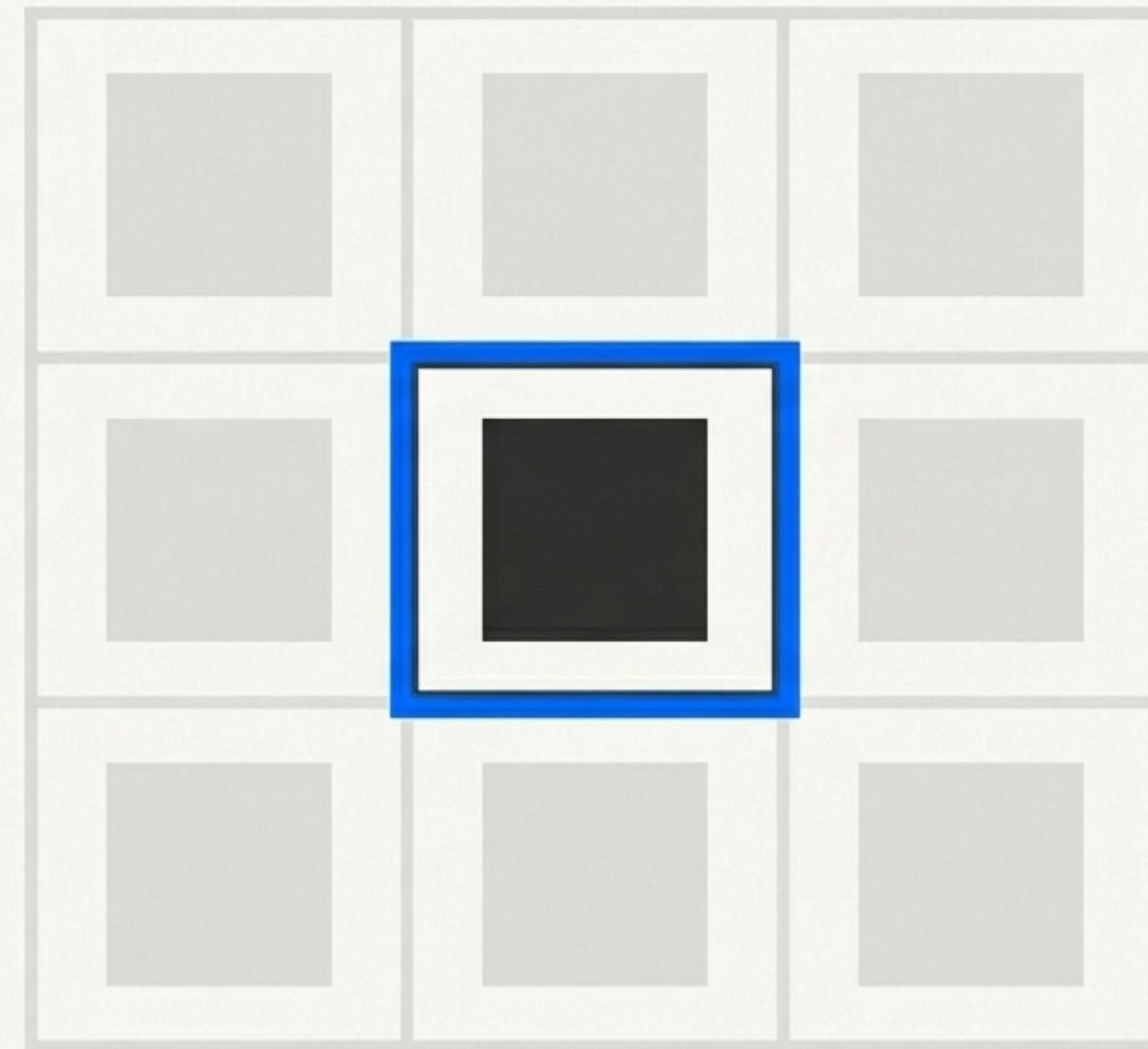


Margin Collapse

Use it. Love it.

