

Typography in CSS

There are many ways you can style and modify the properties of fonts within CSS. The properties you'll be using in your CSS rulesets the most often are: `font-family`, `font-size`, `font-weight`, `color`, `text-decoration`, and `text-align`. This reference material will cover each one of these in a little bit more detail.

font-family

`font-family` allows you to set the actual font for the typography element you're modifying. There are several system wide fonts that are determined based on your operating system and/or browser, but you can also use completely custom fonts from services like [Google Fonts](#) or Adobe's TypeKit.

With Google Fonts, you can simply find the font you want to use in your webpage, and then you need to import the CSS link to the stylesheet. Then, you can set the `font-family` to the font name you just selected. For example, if you wanted to use the "Lato" font from Google Fonts, `font-family: 'Lato', 'Helvetica', sans-serif;` would pull in the Google Font (assuming you've imported the linked stylesheet in your `index.html`), and it would also assign "Helvetica" and the system default "sans-serif" fonts as fallback fonts in case Lato wasn't supported or was blocked in the browser from being loaded.

font-weight

When you are looking at different fonts to use, you may often see numbers associated with the *weight* of the font. These range from 100 to 900, and the weight (or the boldness) of the font increases as the numbers increase. In other words, `font-weight: 100;` would be a very thin font whereas `font-weight: 700;` would be very bold. You can set this property individually for different elements, but there are often default styles already set for font-weight in many CSS frameworks and by default in HTML.

Often, in web development, you will be given font assets (source files) that have various weights and sizes associated with them from a web designer. They will come up with the design, the font-family, font-sizes, and font-weights that need to be used throughout the site (and where). You just need to go implement them!

font-size

`font-size` is pretty simple; it's the size of the font. ;-)

I would refer to the "CSS Sizing" video lectures and reference material to see how you can manipulate the size of fonts for your webpage designs.

text-decoration

This property allows you to set (or unset) the "decoration" on text in HTML. The most common properties you'll set are `underline` and `none` – if you want to underline text, you can set the `text-decoration: underline;` or if you want to remove a default underline (from a hyperlink, for example) then you can set the `text-decoration: none;`.

You can also set multiple text-decoration properties at once by simply separating them with a space: `text-decoration: underline overline line-through;`.

text-align

`text-align` is exactly what you think it would be. It sets the alignment for the text. You can think about this the same exact way that you would in a word processor; if you set `text-align` to `left`, `center`, or `right`, the text that style is applied to will be either left-aligned, centered, or right-aligned, respectively.

color

This, like font-size, is pretty straightforward. It sets the color of the font.

The trickiest part about this is that it is simply *color*, not font-color!

The values can be a HEX value, `rgba()`, or just simply a color name like `red`, `aquamarine`, `black`, etc.