



Super-powered Layouts

with

CSS Grid +
CSS Variables

CSS Grid

(CSS Grid Layout Module Level 1)

The background is a blue gradient. It features several thin, light-blue rectangular outlines of various sizes and orientations. Some are solid, while others are partially transparent or overlapping, creating a layered, architectural feel. The text is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

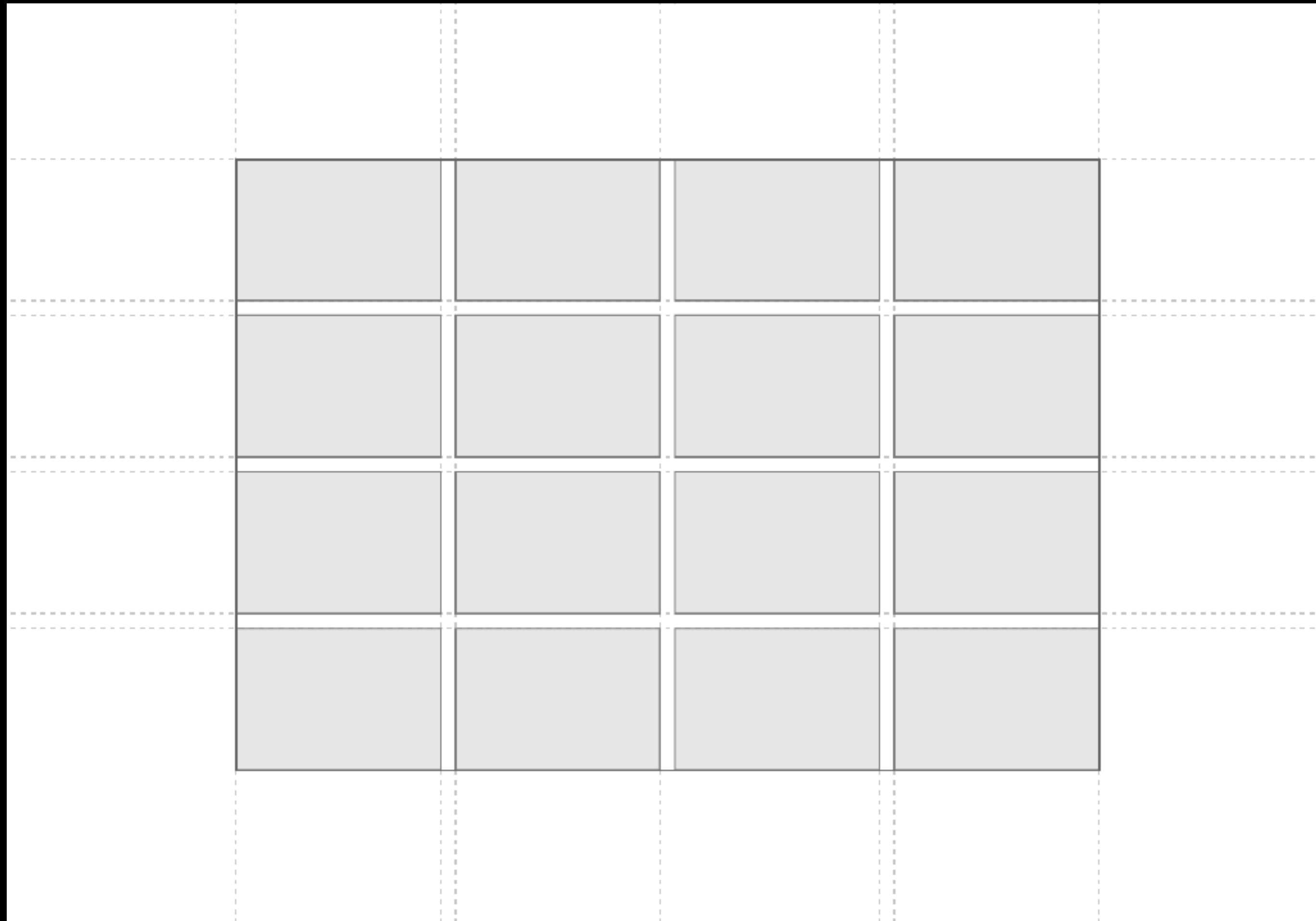
Why not just use
flexbox?



