

Standard Coding Guidelines

Front-End

1. Folder Structure:

- css/ (directory for all CSS files)
- img/ (directory for all images)
- js/ (directory for all front-end scripts)

2. File Naming:

- css/stylessheet.css
- img/[descriptive_photo_name].png
- js/app.js

3. HTML Guidelines:

- **Use HTML5 Compliant HTML:** Use HTML5 by default, and check your compliance via a markup validator like <http://validator.w3.org>.
 - Declare your charset in <head>, along with linking to your external stylesheets.
 - Use <nav>, <section>, <header>, <footer>, and <article> where appropriate to make your code more readable.
 - Do not use
 tags for spacing. Spacing is a style issue and belongs in your CSS.
 - Do not capitalize tag names. All code should be lowercase by default.
 - For information on HTML5 tags, see <https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Guide/HTML/HTML5>.
- **Use CDN-based resources (fonts, JavaScript libraries) to improve portability.**
 - Google Fonts
 - jQuery
- **“Common Sense” Naming:** File names, class names, and ID names should be written to be easily understood. (e.g., Do not name an ID “button,” as you may have several buttons on the same page. Creating a single class to encompass several buttons would be a better approach, as would using the “button” tag new to HTML5). By convention, all HTML tags should be lowercase.
- **Use lowercase + hyphen naming for IDs and Classes:** For example, .my-class and #your-identifier.
- **Do Not Use In-Line or <head>-based Styling:** Avoid using inline styles and scripts. Always use a css/stylesheet.css file for your styling.
- **Comment for Clarity:** Only use comments when absolutely necessary to ensure clarity in terms of code organization or function. Where they are unnecessary, do not.
- **Indent and Space Your Code for Readability:** Proper indentation and spacing makes it easier to quickly understand code, and to spot defects! Here’s an example:

```

1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3      <head>
4          <meta charset="UTF-8">
5          <title>My Rad Page</title>
6      </head>
7
8      <body>
9          <div id="wrapper">
10             <h1>My Rad Page</h1>
11             <p>Hello world.</p>
12          </div>
13
14      </body>
15
16  </html>

```

4. CSS Specific Guidelines:

- **Use CSS3 Compliant CSS:** Use CSS3 by default, and check your compliance via a markup validator like <http://validator.w3.org>.
- **Use a Reset:** Create a separate CSS file for your CSS Reset - different browsers may treat a page differently because they use a different baseline for pages. Resetting the CSS settings across the board so you can define them in stylesheet.css is helpful.
 - We like this one: <http://meyerweb.com/eric/tools/css/reset/>
- **Organize/Comment for Clarity:** Organization of your CSS to make your code readable is helpful. We suggest alphabetical ordering, separated by elements, class, and id.
- **Use lowercase + hyphen naming for IDs and Classes:** By convention, all CSS class and id names should be lowercase, with hyphens (e.g., "class-with-multiple-words"). For example, .my-class and #your-identifier.
- **Reduce Use of Images:** Especially in the case of buttons, use CSS to produce design elements to improve maintainability and load times.
- **Design for Browser, Smartphone, Tablet:** In general, use the following techniques to ensure that users on With respect to media queries, strive for a responsive design, using percentages rather than fixed-pixel layouts, as it increases the accessibility of your site (allowing users to view the site seamlessly across mobile, desktop, and tablet devices).
 - Specifically:
 - Use em, not px, to define font sizes for accessibility and responsiveness
 - For responsive design, guidelines on relative positioning (more specifics needed)

- Ensure gradients use specific IE9, IE10, and other browser specific gradients,
- **Comment for Clarity:** Only use comments when absolutely necessary to ensure clarity in terms of code organization or function. Where they are unnecessary, do not.
- **Indent and Space Your Code for Readability:** Just as for HTML. Here's an example:

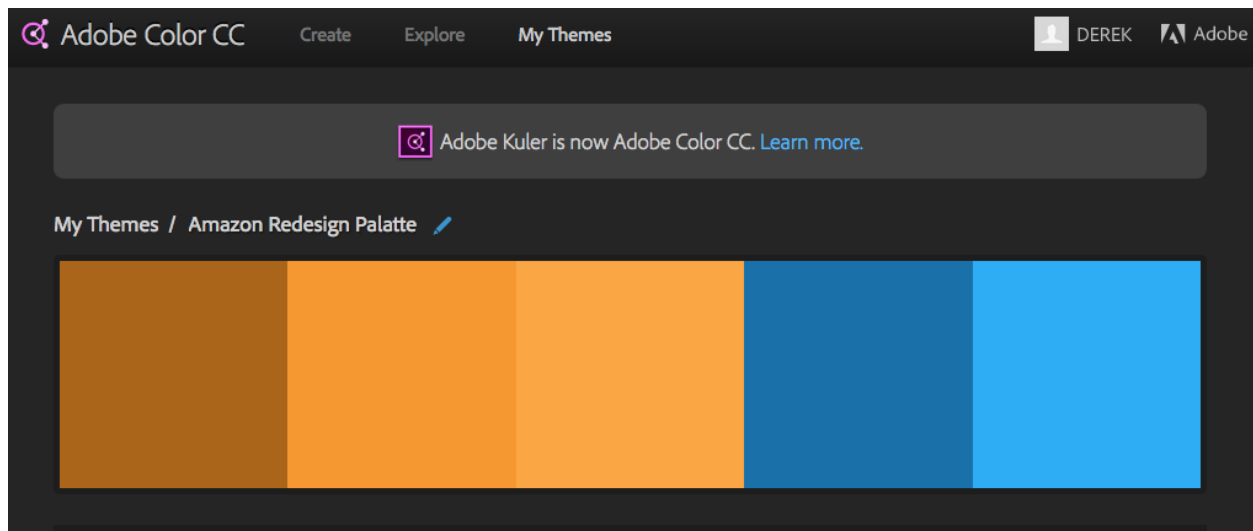


```

1  .master-class {
2      height: 10px;
3      width: 5px;
4  }
5
6  p {
7      color: #ffffff;
8      font-size: 12px;
9  }
    
```

5. Graphic Design Guidelines:

- Rules of Thumb:
 - Consistently apply three or fewer typefaces;
 - Consistently apply a color palette generated from Adobe Color with 5 or fewer colors, with two of those colors used sparingly for accents (such as Call to Action buttons);
 - Use colors expressed in hexadecimal, not HSL or RGB.



6. Peer Review/Testing Guidelines:

- In addition to checking compliance with the guidelines above, peer reviewers and testers

should perform some other tests.

- Check spelling and grammar for all content in the deliverable.
- Test the deliverable for consistency and compliance across IE, Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Opera using the A100 device lab or crossbrowsertesting.com.