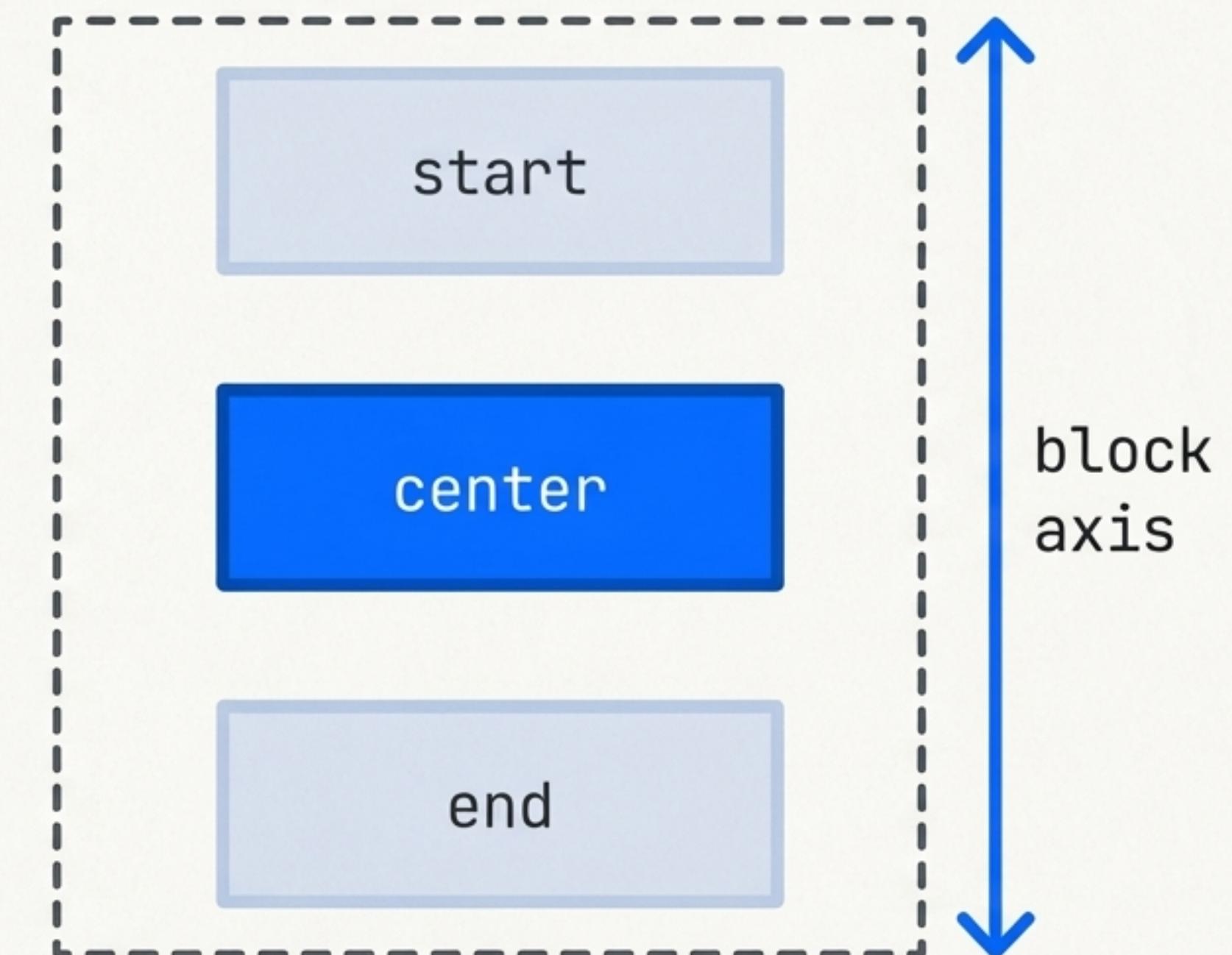
# Story One: Aligning Items (Inside Cells)

These properties affect how items sit within their individual grid areas.



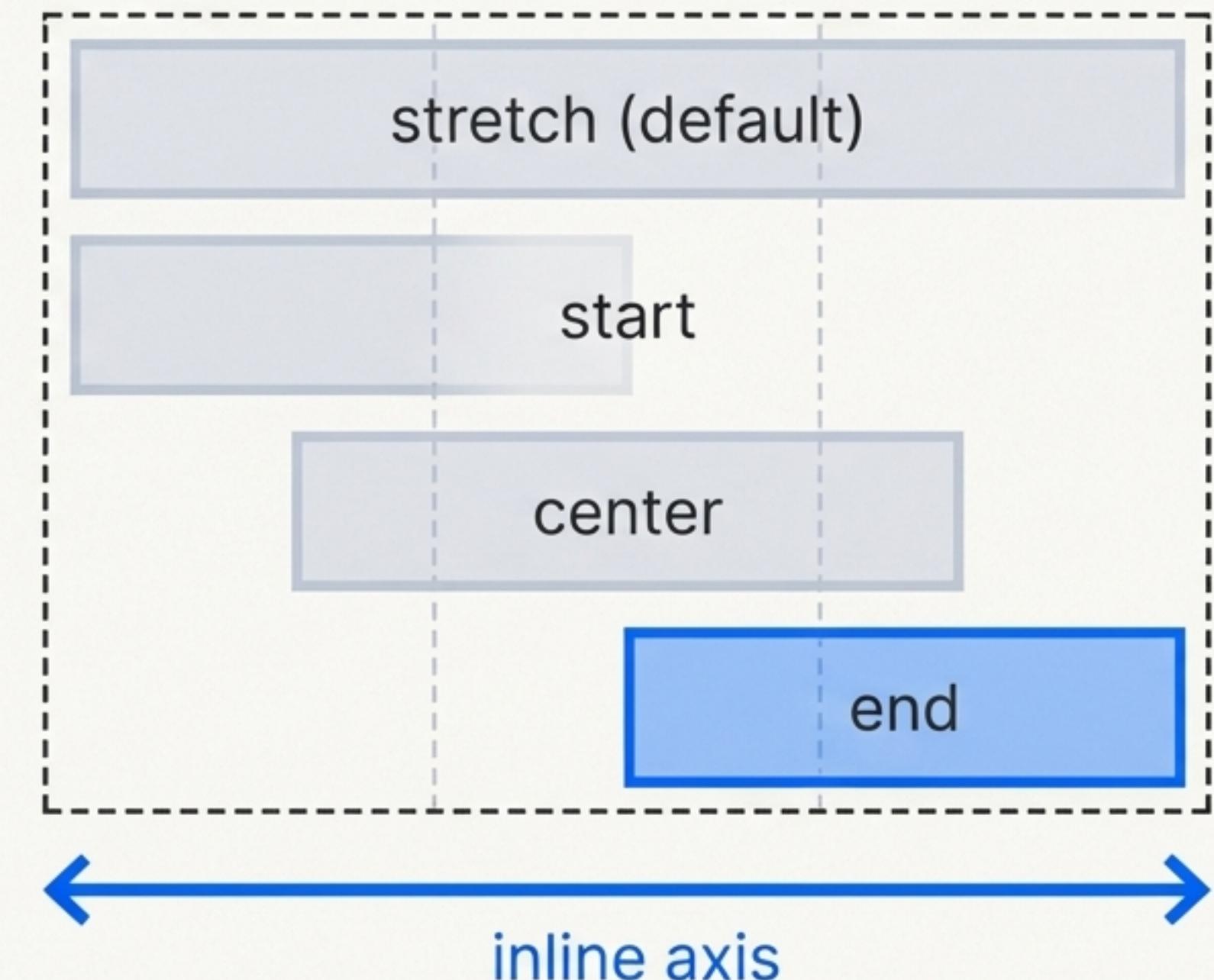
# `align-items` (block axis)

```
.container {  
  align-items: center;  
}
```



