Web Technologies
ITE1002

Cascading Style Sheets(CSS)
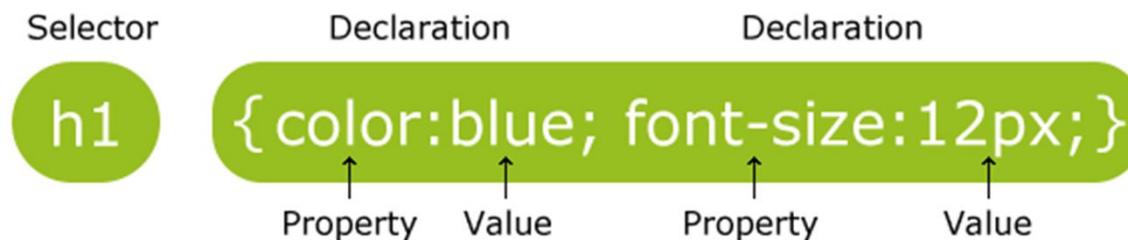
Cascading Style Sheets(CSS)

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Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)

- CSS are a way to control the look and feel of your HTML documents in an organized and efficient manner.

- CSS defines HOW HTML elements are to be displayed.

- Development of large web sites, where fonts and color information were added to every single page, became a long and expensive process.

- To solve this problem, the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) created CSS.

- In HTML 4.0, all formatting could be removed from the HTML document, and stored in a separate CSS file.

- Styles are normally saved in external .css files. External style sheets enable you to change the appearance and layout of all the pages in a Web site, just by editing one single file!

CSS Parts

- A CSS rule has two main parts: a selector, and one or more declarations:

- The selector is normally the HTML element you want to style.
- Each declaration consists of a property and a value.
- The property is the style attribute you want to change. Each property has a value.
- A CSS declaration always ends with a semicolon, and declaration groups are surrounded by curly brackets.

Comments

- Comments are ignored by browsers.

/*This is a comment*/
p
{
text-align:center;
/*This is another comment*/
color:black;
font-family:arial;
}

CSS Demo

```
<html>
<head>
<style type="text/css">
body
{ background-color:#d0e4fe; }
h1
{ color:orange;
  text-align:center; }
p
{   font-family:"Times New Roman";
  font-size:20px; }
</style>    </head>
```

```
<body>
  <h1>CSS example!</h1>
  <p>This is a
paragraph.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

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Three Ways to Insert CSS

- External style sheet
- Internal style sheet
- Inline style

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External Style Sheet

- An external style sheet is ideal when the style is applied to many pages. With an external style sheet, you can change the look of an entire Web site by changing one file. Each page must link to the style sheet using the <link> tag.

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

- An external style sheet can be written in any text editor. The file should not contain any html tags. Your style sheet should be saved with a .css extension.

```
hr{color:sienna;}
p {margin-left:20px;}
body {background-image:url("images/back40.gif");}
```

- **Note:** Do not leave spaces between the property value and the units! "margin-left:20 px"

Internal Style Sheet

- An internal style sheet should be used when a single document has a unique style. You define internal styles in the head section of an HTML page, by using the <style> tag, like this:

```
<head>
     <style type="text/css">
              hr {color:red;}
              p {margin-left:20px;}
              body {background-
image:url("images/back40.gif");}
     </style>
</head>
```

Inline Styles

- An inline style loses many of the advantages of style sheets by mixing content with presentation.

- To use inline styles you use the style attribute in the relevant tag. The style attribute can contain any CSS property.

  <p style="color:red;margin-left:20px">This is a paragraph.</p>

Multiple Style Sheets

- If some properties have been set for the same selector in different style sheets, the values will be inherited from the more specific style sheet.

- For example, properties for the h3 selector:

External style sheet
```
h3
{
color:red;
text-align:left;
font-size:8pt;
}
```

Internal style sheet
```
h3
{
text-align:right;
font-size:20pt;
}
```

internal style sheet also links to the external style sheet as final:
color:red;
text-align:right;
font-size:20pt;

Cascading Order

- Browser default
- External style sheet
- Internal style sheet (in the head section)
- Inline style (inside an HTML element)

- So, an inline style (inside an HTML element) has the highest priority, which means that it will override a style defined inside the <head> tag, or in an external style sheet, or in a browser (a default value).

- **Note:** If the link to the external style sheet is placed after the internal style sheet in HTML <head>, the external style sheet will override the internal style sheet!