

Setting up base styles for HTML elements

To prepare for this step download the provided files, navigate to the `assets/css` and open `base.css` file.

First of all, define basic styling rules. Our first selectors are the `html` and `body`. Set the color to `#777` which is a deep gray, and the background to `#fff`, which is white:

```
html,
body
{
  color: #777;
  background: #fff;
}
```

Next we'll style the `body` element on its own:

```
body
{
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
  font-size: 1em;
  font-family: helvetica, arial, sans-serif;
  line-height: 1.3;
}
```

Next up, let's style our headings:

```
h1,
h2,
h3,
h4,
h5,
h6
{
  margin: 0;
  color: #424242;
  line-height: 1.1;
}
```

Now the `img` element:

```
img
{
  max-width: 100%;
  height: auto;
  border: 0;
  vertical-align: middle;
}
```

`max-width: 100%` means that we have fluid images now: their width can be smaller than 100% if the layout dictates, but they will never go wider than their natural size. The `height` is set to `auto` so we don't get them distorted. `border` is set to `0` so we don't get blue borders around them in older versions of Internet Explorer. And the `vertical-align` is set to `middle` so it will sit in the middle of lines, and you won't get these weird gaps below them sometimes.

Next style the `img` element when it's inside an `a`:

```
a:focus img { background: #000; }
a:hover img { background: #3bb2d0; }
a:active img { background: #af0000; }
```

Next is the `blockquote`:

```
blockquote { margin: 0; }
```

Block quotes often have a margin on the left side, and this rule will just make sure the margin is gone.

Setting up base styles for different viewports

We're going to write our first media query now. I want to increase the base font size, which is applied to the `body` element, but only when the window gets wider than a certain value:

```
@media (min-width: 38em)
{
  body
  {
    font-size: 1.125em;
  }
}
```

`1.125em` will be equal to `18px` whereas `1em` equals `16px`.