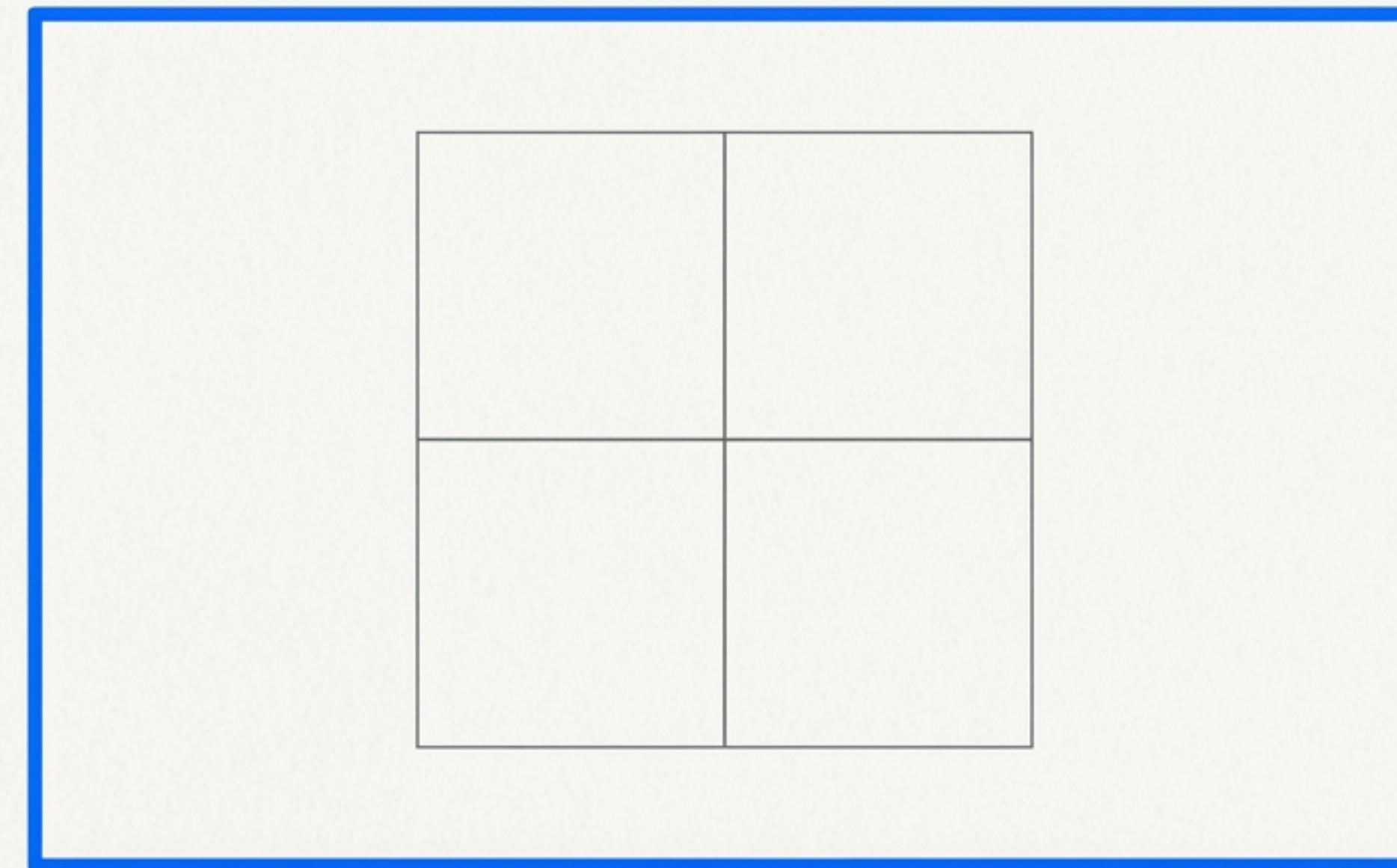
# `justify-items` (inline axis)

```
.container {  
  justify-items: end;  
}
```