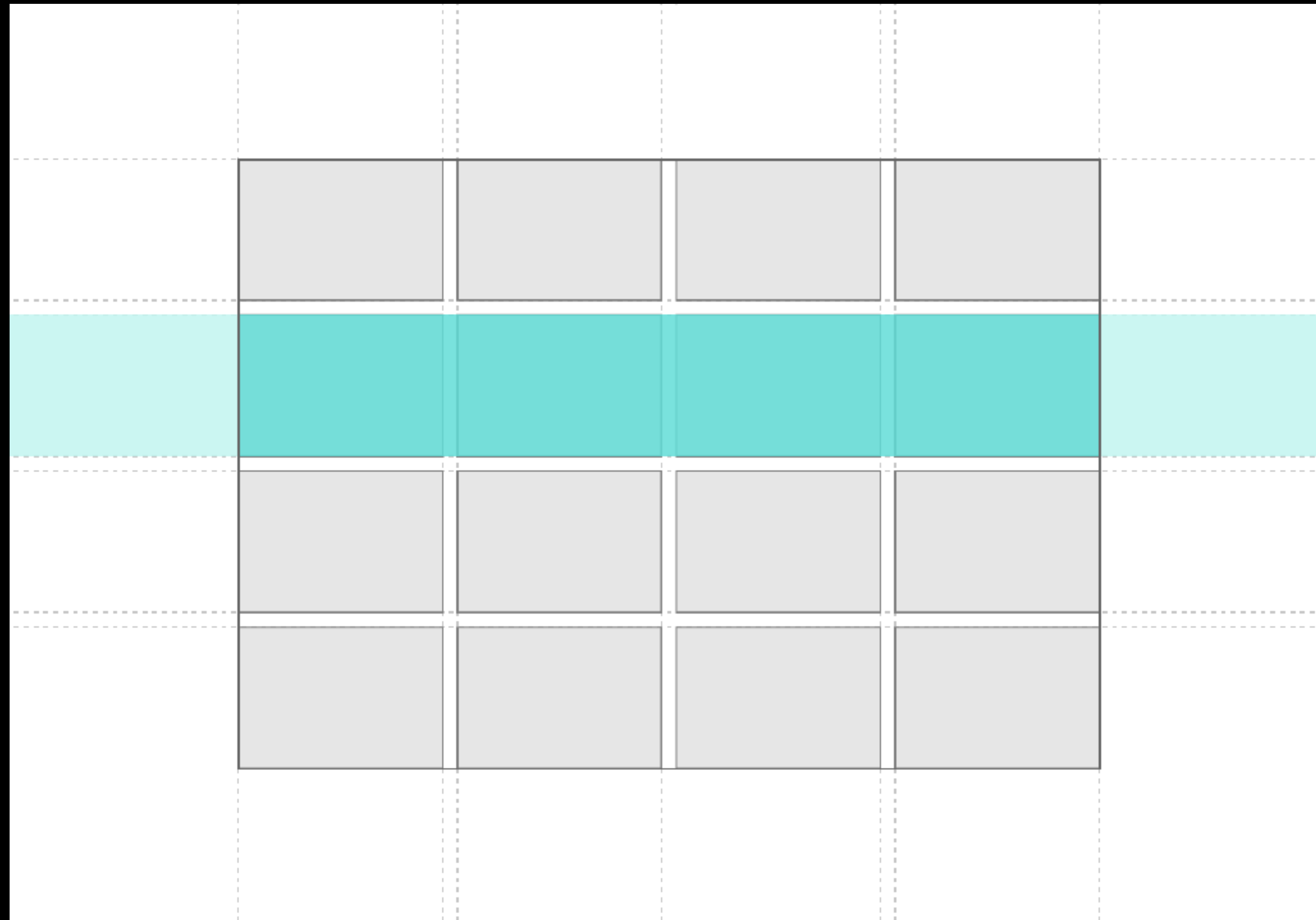
Grid terminology

Grid

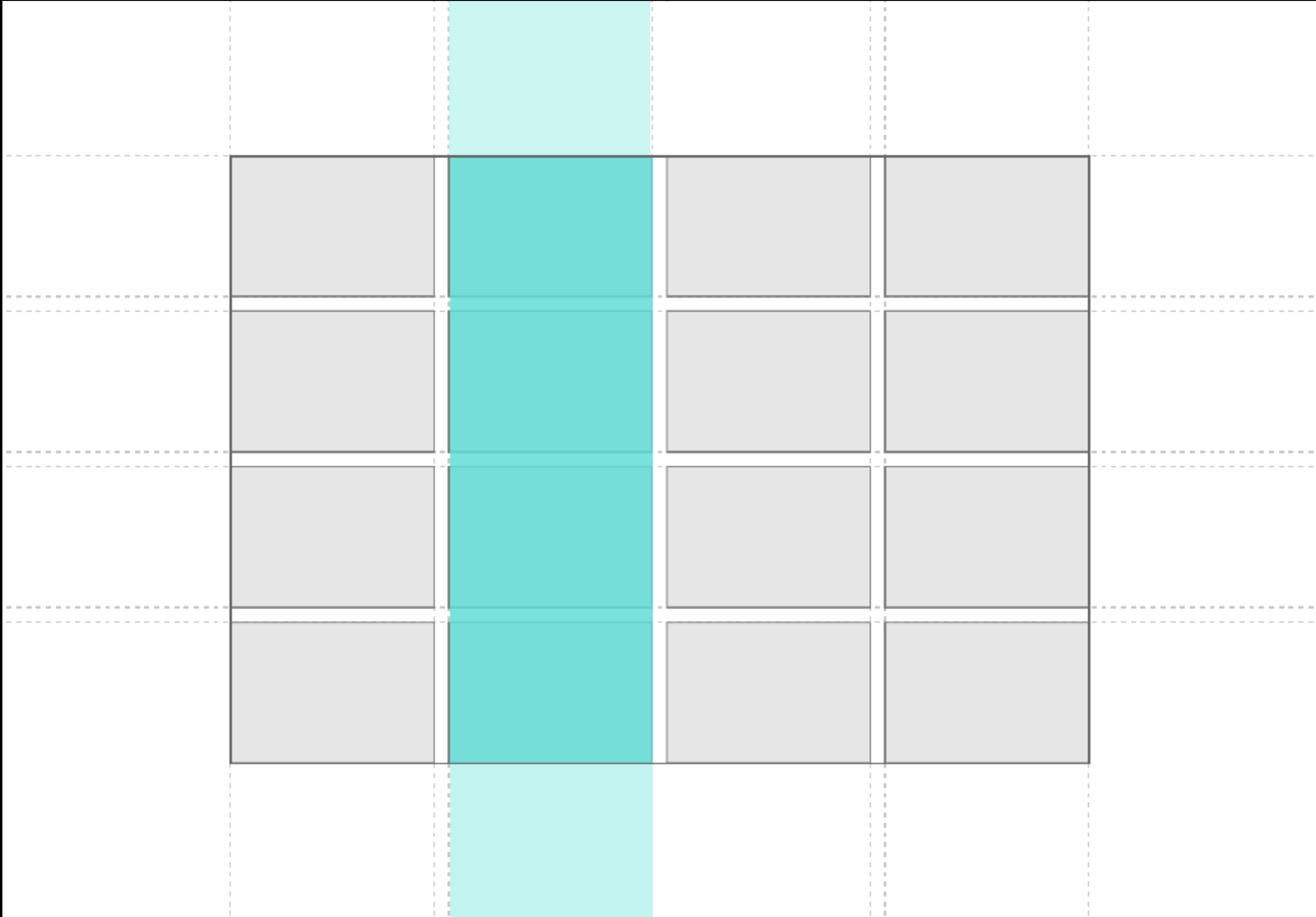
```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
}
```



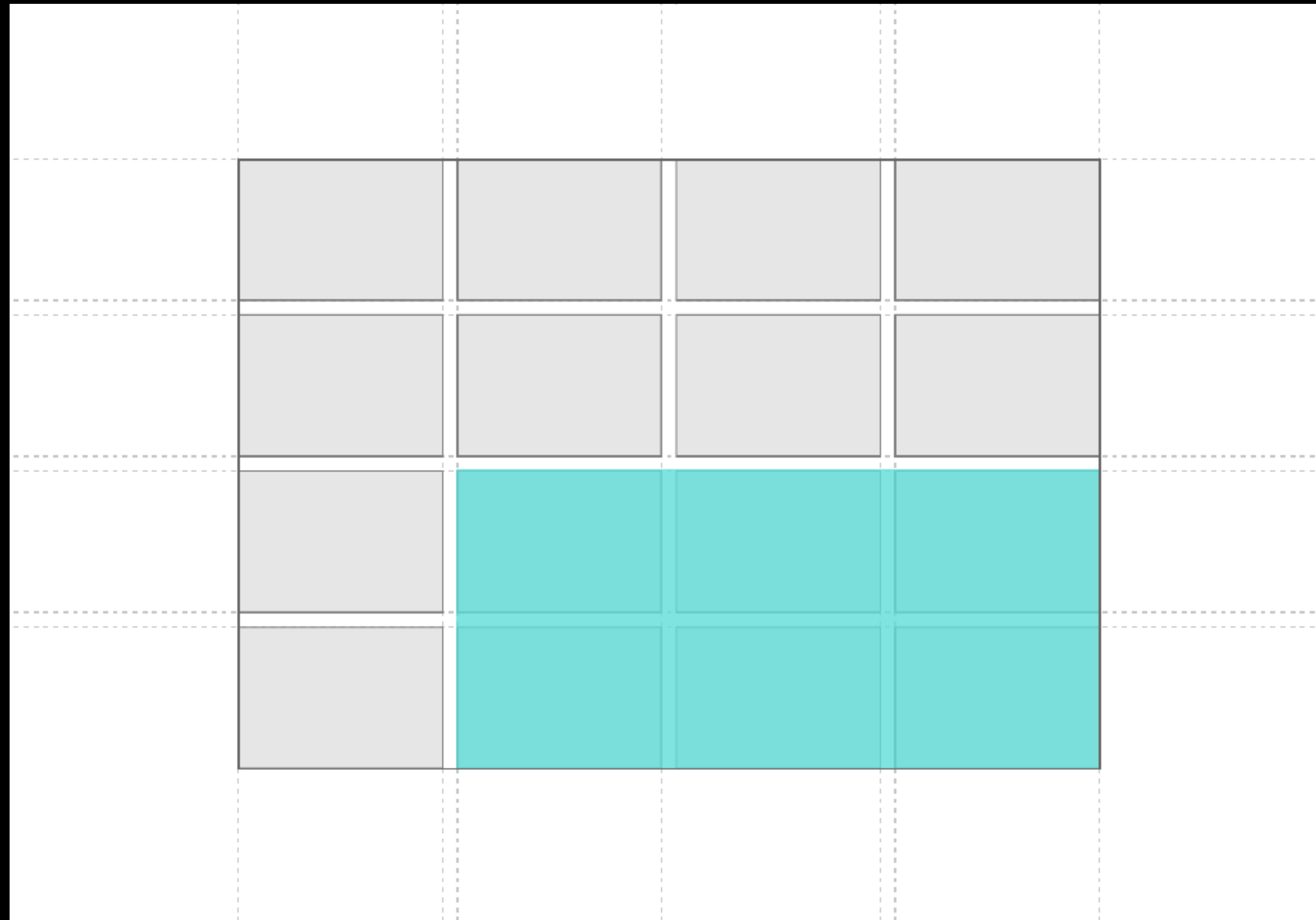
Tracks (rows and columns)



Tracks (rows and columns)

