Using Reveal.js

Contents

Important Reveal.js concepts

This document describes how Reveal.js works and includes some definitions required to understand the description and some of the tasks.

Reveal.js uses HTML, CSS, and Javascript to create a framework for making presentations that you can display using a web browser. For a basic presentation you can use the "barebones" file that is in the test/examples directory. However, if you are just learning how to use HTML and CSS, the easiest thing to do is to select an example presentation and use its HTML file. Several examples can be found at https://github.com/hakimel/reveal.js/wiki/Example-Presentations (You will need to create a Github account to access these examples). One particularly good one is included in the Reveal.js download and can be found as the "index" file in the root directory. This one is good because it contains code for all the features shown in the demonstration, so you can modify this index file rather than having to create an entirely new one yourself. This index file displays any content in a "section" element as a slide.

The HTML index file in the root directory is styled by the CSS file such that the output looks like slides. This CSS file contains a string of classes that reset certain elements to have characteristics associated with slides, such as numbered lists that won't go above nine, and centered content on all the slides. If you want your slides to be left justified on most slides, you can change the .reveal and .slides selectors to have a text align value of left. If one slide needs to be centered, you can selectively override this change by creating your own id's and classes in the CSS file. If, however, you want most of your slides centered and only one left justified, you can leave the selectors alone and add the custom id's and classes to the CSS such that they apply to the single slide.

Getting started

Prepare the demonstration HTML file for making a simple presentation.

Perform this task before making any slides.

1. Find the demonstration index file in the Reveal.js root directory.
2. Open this file in your text editor and save it as "index_template" so that you will have a copy of the demonstration HTML file without any of your changes. Make your changes in the index file.
3. Find the Reveal CSS file in the css folder located in the root directory. Again, make a copy such that you have an unmodified version.
4. Comment out the "Created by" section. Do not delete it - keeping it in gives credit to the creator of Reveal.js.
5. Delete the content in all the sections except "Marvelous Lists". You will need this content for making your bulleted list slide. As the last step in preparing a presentation you can delete section elements so the presentation doesn't have blank slides.

Create the slides

To get started with Reveal.js, create a basic three slide presentation.

• Create the introduction slide.
• Create a slide with a bulleted list.
• Create a slide with an image.

Remove/Reset Reveal.js defaults

In some cases the Reveal.js default formats will not be suitable for your purposes. There are several methods you can use to override these defaults.

- Choose one or more methods to reset defaults:

  - Write new CSS code.
  - Delete resets for a specific element.
  - Modify CSS classes for .reveal and .slides.

Override with new CSS

It is possible to override Reveal.js defaults with new CSS code.

1. Create an id tag by adding the pound symbol before a name.
   For example, #TitleSlide
2. Add CSS code for the desired effect to this id tag.
   For example, to center the text, {text-align: center}
3. In your HTML file, create a div with this id
   div id="TitleSlide"

Every div in the HTML file with this id will be centered.

Override by deleting resets

You can override Reveal.js defaults by deleting the resets in the CSS file.

1. Find the reset classes under the "reset styles" comment
2. Delete the class for the element you wish to have follow normal defaults.

   CAUTION: Be sure you know the standard CSS defaults before using this method. Also be sure this is how you want your slides to appear.

Revise existing classes

You can override Reveal.js defaults by modifying the CSS classes.

Find the .reveal and .slides classes under the "slides" comment. Change the attribute you want in a different format.
For example, change "font-size: 18px;" to "font-size: 12px;".

Create a title slide

You can create a slide with centered headings for use as a title slide.

1. Reset the Reveal.js CSS file such that this slide will have centered content.

   Note: This step will not be necessary if you didn't make any changes for the presentation to be left justified because the Reveal.js default is to center all of the slides.

2. Enter text into h1, h2, and h3 elements to create a title slide.

Create a simple slide containing an image.

This task will guide you through the steps to make a simple slide containing an image and text. It uses basic HTML without any CSS modifications beyond what is needed to override the Reveal.js center/left-justify default for the presentation.

1. Reset the Reveal.js defaults as needed.
2. Add a heading between two "section" elements using an "h2" element.

   Note: A larger or smaller heading can be selected using an "h1" or "h3" element.

3. Insert an image using the HTML command <img src= "your path/your filename" alt= "your description"img>
4. If desired, add height and width attributes and adjust so the figure is a pleasing size.
5. Add "p" element for the text you want to add to the page.

Create a bullet list slide

This topic describes how to create a slide with a bulleted list.

1. Find the "Marvelous List" section in the Reveal.js index file.
2. Replace the text in the list item elements with your bullet points.

Reveal.js Resources

These are some resources where you can find help and more information about Reveal.js.

Websites

• http://www.lynda.com/CSS-tutorials/Modifying-original-presentation-template/137904/147630-4.html?
  autoplay=true
• https://github.com/hakimel/reveal.js/tree/3.2.0

  Note: These references will require you to login to a secure site to work.

Textbook

• Duckett, Jon, HTML and CSS - Design and Build Websites, 2011.