

CSS (Cascading Style sheet)

CSS Introduction

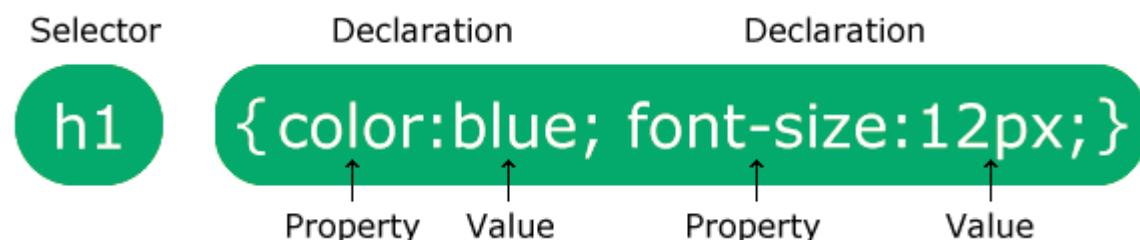
What is CSS?

CSS is the language we use to style a Web page.

- CSS stands for Cascading Style Sheets
- CSS describes how HTML elements are to be displayed on screen, paper, or in other media
- 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

CSS Syntax

A CSS rule consists of a selector and a declaration block:



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.

Example

In this example all <p> elements will be center-aligned, with a red text color:

```
p{  
color: red;  
text-align: center;  
}
```

Example Explained

- `p` is a selector in CSS (it points to the HTML element you want to style: `<p>`).
 - `color` is a property, and `red` is the property value
 - `text-align` is a property, and `center` is the property value
-

CSS Selectors

CSS selectors are used to "find" (or select) the HTML elements you want to style.

The CSS element Selector

The `element` selector selects HTML elements based on the element name.

Example

Here, all `<p>` elements on the page will be center-aligned, with a red text color:

```
p {  
    text-align: center;  
    color: red;  
}
```

The CSS id Selector

The `id` selector uses the `id` attribute of an HTML element to select a specific element.

The `id` of an element is unique within a page, so the `id` selector is used to select one unique element!

To select an element with a specific `id`, write a hash (#) character, followed by the `id` of the element.

Example

The CSS rule below will be applied to the HTML element with `id="para1"`:

```
#para1 {  
    text-align: center;  
    color: red;  
}
```

The CSS class Selector

The class selector selects HTML elements with a specific class attribute.

To select elements with a specific class, write a period (.) character, followed by the class name.

Example

In this example all HTML elements with class="center" will be red and center-aligned:

```
.center {  
    text-align: center;  
    color: red;  
}
```

HTML elements can also refer to more than one class.

Example

In this example the <p> element will be styled according to class="center" and to class="large":

```
<p class="center large">This paragraph refers to two classes.</p>
```

The CSS Universal Selector

The universal selector (*) selects all HTML elements on the page.

Example

The CSS rule below will affect every HTML element on the page:

```
* {  
    text-align: center;  
    color: blue;  
}
```

The CSS Grouping Selector

The grouping selector selects all the HTML elements with the same style definitions.

Look at the following CSS code (the h1, h2, and p elements have the same style definitions):

```
h1 {  
    text-align: center;
```

```
color: red;  
}
```

```
h2 {  
    text-align: center;  
    color: red;  
}
```

```
p {  
    text-align: center;  
    color: red;  
}
```

It will be better to group the selectors, to minimize the code.

To group selectors, separate each selector with a comma.

Example

In this example we have grouped the selectors from the code above:

```
h1, h2, p {  
    text-align: center;  
    color: red;  
}
```