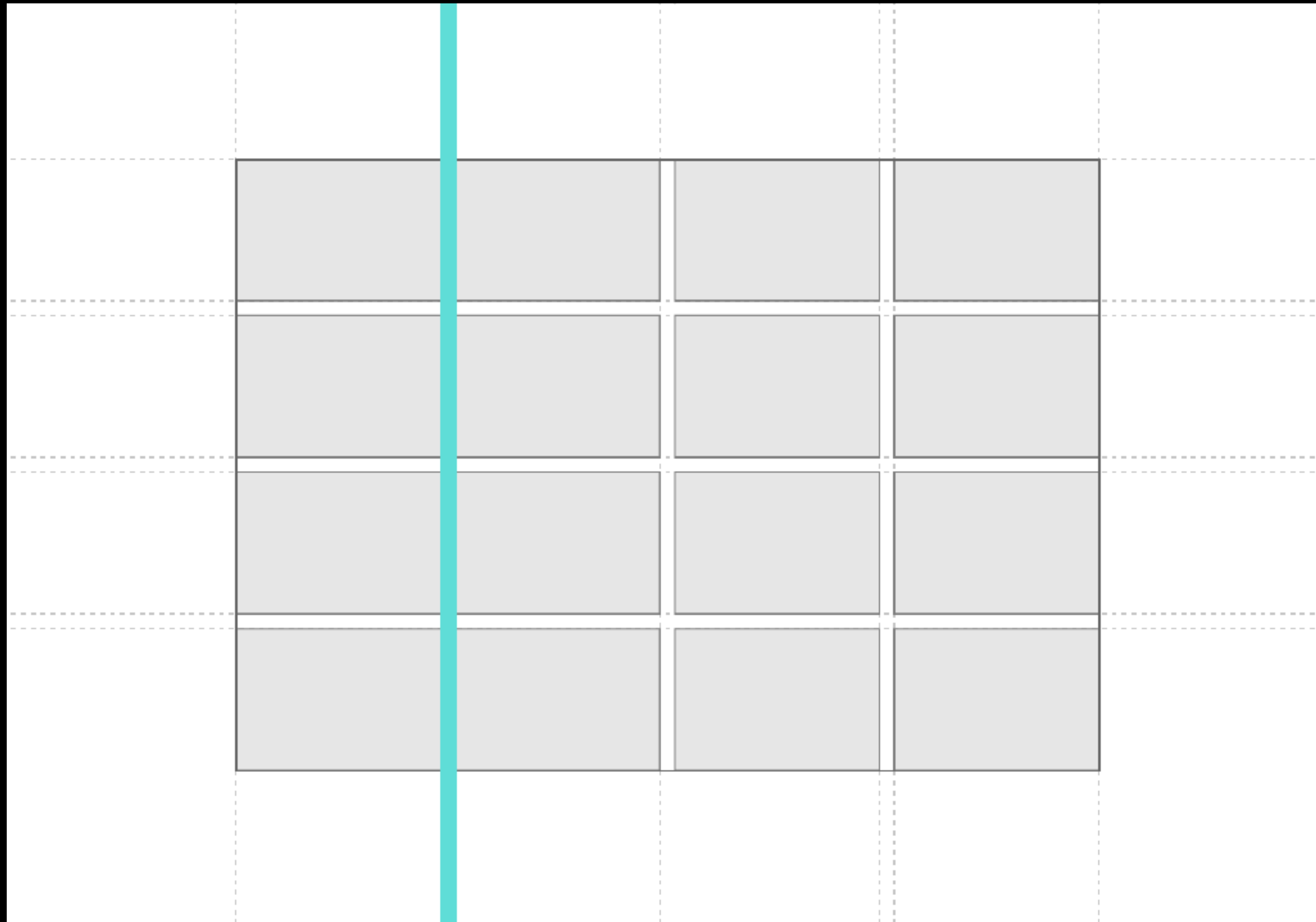


Grid-areas



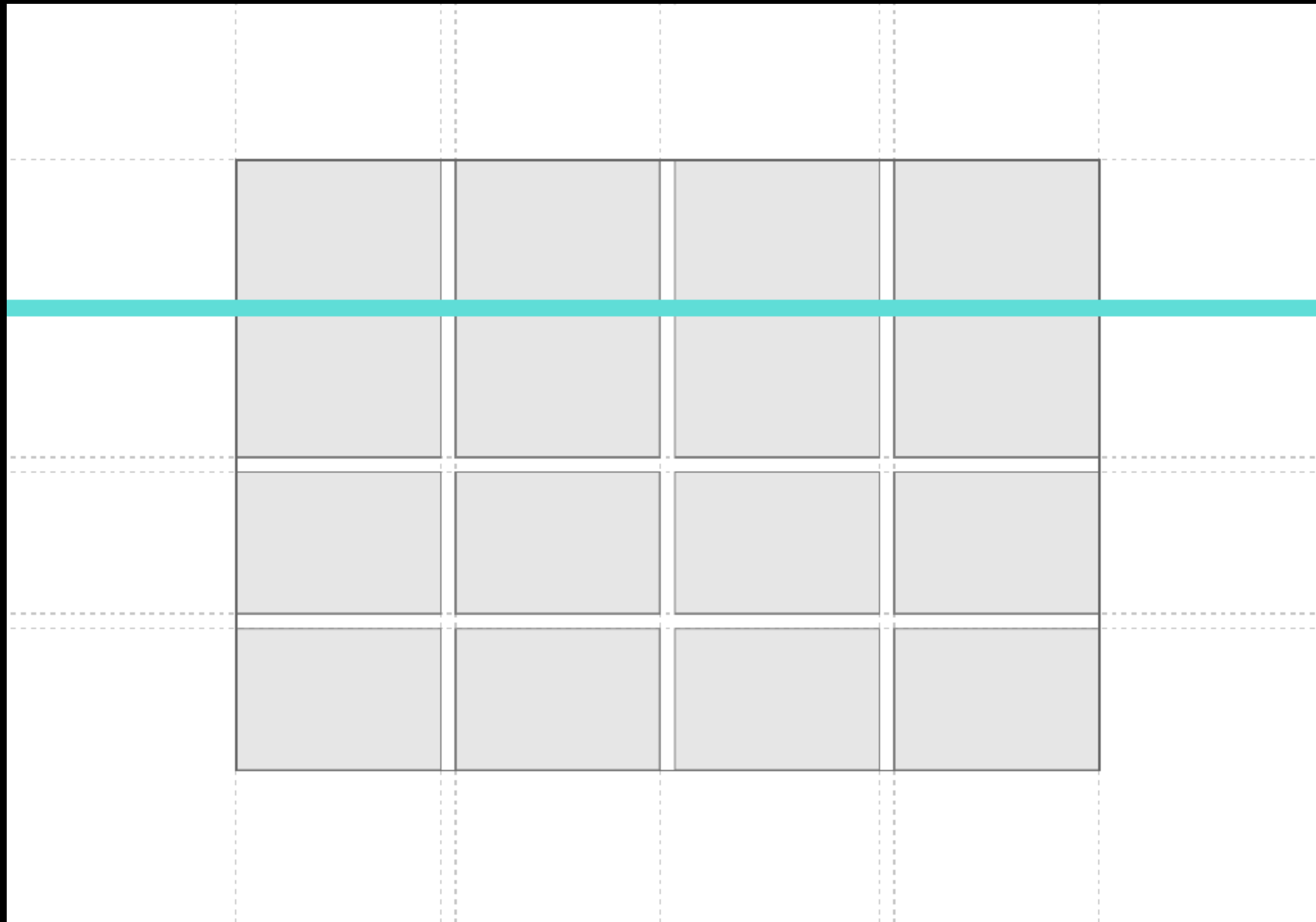
Gutters

```
.grid {  
  grid-column-gap: 20px;  
}
```



Gutters

```
.grid {  
  grid-row-gap: 20px;  
}
```



The background is a smooth gradient from light blue on the left to dark purple on the right. Several thin, dark blue outlines of squares and rectangles are scattered across the frame. A large rectangle is positioned in the upper left, with a smaller square above it. To the right of this, there is a vertical stack of three rectangles. Further right, a single large square is located. At the bottom center, there is another square, and to its left, a small square. The text 'Defining a grid' is centered horizontally and partially overlaps the large rectangle in the upper left.

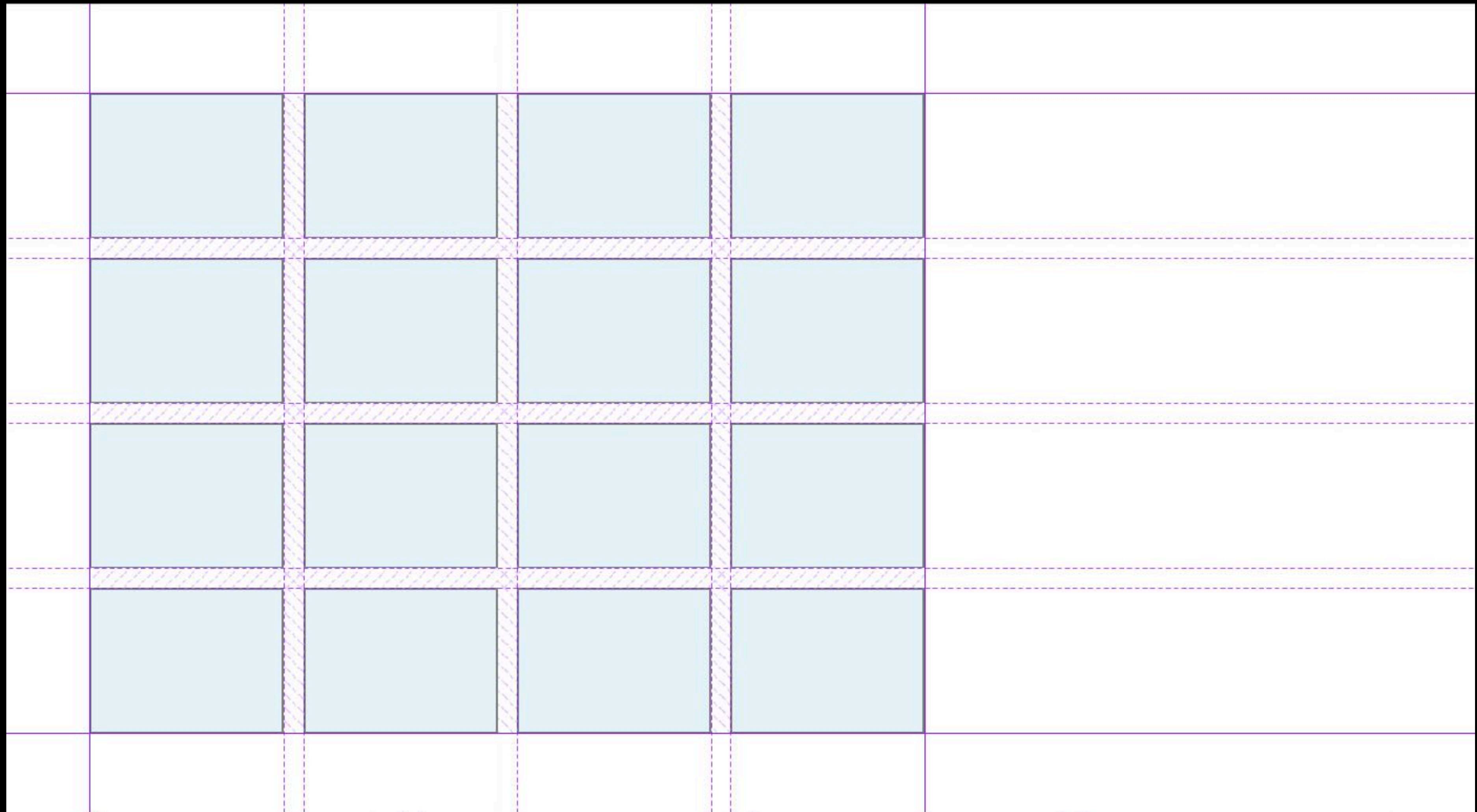
Defining a grid

On the container:

