

Basic CSS

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The LINGUIST List

What is CSS?

- **Cascading**: Multiple styles can overlap in order to specify a range of style from a whole web site down to a unique element. Which style gets applied pertains to the rules of CSS cascading logic.
- **Styl**e: CSS deals specifically with the **presentation** domain of designing a web page (color, font, layout, etc).
- **Sheet**: Normally, CSS is a file **separate** from the HTML file – linked to the HTML file through its `<head>` (exceptions apply).

Why CSS?

- Allows for much **richer document appearances** than HTML.
- **Reduce workload** by centralizing commands for visual appearance instead of scattered throughout the HTML doc.
- Use **same style on multiple pages**.
- Reduce page **download size**.

Use HTML for content; CSS for Presentation.

Reference CSS from HTML

```
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="lipstick.css" />
```

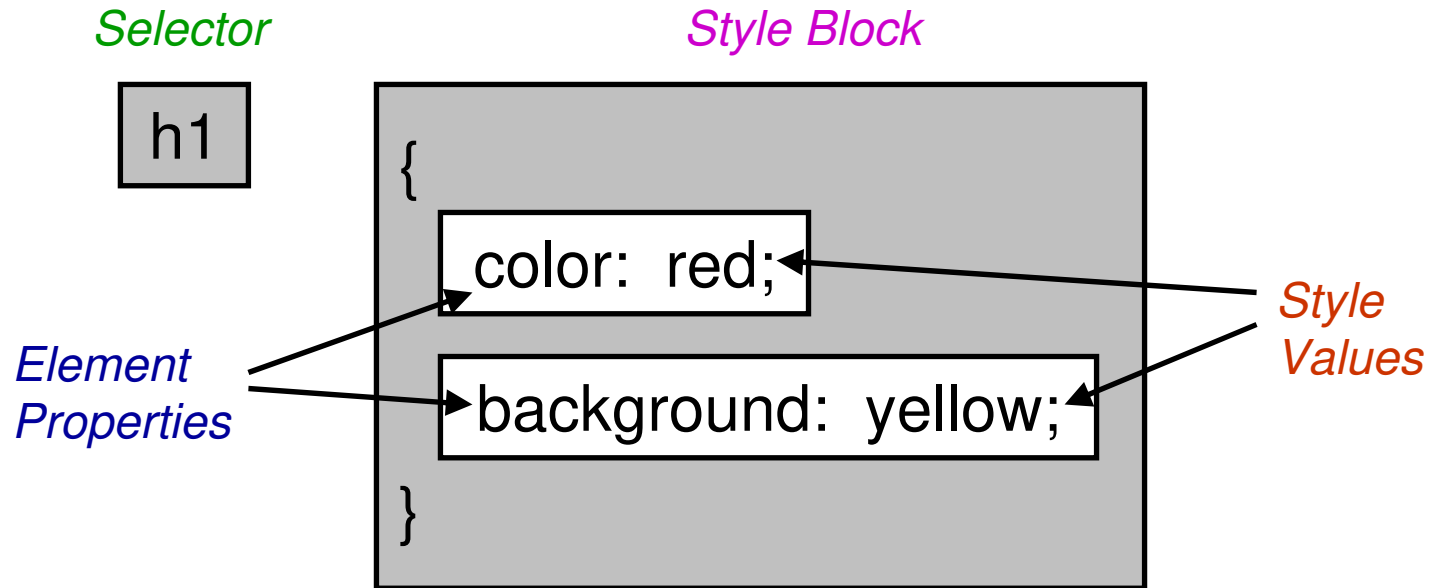
pig.html

```
<html>  
  <head>  
    <link rel="stylesheet"  
    type="text/css"  
    href="lipstick.css" />  
  </head>  
  ...  
</html>
```

lipstick.css



CSS Syntax



- The **Selector** selects elements on the HTML page.
- The associated **Style Block** applies its **Style Values** to the selected **Element's Properties**

Selectors

- Select elements to apply a declared style.
- Selector types:
 - Element Selectors: selects **all** elements of a specific **type** (<body>, <h1>, <p>, *etc.*)
 - Class Selectors: selects **all** elements that belong to a given **class**.
 - ID Selectors: selects a **single** element that's been given a **unique id**.
 - Pseudo Selectors: combines a selector with a **user activated state** (:hover, :link, :visited)

Element Selectors

- Finds **all** HTML elements that have the specified **element type**.
- Example:

```
h1 {  
    color: blue;  
}
```

Finds **all** elements of type `<h1>` and makes the text color blue.

Class Selectors

- Finds **all** elements of a given class – based on the attribute's **class value**.
- Syntax: **.classname** (Remember the dot means class selector)
- Example:

```
.legs {  
    font-weight: bold;  
    background: pink;  
}
```

Finds **all** elements whose class = “**legs**” and makes their font bold and their backgrounds pink.

