

# INTRODUCTION TO CSS



# Prerequisites

Before starting this module, you should have:

- 1- Basic familiarity with using computers, and using the Web passively (i.e. looking at it, consuming the content.)
- 2- A basic work environment set up as detailed in Installing basic software, and an understanding of how to create and manage files, as detailed in Dealing with files.
- 3- Basic familiarity with HTML, as discussed in the Introduction to HTML module.

# What is CSS

**CSS** stands for **Cascading Style Sheets**

CSS describes **how HTML elements are to be displayed on screen, paper, or in other media**

**Most importantly CSS** allows you to create great-looking web pages



CSS **saves a lot of work**. It can control the layout of multiple web pages all at once  
External stylesheets are stored in **CSS files**

HTML

HEAD



BODY

Structural Layer

HTML with CSS



APPEARANCE



LOOK



Presentation Layer

# What is CSS for?

CSS is a language for specifying how documents are presented to users  
— how they are styled, laid out, etc.

CSS can be used for very basic document text styling

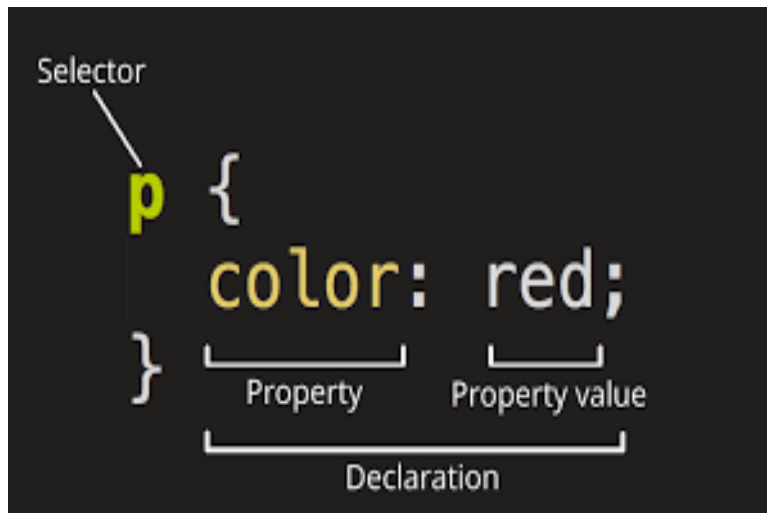
— for example changing the **color** and **size** of headings and links

# CSS syntax

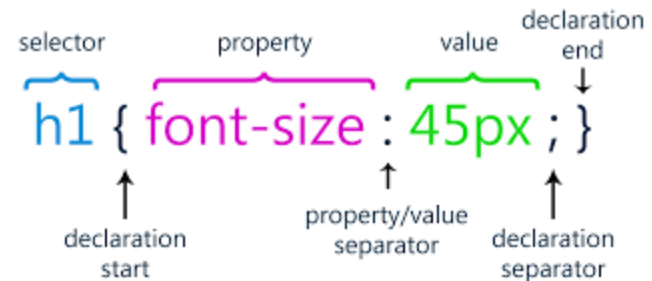
CSS is a rule-based language

- you define rules specifying groups of styles that should be applied to particular elements or groups of elements on your web page.

A CSS rule-set consists of a [selector](#) and [a declaration block](#):



Mozilla Docs



The **selector** points to the HTML element you want to style.

The **declaration block** contains one or more declarations separated by **semicolons**.

Each declaration includes a CSS **property name** and a **value**, separated by a **colon**.

Multiple CSS declarations are separated with semicolons, and declaration blocks are surrounded by **curly braces**.

# Getting started with CSS

## Starting with some HTML

Create an index.html document

## Adding CSS to our document

The very first thing we need to do is to tell the HTML document that we have some CSS rules we want it to use.

There are three different ways to apply CSS to an HTML document that you'll commonly come across, however, for now, we will look at the most usual and useful way of doing so

— linking CSS from the head of your document



# Steps

Create a file in the same folder as your HTML document and save it as **styles.css**

The **.css** extension shows that this is a CSS file.

To link styles.css to index.html add the following line somewhere inside the <head> of the HTML document:

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="styles.css">
```

This <link> element tells the browser that we have a stylesheet, using the rel attribute, and the location of that stylesheet as the value of the href attribute.

You can test that the CSS works by adding a rule to styles.css.