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: 200px 200px 200px 200px;  
  grid-template-rows: 150px 150px 150px 150px;  
}
```

On the container:

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: 200px 200px 200px 200px;  
  grid-template-rows: 150px 150px 150px 150px;  
  grid-column-gap: 20px;  
  grid-row-gap: 20px;  
}
```

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/eLZwVg

repeat()

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 200px);  
  grid-template-rows: repeat(4, 150px);  
  grid-gap: 20px;  
}
```


Shorthand

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template: repeat(4, 150px) / repeat(4, 200px);  
  grid-gap: 20px;  
}
```

Shorthand

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template: repeat(4, 150px) / repeat(4, 200px);  
  grid-gap: 20px; // grid-row-gap / grid-column-gap  
}
```

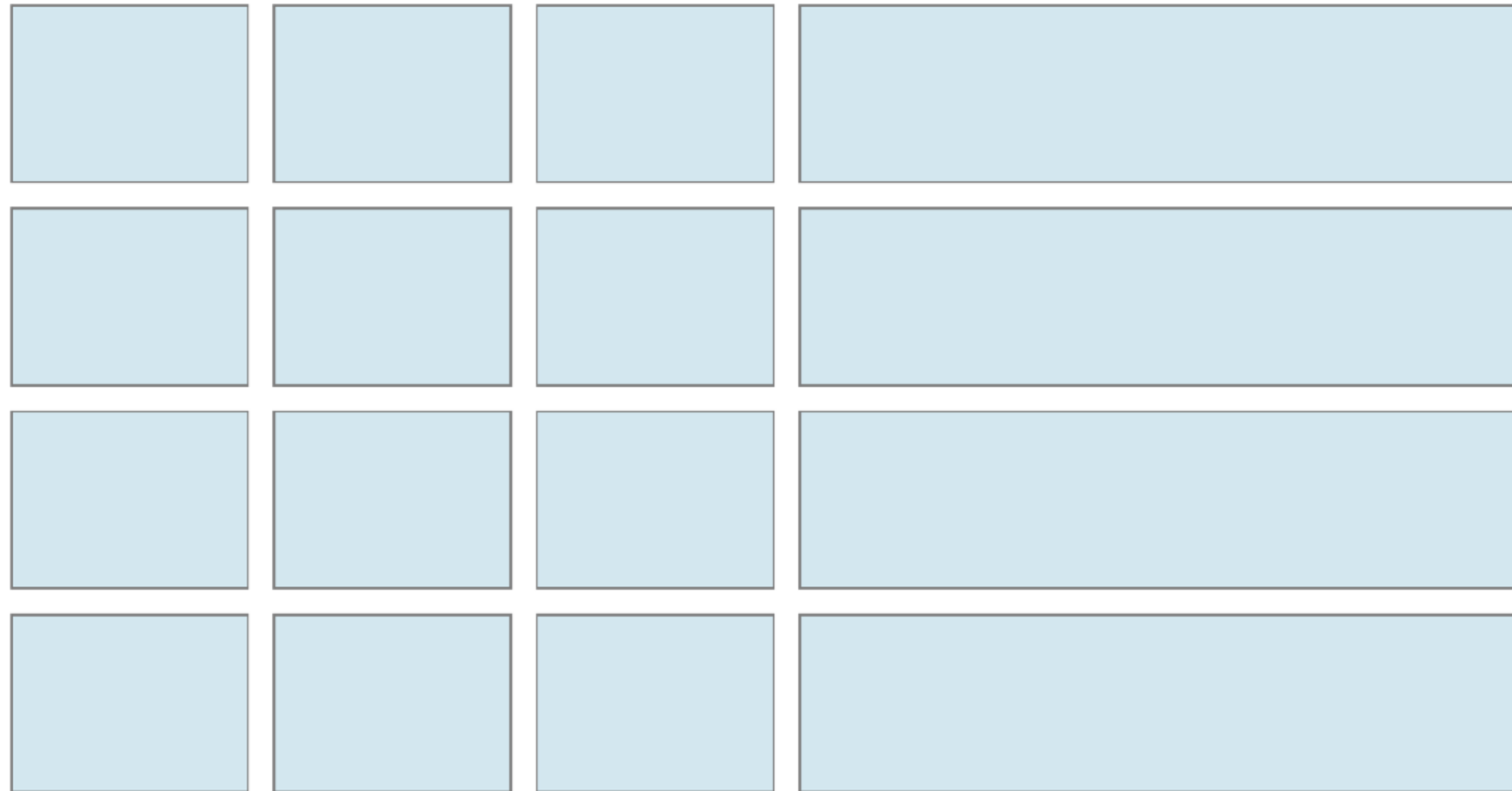
Flexible units (fr)

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr);  
  grid-template-rows: 150px;  
  grid-gap: 20px;  
}
```


Flexible units (fr)

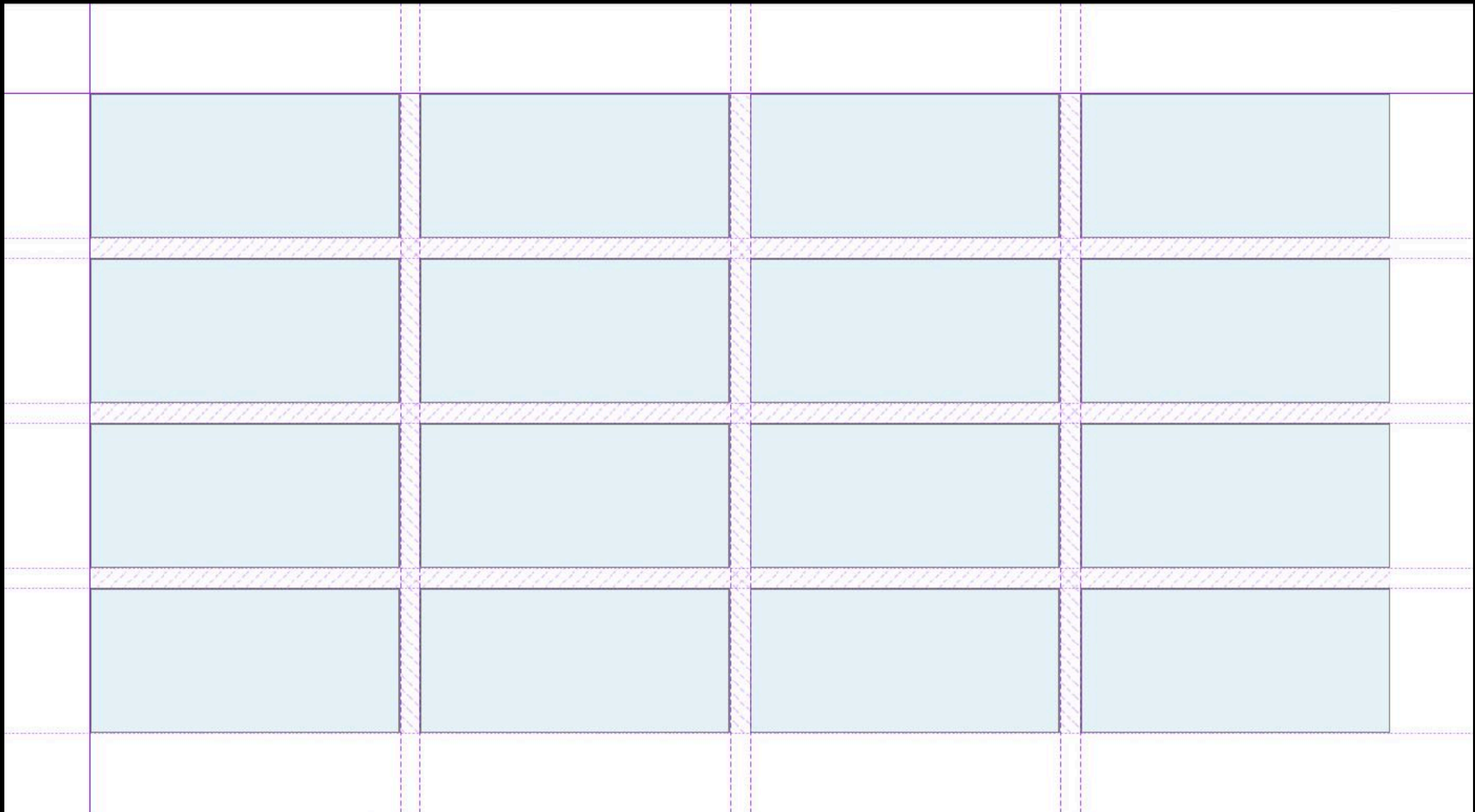
```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: repeat(3, 200px) 1fr;  
  grid-template-rows: 150px;  
  grid-gap: 20px;  
}
```