ID Selectors

- Finds a **single** element that's been given a **unique id** – based on the attribute's **id value**.
- Syntax: **#idname** (Remember the pound-sign means id selector)
- Example:

```
#snout {  
    border: solid red;  
}
```

Finds a **single element** whose id = “**snout**” and gives it a solid red border.

Pseudo-Selectors

- Apply styles to a **user activated state** of an element.
- If used, must be declared in a **specific order** in the style sheet.
- General Purpose Pseudo-Selector:
 - **:hover** Element with mouse over
- Specific to hyperlinks (and/or buttons)
 - **a:active** A link or button that is currently being **clicked** on.
 - **a:link** A link that has **NOT** been visited yet.
 - **a:visited** A link that **HAS** been visited.

Grouping Selectors

- Lets say you want to apply the same style to several different selectors. **Don't repeat** the style – **use a comma!!**
- Syntax: **sel1, sel2, sel3** (Remember the comma to group several different selectors)
- Example:

```
h1, .legs, #snout{  
    font-size: 20pt;  
}
```

Finds all elements of type `<h1>`, all elements with `class="legs"` and the single element whose `id = "snout"` then makes their font-size 20pt.

Conflict Resolution

- It's possible to have **different** styles applied to the **same** selector (**CascadingSS**), but what if the styles tell the browser to do **conflicting** things?
- Rules:
 - Which selector is more **specific**?
 - If the selectors are the same, then which style was applied **last**?

Sharpen Your Selector

- Order of specificity:

(specific) **id**, **class**, **element type** *(ambiguous)*

- Combine selectors:

Elementtype.classname or Elementtype#idname

e.g. **p.legs** or **h2#snout**

Sharpen Your Selector (cont.)

- **Descendant Selectors:**

Specify the context in the HTML tree from each ancestor down to the desired element – each separated by a space.

e.g. `body.pig p.pig-head #snout`

- **HTML Tree:**

```
<body class="pig">
```

```
  <p class="pig-head">
```

```
    <h1 id="snout">
```

```
      Snout Snout Snout
```

```
    </h1>
```

```
  </p>
```

```
</body>
```

Firebug – Firefox Addon

- Tool for figuring out what styles are being applied to which element (and which are being overwritten due to conflict resolution).
- <http://getfirebug.com/>
- Right-click on an element,
then select “**Inspect Element**” from the dropdown menu.

 Element tag

- Useful for applying style to text within another HTML element.
- Use **SPARINGLY** – unlike <h1> or <p>, has no semantic meaning.
- Remember, HTML is for content and HTML tags are for describing that content to non-human or visually-impaired readers. is just used to make things “pretty.”

<div> Element tag

- Useful for dividing parts of the page into sections.
- Creates a “box” with the following attributes:
 - margin
 - padding
 - border
 - height
 - width
 - (..and lots more)
- Primary element used for CSS Layouts
(more information in CSS Layouts tutorial)

Color Properties

- **color:** specifies the text color.
- **background-color:** specifies the background color.

black; or #000000;

red; or #FF0000;

lime; or #00FF00;

blue; or #0000FF;

white; or #000000;

...and more see:

http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_colornames.asp

Colorzilla – Firefox Addon

- Easily find color values for elements in a document.
- <http://www.iosart.com/firefox/colorzilla/>
- Click on the eyedropper icon in the bottom-left of the browser and select any color in your browser window.
- Right-click on the eyedropper for more options.

Background Image Properties

- **background-image:** url(../location/of/image.jpg)
- **background-repeat:** tile image in background
- **background-position:** *vertical* (top, center, bottom, or *size*) *horizontal* (left, center, right, or *size*)
- **background-attachment:** (*scroll* or *fixed*)

Font Properties

- `font-family: times, arial, serif, sans-serif, monospace;`
- `font-style: italic;`
- `font-weight: (bold, bolder, lighter, or 100 – 900;)`
- `font-size: size;`
...or shorthand
- `font: style weight size family;`

Text Properties

- **text-indent:** indents first line of a paragraph according to size
- **text-align:** *right;* or *left;* or *center;* or *justify;*
- **text-decoration:** *none;* or *underline;*
- **text-transform:** *Capitalize;*
- **Line-height:** added vertical space to each line of text according to size

List Properties

- **list-style-type:** *none, disc, circle, square,*
(other types available)
- **list-style-position:** *inside* or *outside*
- **list-style-image:** `url(../path/to/image.jpg)`

...or shorthand

- **list-style:** `type position image`

Border Properties

- **border-width:** (thin, medium, thick, or *size*)
 - **border-style:** (none, hidden, dotted, dashed, solid, double, groove, ridge, inset, or outset)
 - **border-color:** *color*
- ...or shorthand
- **border(-top, -right, -left, -bottom):** width style color