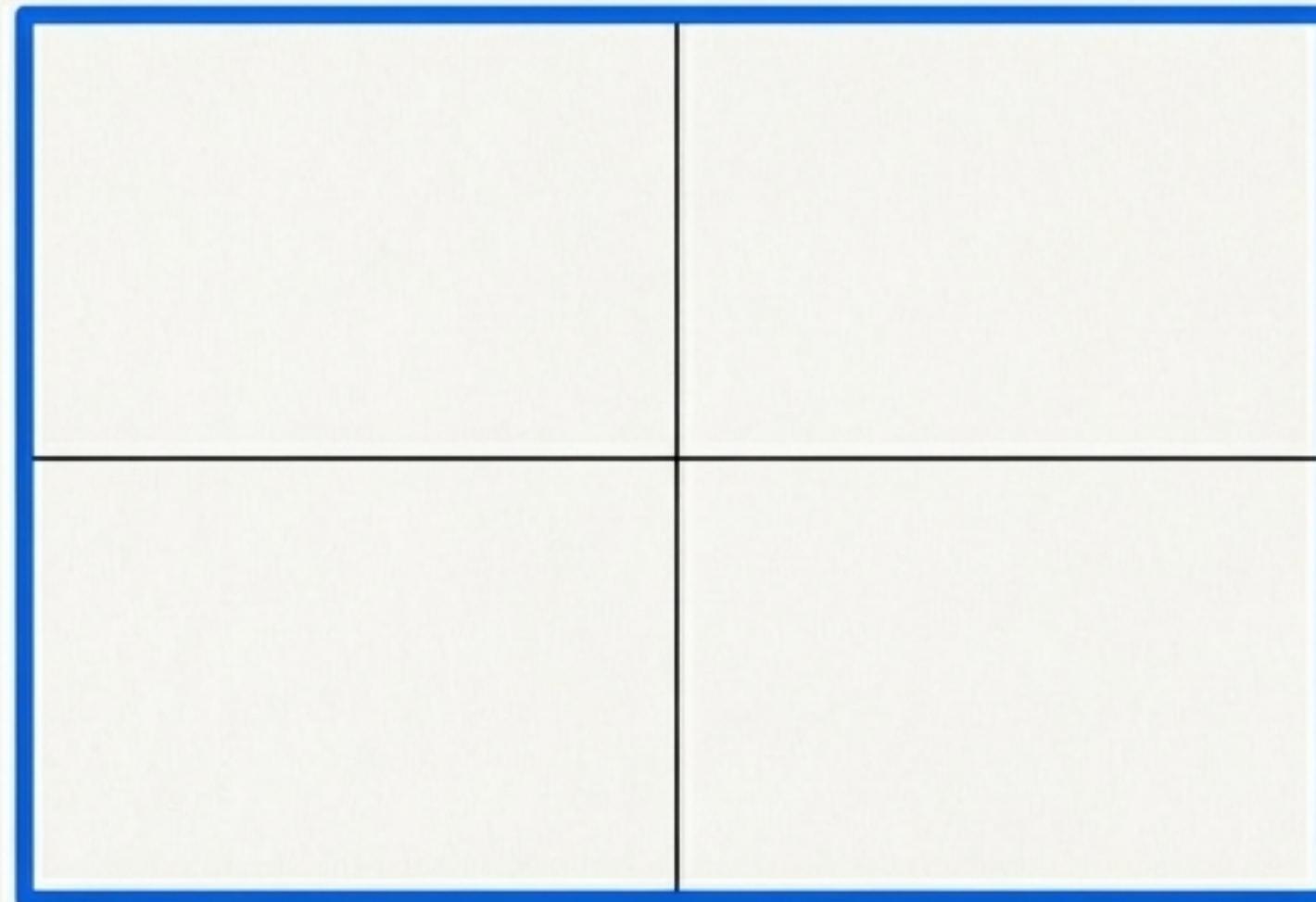
# Story Two: Aligning the Grid Itself

These properties affect how the entire grid is packed inside its container.