Flexible units (fr)



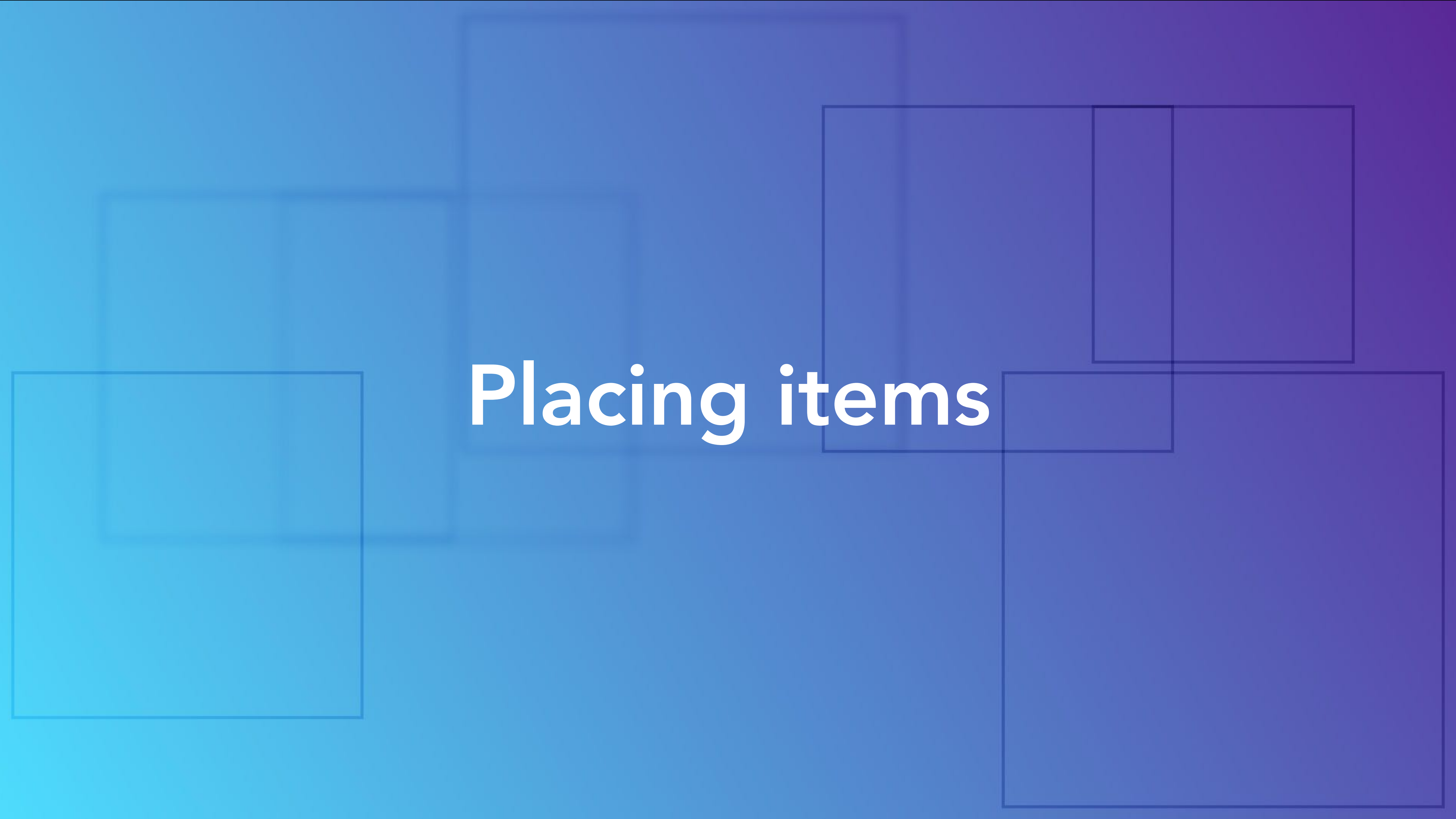
Implicit tracks

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr);  
  grid-auto-rows: 150px;  
  grid-gap: 20px;  
}
```

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/eLZwVg

Placing items



Auto-placement

```
<div class="grid">  
  <div class="grid__item">1</div>  
  <div class="grid__item">2</div>  
  <div class="grid__item">3</div>  
</div>
```

	1	2	3		

<header>

<main>

<aside>

Placing items by grid line

```
<div class="grid">  
  <header></header>  
  <main></main>  
  <aside></aside>  
</div>
```

	1	2	3	4	5
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

Placing items by grid line

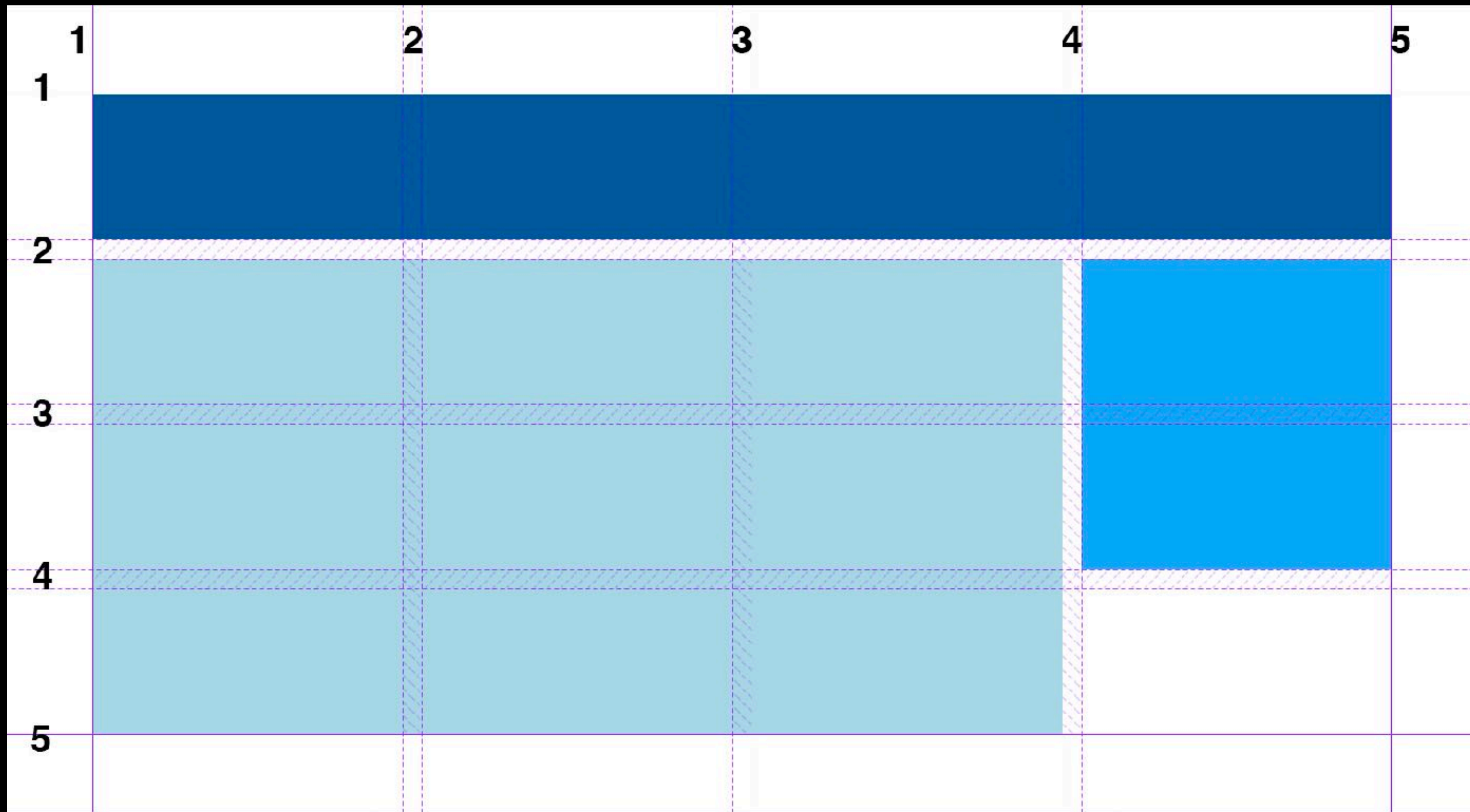
```
header {  
  grid-column-start: 1;  
  grid-column-end: 5;  
}
```


1	2	3	4	5	
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

Placing items by grid line

