

HTML & CSS for Beginners

Section 2: CSS

2.1 Inline CSS

CSS stands for Cascading Style Sheets and are used to decorate and add style to HTML files to make the website/webapp to have a professional aesthetic.

As the name suggests, inline CSS means that the style is added inside of the HTML tag element. The style attribute is added to the element and its value is then set to a CSS styling using the CSS syntax.

By default the text colour is black and the font size is 16px. We can change the default style using CSS. Below is an example of inline CSS changing the text colour to green and the font size to 30px.

```
<p style="color: green; font-size: 30px;">Deciding what not to do is as important as deciding what to do.</p>
```

Deciding what not to do is as important as deciding what to do.

Note: The green square box is displayed using the VS Code's Color Picker extension. This would typically not be displayed in the text editor without the extension added.

Important Disclaimer: Inline CSS is not recommended as best practice. However, it is important to understand that this is a possibility for styling a HTML document.

2.2 Internal & External CSS

An internal CSS is created by using the `<style></style>` element tags nested inside of the `<head></head>` element tags. This allows the HTML file to use the internal CSS style for rendering the web page.

```
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
  <title>Internal CSS</title>
  <style>
    p {
      color: green;
      font-size: 30px;
    }
  </style>
```

We would use the CSS syntax inside of the style element tags. This will result in the same style behaviour as seen in the inline CSS example.

This style will target all paragraph elements.

Important Disclaimer: Internal CSS is not recommended as best practice. However, it is important to understand that this is also a possibility for styling a HTML document.

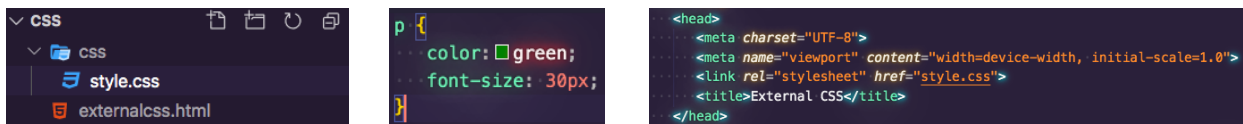
To create an External CSS we would need to create a new directory within our root project directory called `css`. This will contain our external `.css` file typically named `style.css`.

In this `.css` file we would use the CSS syntax by targeting the element and then in the curly brackets defining the style/decoration for that element. We do not require the `<style></style>` HTML element tags in the `.css` file.

The HTML file can import this external `css` file and extract the style/decorations to apply to the HTML elements in the document.

The `<link rel="stylesheet" href="css/style.css">` element tags which is a self-closing element tag is used inside of the `<head></head>` element tags to import external CSS files.

The `rel` attribute describes the relationship of the file imported and the `href` attribute points to the location of the `.css` file relative to the HTML file importing it.



Important Disclaimer: External CSS is recommended as best practice. This allows you to break up the code into separate files which makes it much easier to update and maintain the code.