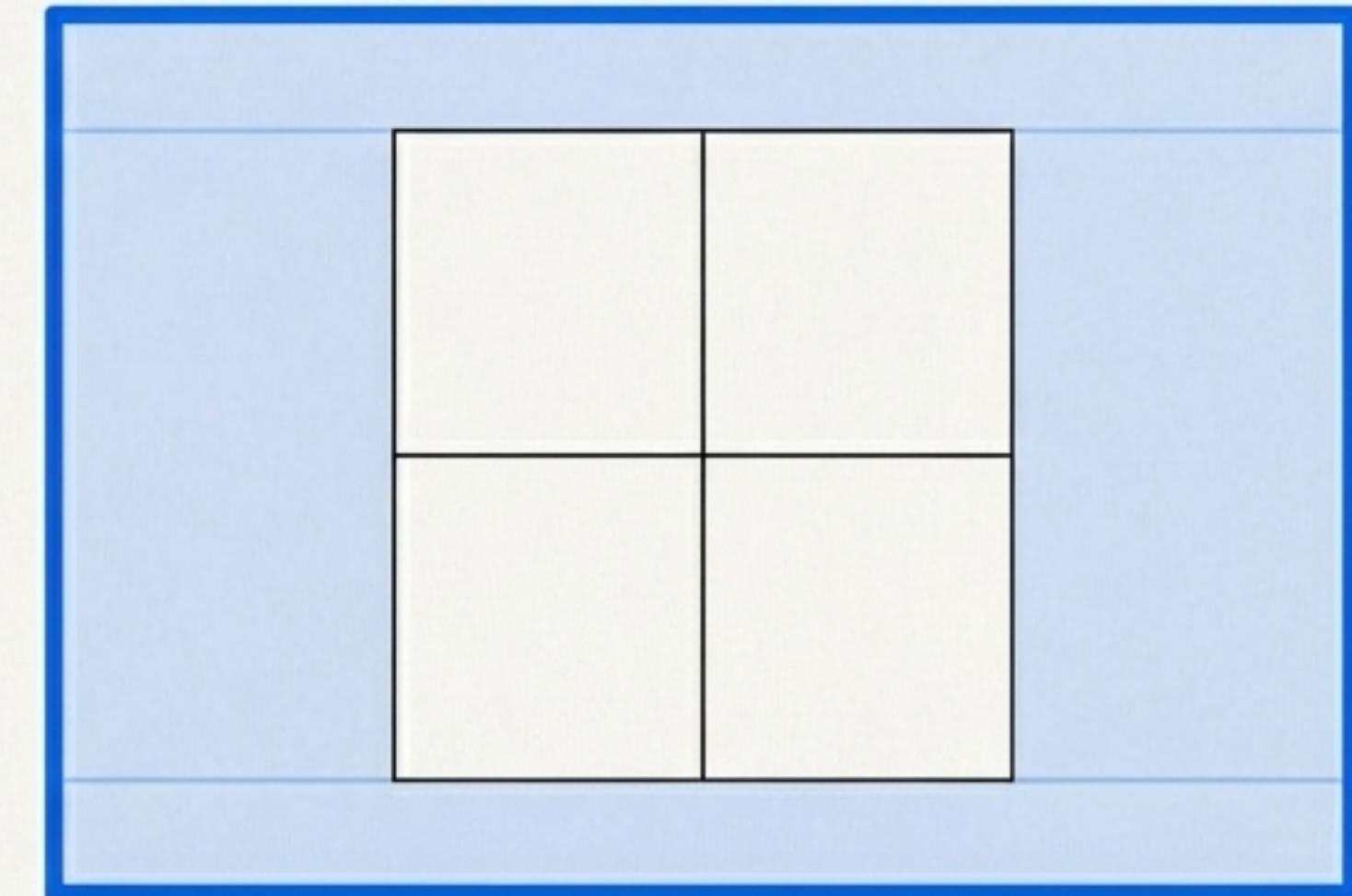


# They only matter when there's extra space.

`align-content` has no effect.

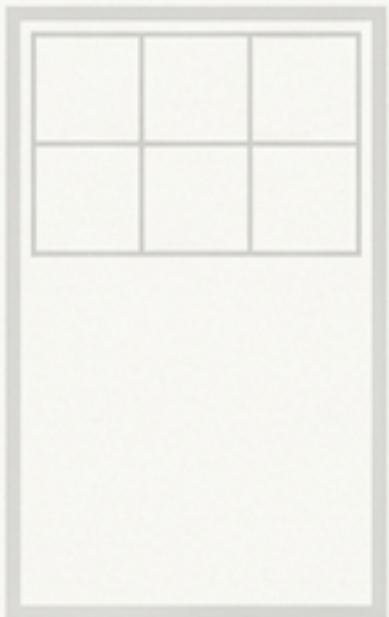


Now there is space to distribute.

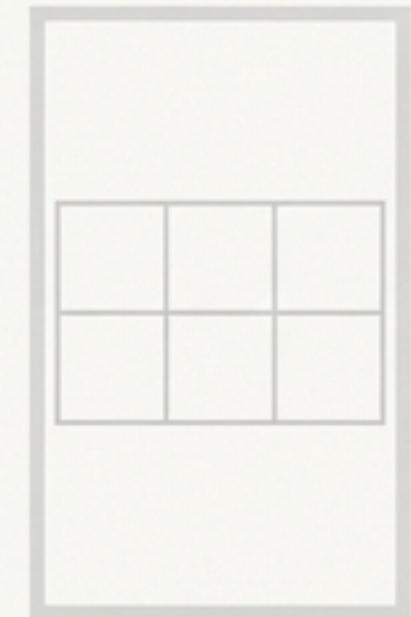


# ‘align-content’ (block axis)

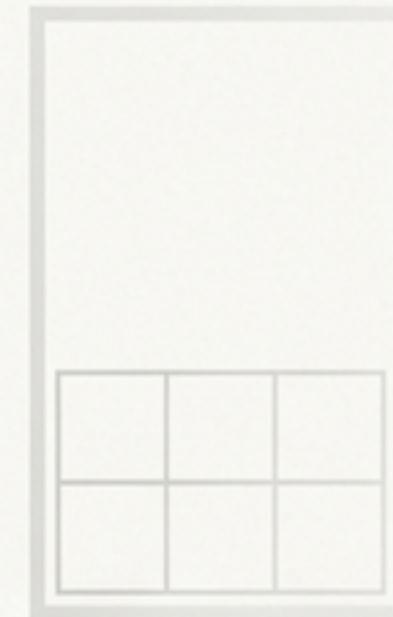
```
.container {  
  align-content: space-between;  
}
```