```
main {  
  grid-column-start: 1;  
  grid-column-end: 4;  
  grid-row-start: 2;  
  grid-row-end: 5;  
}
```

```
aside {  
  grid-column-start: 4;  
  grid-column-end: 5;  
  grid-row-start: 2;  
  grid-row-end: 4;  
}
```

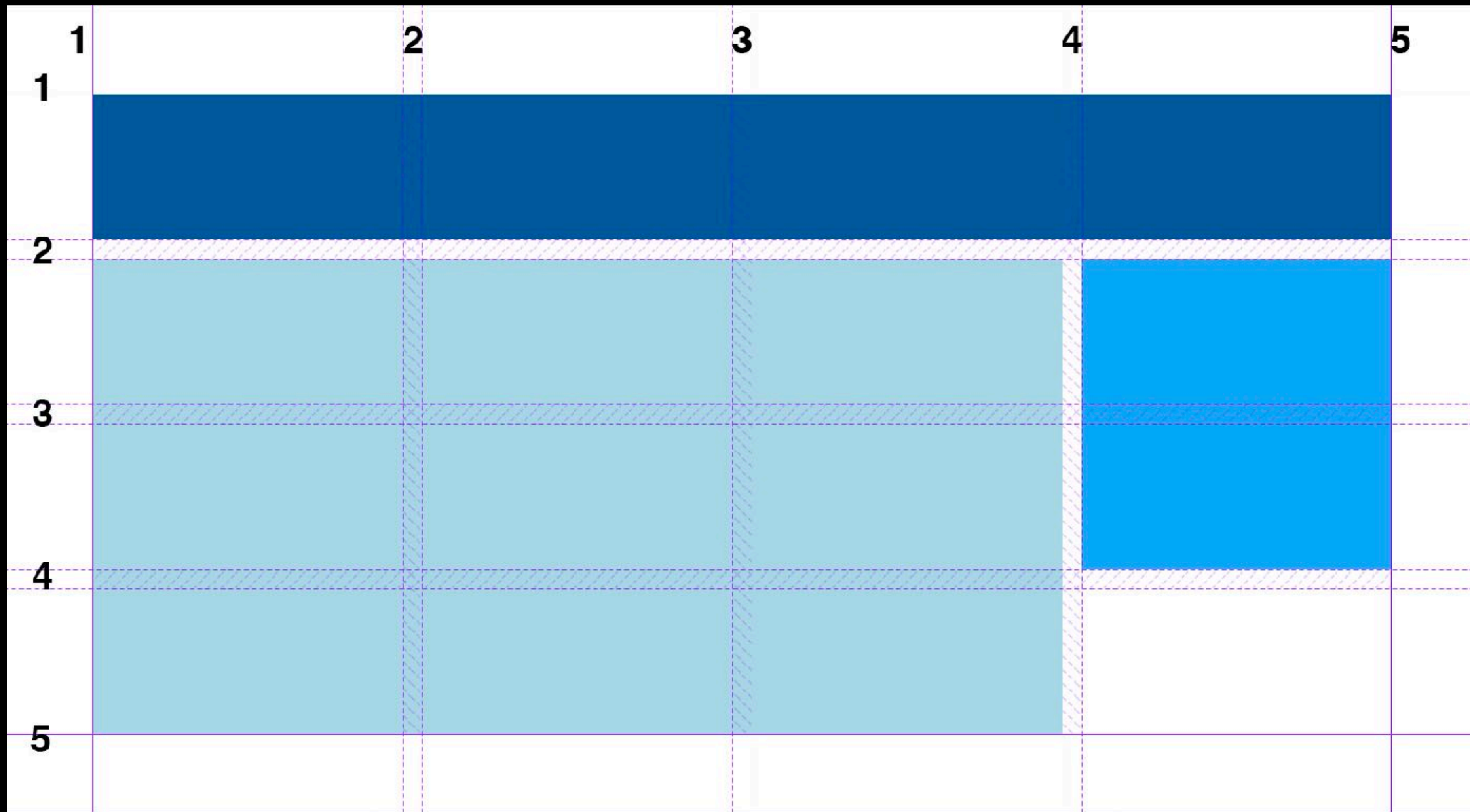



Placing items by grid line

```
header {  
  grid-column: 1 / 5;  
}
```

```
main {  
  grid-column: 1 / 4;  
  grid-row: 2 / 5;  
}
```

```
aside {  
  // grid-column: 4 / 5; – unnecessary as will be  
  auto-placed  
  grid-row: span 2;  
}
```



Placing items by grid line

```
main {
```

```
  grid-column: 1 / 4;
```

```
  grid-row: 2 / 4;
```

```
}
```

Placing items by grid line

```
main {  
  grid-column: span 3;  
  grid-row: 2 / 4;  
}
```

Placing items by grid line

```
main {  
  grid-column: 1 / span 3;  
  grid-row: 2 / 4;  
}
```


Placing items by grid line

```
main {  
  grid-column: span 3 / 4;  
  grid-row: 2 / 4;  
}
```

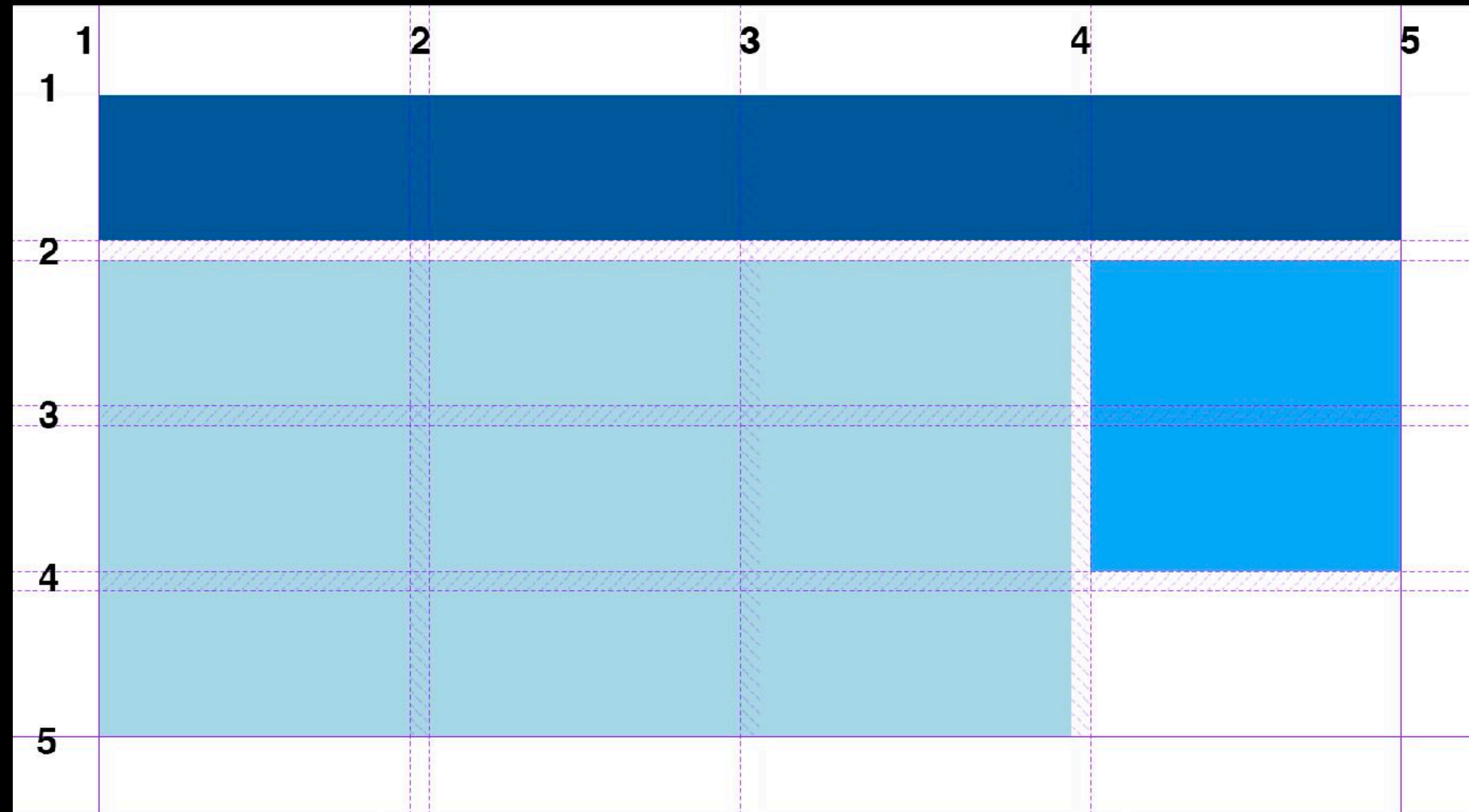
Naming lines

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns:  
    [header-start main-start]  
    repeat(3, 1fr)  
    [main-end] 1fr [header-end];  
  grid-auto-rows: 150px;  
}
```


