

What is CSS

Lesson Time: 20 Minutes

STYLE AND PRESENTATION.

Up until now, our web pages have been boring white pages. They have no layout, content just sits line-by-line down the page.

All that is about to change when we begin adding CSS to our sites. Cascading Style Sheets give our sites look and feel, and provide **layout** - just like the pages of a magazine. We call adding CSS to HTML “**styling**” our pages. With CSS, pages go from boring to beautiful.

CSS has been called the easiest and the toughest language to learn. It’s easy because the syntax and concepts are straight forward. It’s tough because putting it all together to make your site look great is hard.

CSS and HTML keep the PRESENTATION and the CONTENT separated. I should be able to swap out CSS at any time for a new look and not have to make any serious changes to the HTML files.

CSS = Presentation = Look & Feel = Design & Layout
HTML = Structure = Content = What our pages are about.

For a demo of CSS, visit https://www.w3schools.com/css/css_intro.asp and look at the One Page - Multiple Styles demo. This Demo uses JS to change the CSS style when you click so you can see how the same HTML looks differently when using different CSS **Stylesheets**.

Key Terms	Layout, styling, stylesheets
Lesson Files	
Additional Resources	
Further Learning	

A Web Developer is not a Graphic Designer

Lesson Time: 10 Minutes

DO YOU WANT TO DO TWO JOBS AND GET PAID FOR ONE?

This lesson is just here to for some real world career advice. Creating a beautiful design for a web page requires knowledge of graphic design skills. Companies that produce high quality web sites will start with a designer who creates a visual mockup. The mockup is given to a web developer who creates the CSS based on the design.

You will see jobs and companies who want to web developer to create the design and then implement it. Just be aware, you this is doing the work of two very different jobs. If you are given a finished design to follow, you should be able to recreate it in CSS. But if you are asked to create a beautiful design yourself--you are now doing the job of a professional graphic designer.

Now, if you LOVE what you learn here in CSS, feel artistic, and love creating beautiful layouts and color patterns specializing in front end might be the right career path for you.

If you HATE it, and say "I'm not an artist!", you are probably going to enjoy working with the backend more and getting by with Bootstrap, which makes any site look great, but generic.

The expectation as a full stack developer is that if a graphic designer hands you a design, you should be able to follow what you see and recreate it in CSS.

Key Terms	
Lesson Files	
Additional Resources	

What is Responsive Design?

Lesson Time: 20 Minutes

LOOK GOOD ON ANY DEVICE.

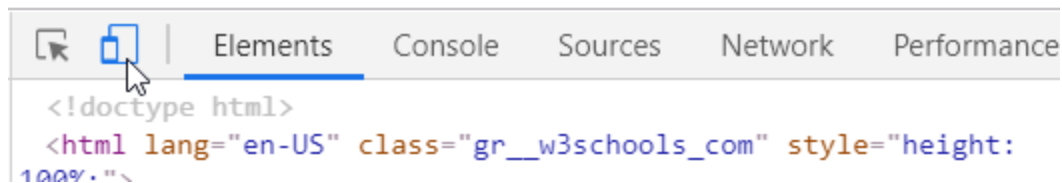
One of the biggest challenges in creating web pages is making them look good on all devices. Today, people use their smartphones and tablets as much or more than desktops and laptops.

Responsive design requires that our site looks great on all devices and all screen sizes. Our page must rescale to fit and look good no matter how many pixels the device has to work with.

CSS has tools to allow us to accomplish this, and Google Chrome has a built in tool as well.

To preview how your site will look on a smart phone:

1. Right click on the page and click **inspect**.
2. Click on the device toggle shown here. Your page will appear as if you were viewing on a smart phone.



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External/Internal Style Sheets

Lesson Time: 10 Minutes

OPINION: EXTERNAL CSS IS REALLY THE ONLY WAY

There are three ways you can add CSS to your HTML, but only one way you SHOULD.

External Style Sheets - The Best Way

- Create a .css file and place all CSS code in it.
- In the HTML file use the <link> element inside the < head> to apply the stylesheet.
- Advantages of this approach
 - All your CSS code is in one place, the css file only.
 - Can be quickly and easily switched out by updating the <link> in html
 - Your CSS code can be SHARED by many html files
- This is really the only way it should be done.

The Internal Style Sheet

- In the <head> of your html file, you will create a <style> element. All CSS code will be written there.

- Advantages of this approach
 - All of your CSS code is in one place, the <style> element in the <head>
- Disadvantages
 - You can't easily switch out the style for another
 - You can't share your style with other pages.
- This is ok for a one page site or if you are just experimenting, but there is no reason not to just start with an external

The Inline Style

- In your HTML, on any element, you can type **style="insert css code"**.
 - Your CSS and HTML are mixed in one file and difficult to separate.
 - Some people will argue there is some crazy case for doing this because of JS...
 - They are wrong. Avoid using Inline.

Key Terms	
Lesson Files	
Additional Resources	
Further Learning	https://themetry.com/never-inline-css/