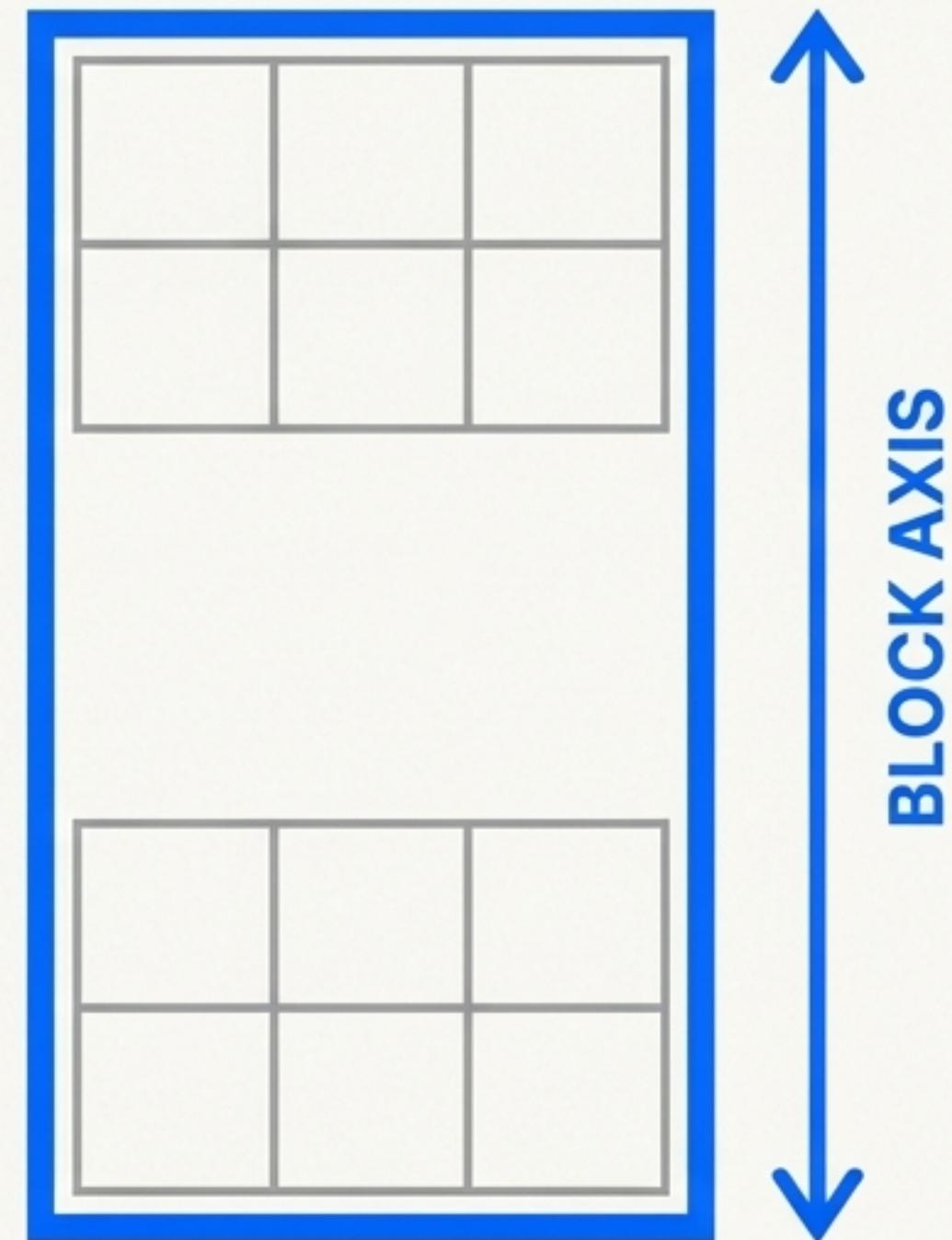
start (top)



