CSS Inheritance and cascade

Inheritance = the feature of inheriting properties from the parent/ancestor elements.

In CSS, some styles are inherited down the HTML document tree while others are not.

Styles that are inherited are generally related to the styling of the document text.

The font property is inherited. This is why we generally use the <body> element to attach our font styles.

The body element in our HTML is the parent of all of our other HTML elements (excluding the <head> section). Setting the font property on the body element allows the rest of the document to inherit the font rule.

Slides, code

While this can be confusing, the principle behind it is actually designed to allow to write fewer CSS rules.

The cascade is an algorithm that defines how to combine property values originating from different sources.