header-start
main-start

main-end

header-end



Grid areas

```
header {  
  grid-column: header;  
}
```

```
main {  
  grid-column: main  
  grid-row: 2 / 5;  
}
```

```
aside {  
  grid-row: span 2;  
}
```

grid-template-areas

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr);  
  grid-auto-rows: 150px;  
  grid-template-areas: "h h h h"  
                      "m m m a"  
                      "m m m a"  
                      "m m m a"  
                      "m m m .";  
  
  grid-gap: 20px;  
}
```


grid-template-areas

```
header {  
  grid-area: h;  
}
```

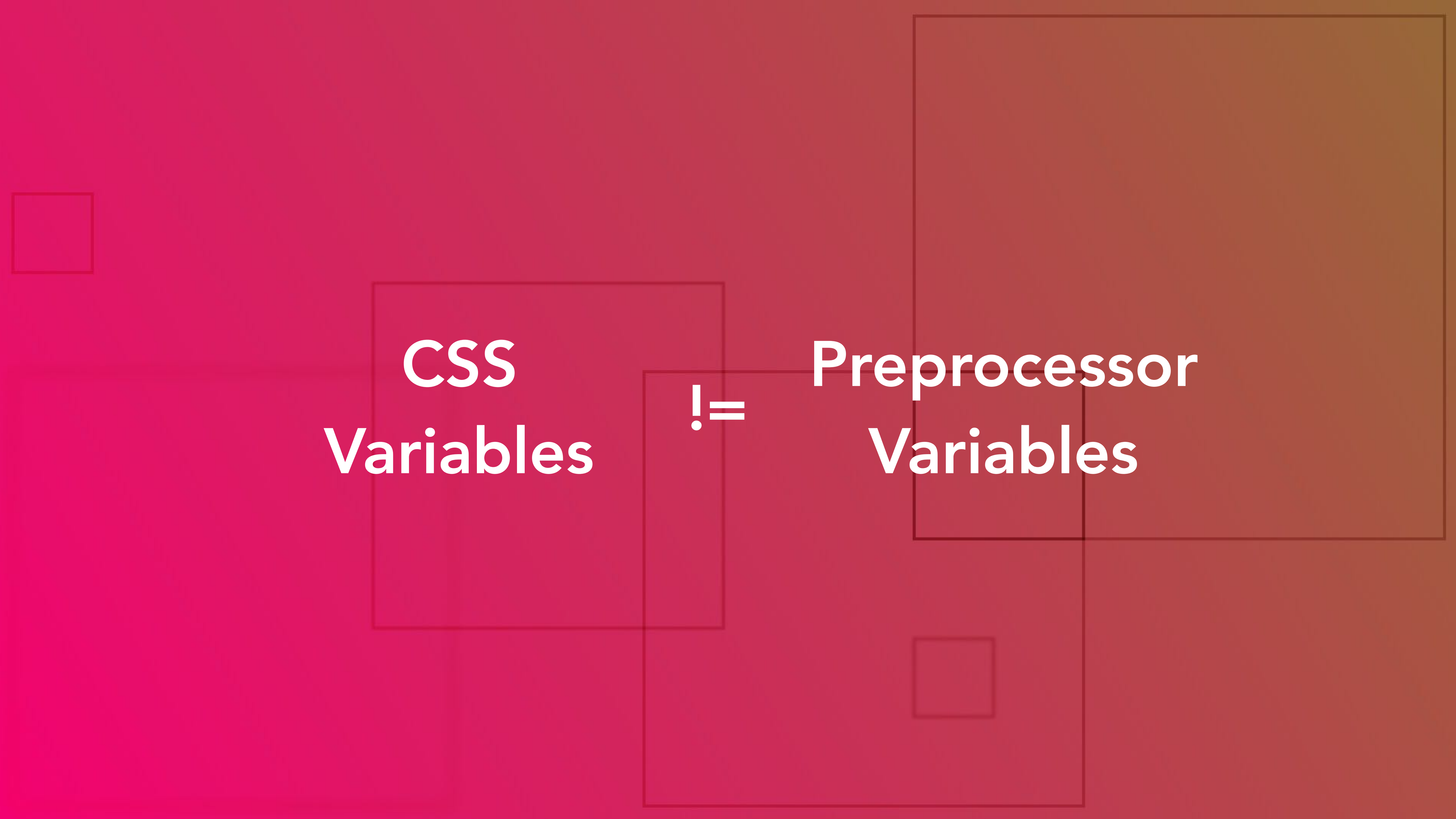
```
main {  
  grid-area: m;  
}
```

```
aside {  
  grid-area: a;  
}
```



CSS Variables

(a.k.a. Custom Properties)



**CSS
Variables**

!=

**Preprocessor
Variables**

**CSS
Variables**

==

**Dynamic
variables**

CSS
Variables

=

let

Preprocessor
Variables

=

const

Declaring variables

```
:root {  
  --bgColor: red;  
}
```

Using variables

```
.my-component {  
  background-color: var(--bgColor);  
}
```

Defaults

```
.my-component {  
  background-color: var(--bgColor, orange);  
}
```

```
.my-component:last-child {  
  --bgColor: red;  
}
```


Defaults

```
.box {  
  background-color: var(--bgColor, orange);  
}  
  
.purple {  
  --bgColor: rebeccaPurple;  
}
```

Defaults

```
<div class="box"></div>
```

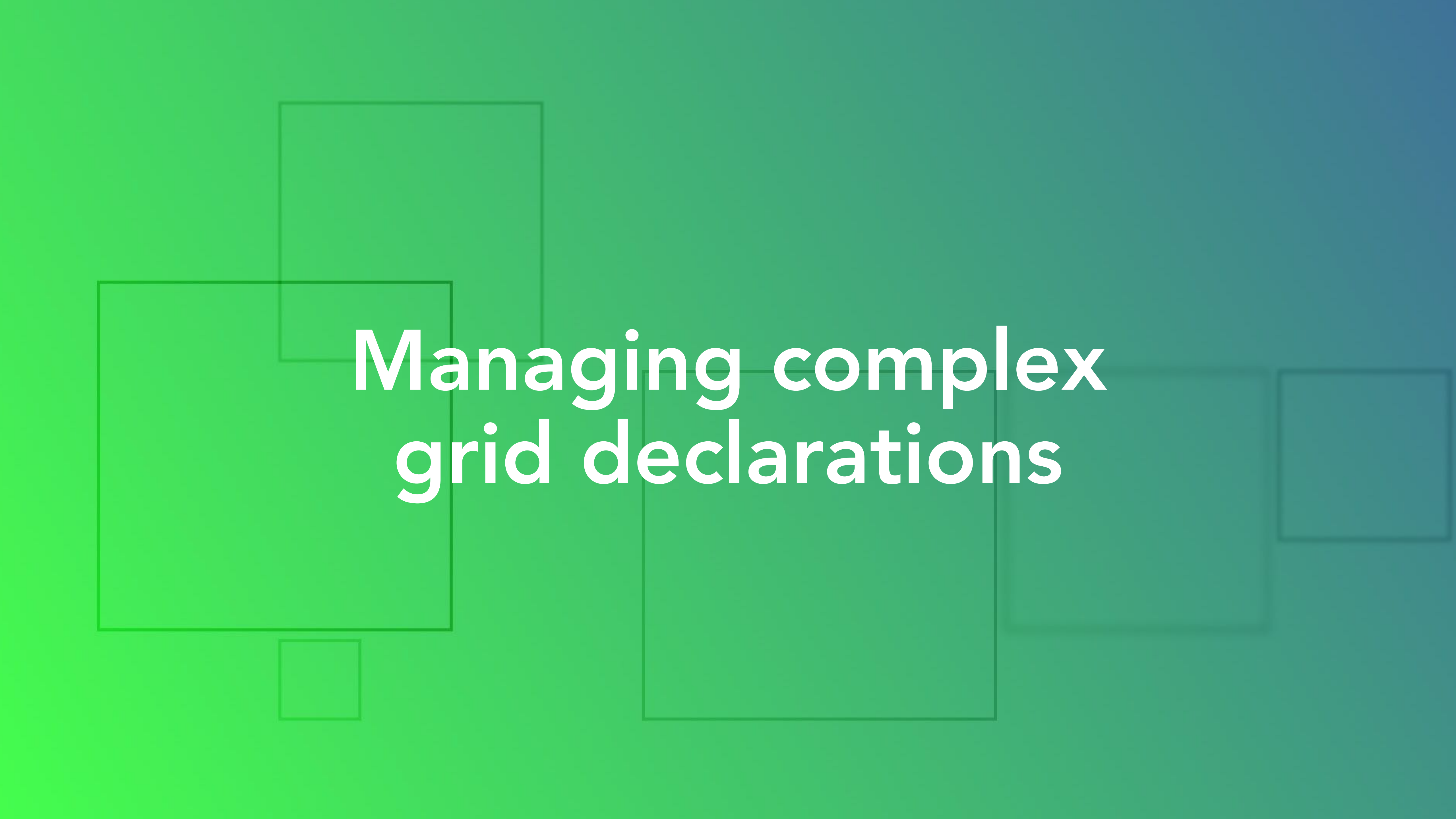
```
.box {  
  background-color:  
    orange;  
}
```