center

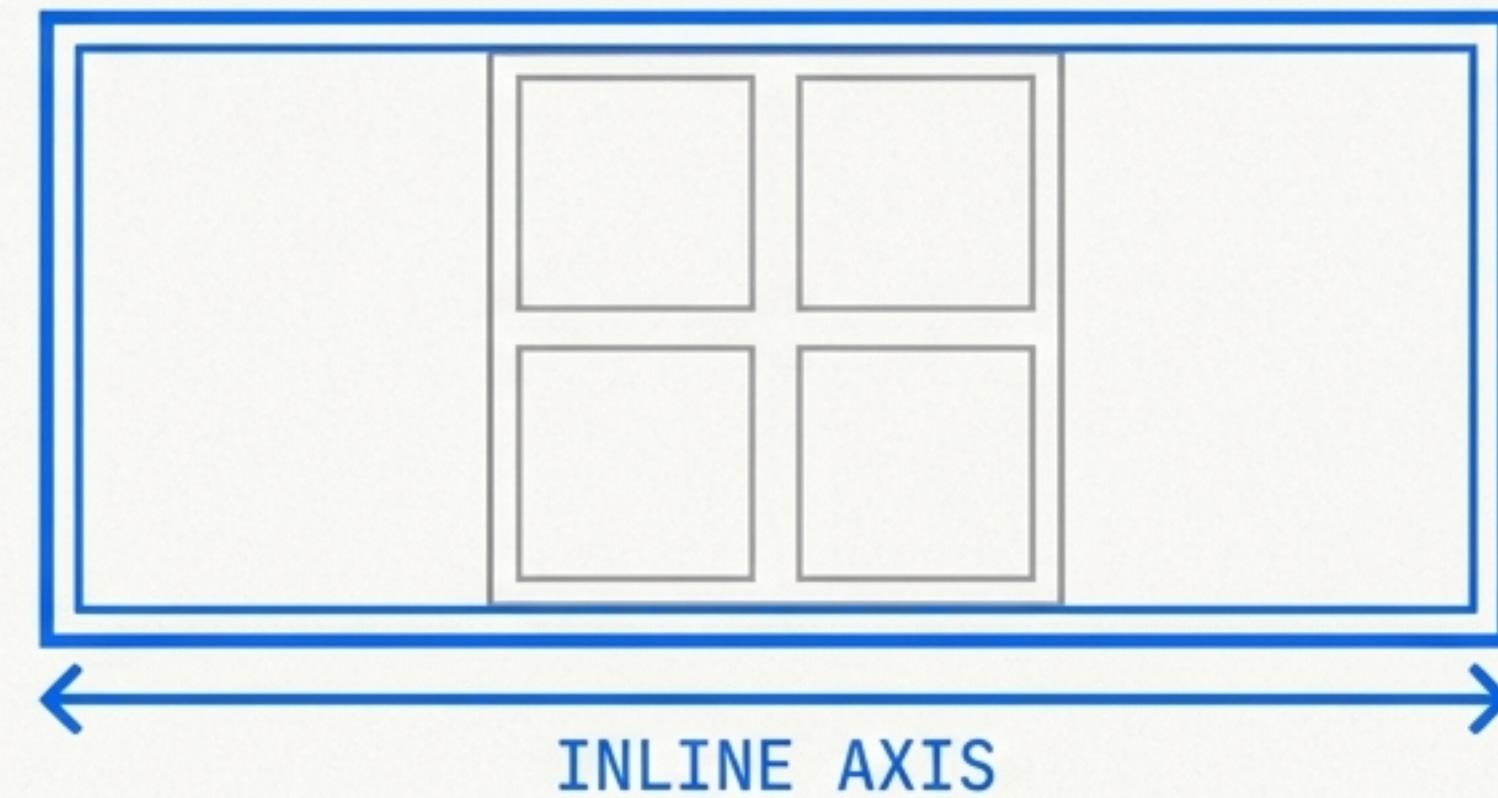


end (bottom)

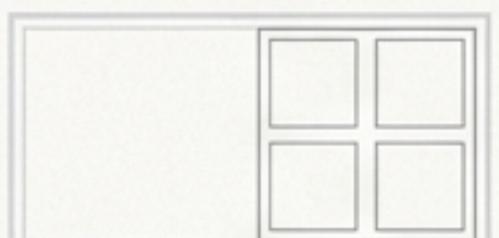


# ‘justify-content’ (inline axis)

```
.container {  
  justify-content: center;  
}
```



start (left)



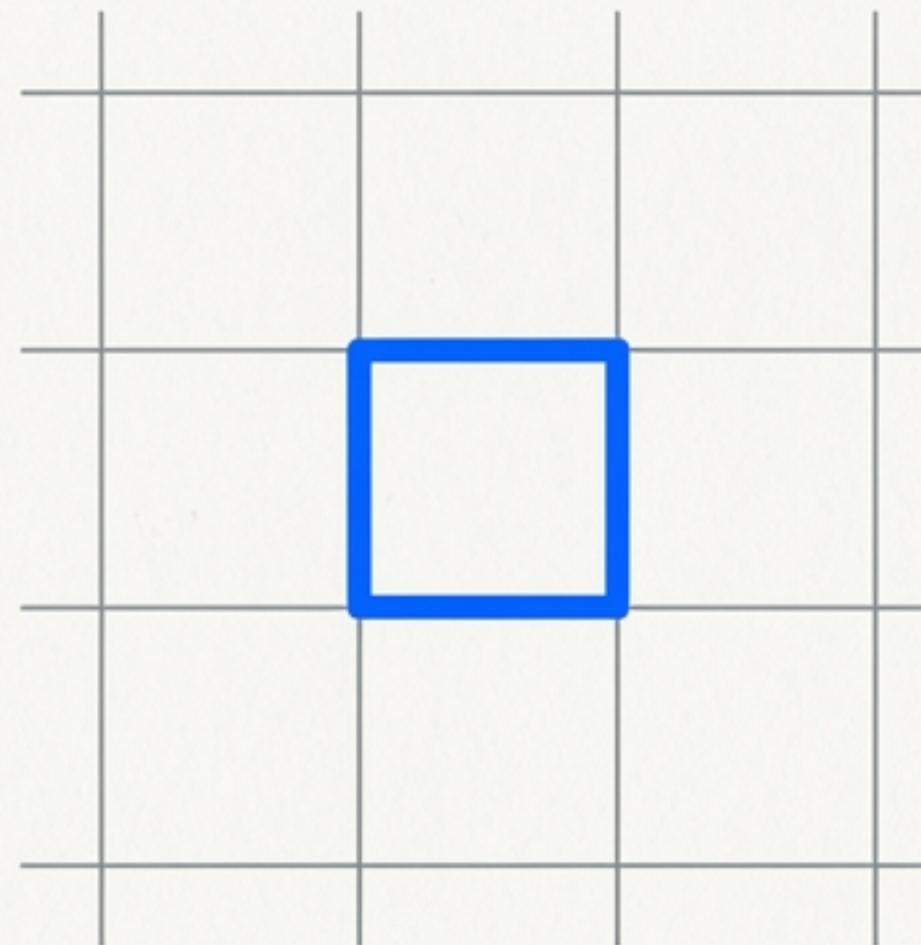
end (right)



space-around

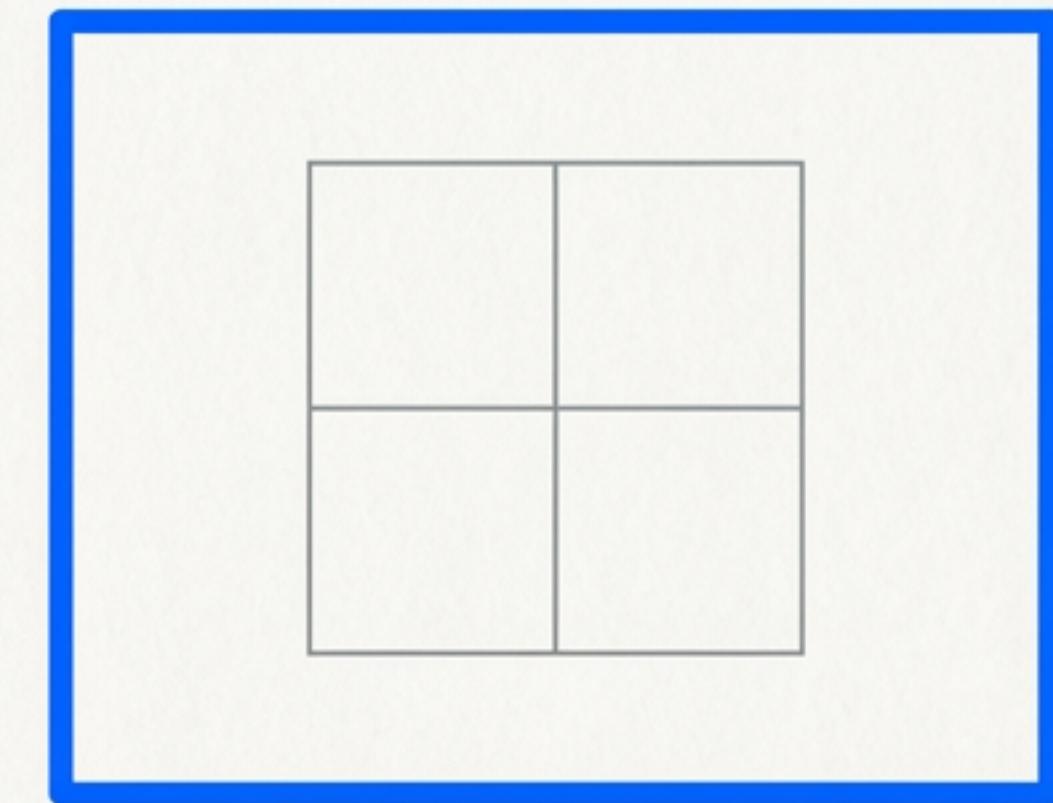
# The Distinction: Cells vs. Container

## **\*-items**



Aligns an item inside its cell.

## **\*-content**



Aligns the entire grid inside the container.



# MiniMo — Alignment Lab

- Change gaps.
- Shift items.
- Watch space move.

gap: 2.2Srem

justify-items

stretch

align-items

stretch

justify-content

space-between

align-content

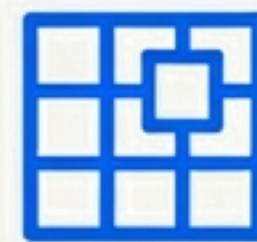
space-between

A B C

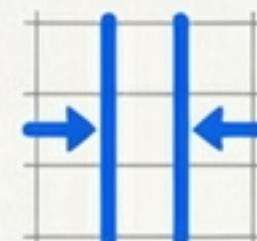
D E F

# The Takeaway

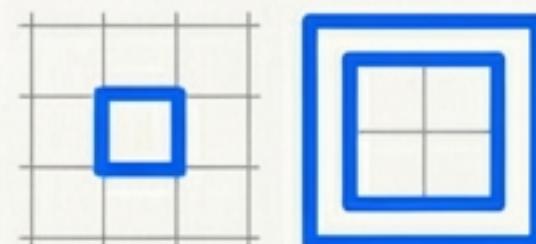
Grid gives you total control over:



**Placement** (The tracks you define)



**Spacing** (The gap between them)



**Alignment** (The two stories you just learned)

Once you see the difference, the properties stop feeling redundant.

**Space is a design decision.**



**p.s., keep learning!**