```
<div class="purple">  
  <div class="box"></div>  
</div>
```

```
.box {  
  background-color:  
    rebeccaPurple;  
}
```



CSS Variables + CSS Grid



Managing complex grid declarations

Managing complex grid declarations

```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns:  
    [outer-start] minmax(20px, 1fr) [wrapper-start]  
    repeat(24, minmax(0, 30px))  
    [wrapper-end] minmax(20px, 1fr) [outer-end];  
  grid-template-rows:  
    [outer-start] 1fr [text-top-end] 40px  
    [heading-start] auto [heading-end]  
    40px [text-bottom-start] 1fr [outer-end];  
  grid-gap: 0 20px;  
}
```


Managing complex grid declarations

```
:root {  
  --colWidth: 30px;  
  --gutter: 20px;  
  
  @media (min-width: 1600px) {  
    --colWidth: 50px;  
    --gutter: 30px;  
  }  
}
```

Managing complex grid declarations

```
.grid {
  display: grid;
  grid-template-columns:
    [outer-start] minmax(20px, 1fr) [wrapper-start]
    repeat(24, minmax(0, var(--colWidth)))
    [wrapper-end] minmax(20px, 1fr) [outer-end];
  grid-template-rows:
    [outer-start] 1fr [text-top-end] 40px
    [heading-start] auto [heading-end]
    40px [text-bottom-start] 1fr [outer-end];
  grid-gap: 0 var(--gutter);
}
```

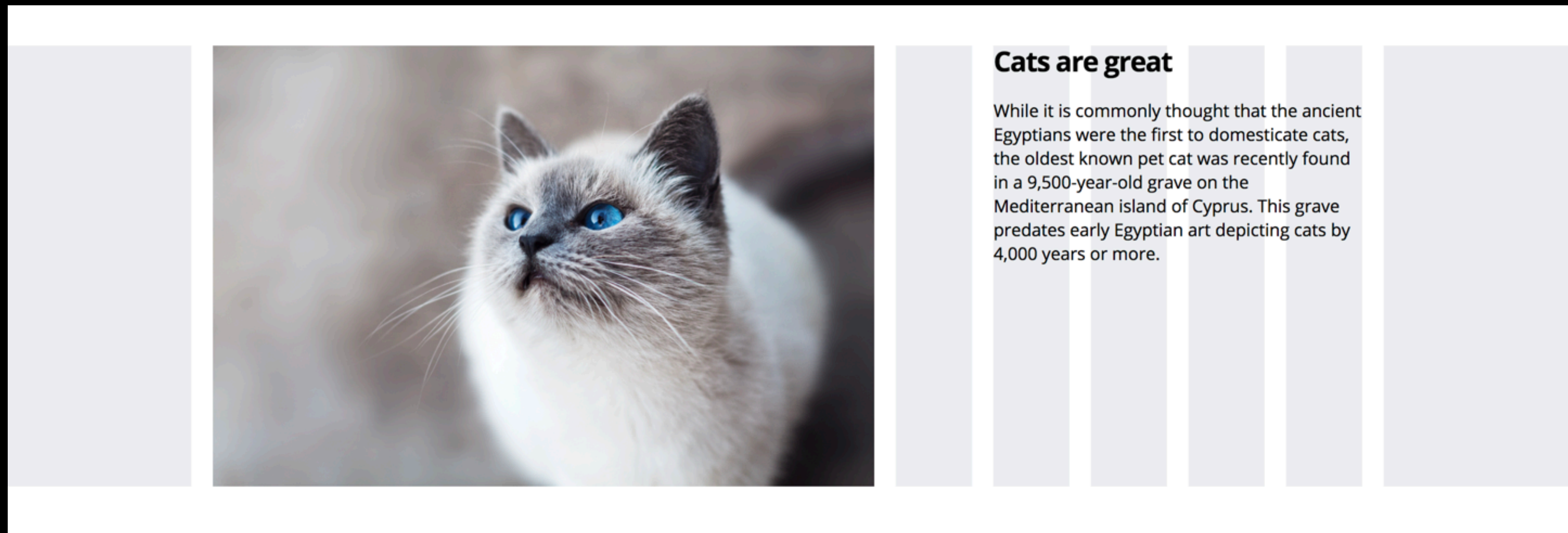


Managing component variants

Managing component variants

```
<article class="grid">  
  <figure class="grid__img"></figure>  
  <div class="grid__text"></div>  
</article>
```

Managing component variants



Managing component variants

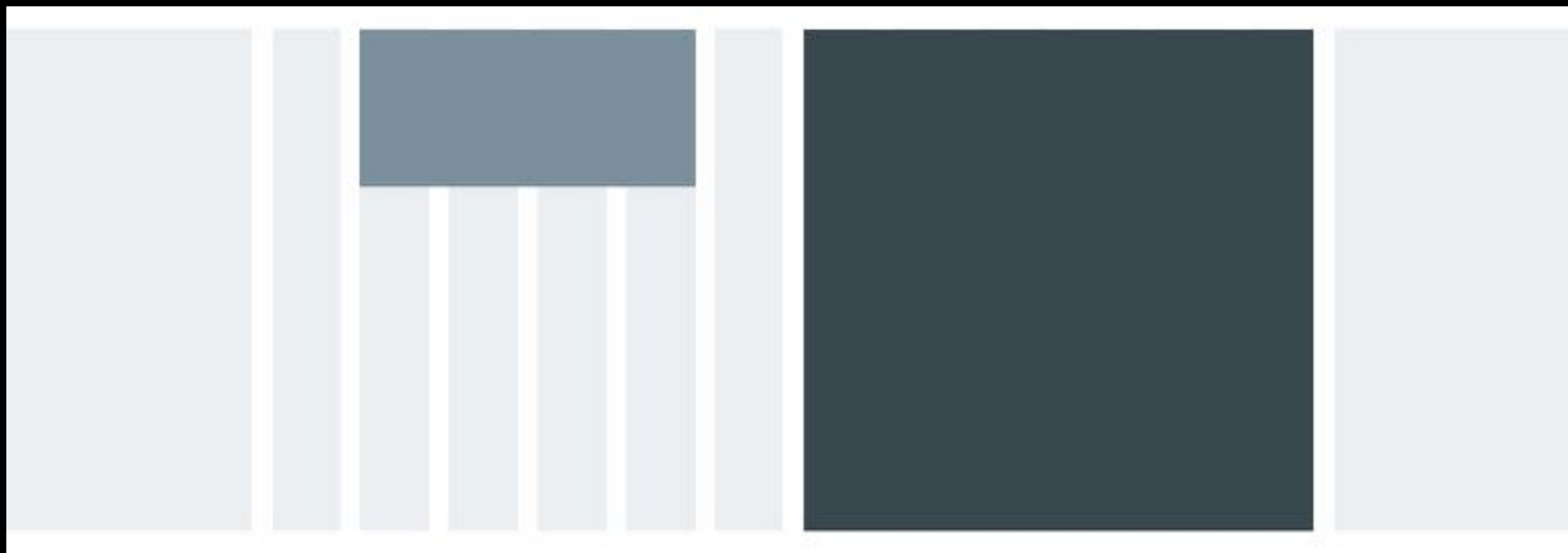
```
.grid {  
  display: grid;  
  grid-template-columns:  
    [start] minmax(20px, 1fr) [wrapper-start]  
    repeat(12, minmax(0, 70px))  
    [wrapper-end] minmax(20px, 1fr) [end];  
  grid-gap: 20px;  
}
```


Managing component variants

```
.grid__img {  
  grid-column: wrapper-start / 9;  
}
```

```
.grid__text {  
  grid-column: 10 / span 4;  
}
```

Managing component variants



codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/XBPMZZ

Managing component variants

```
.grid__img {  
  grid-column:  
    var(--imgStart, wrapper-start) /  
    span var(--imgSpan, 6);  
}
```

```
.grid__text {  
  grid-column:  
    var(--textStart, 10) / span 4;  
}
```

Managing component variants

```
.grid--a {  
  --textStart: 9;  
  --imgStart: wrapper-start;  
}
```

```
.grid--b {  
  --textStart: 9;  
  --imgStart: start;  
}
```

```
.grid--c {  
  --imgSpan: 6;  
}
```



CSS Variables + Javascript

Get property value:

```
getComputedStyle(element).getPropertyValue("--myVariable")
```

(Returns a string)

Set property value:

```
element.style.setProperty("--myVariable", 4)
```

Demo

CSS Grid background generator

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/xabrLv

Resources

Grid by Example (Rachel Andrew)

gridbyexample.com

Layout Land (Jen Simmons)

layout.land

CSS Grid Playground (MDN)

mozilladevelopers.github.io/playground/css-grid

CSS { In Real Life }

css-irl.info



Thanks for listening

@mbarker_84 / @CSSInRealLife