# Fundamentals of Web Development Third Edition by Randy Connolly and Ricardo Hoar



### Chapter 4

CSS 1: Selectors and Basic Styling



### In this chapter you will learn . . .

- The rationale for CSS
- The syntax of CSS
- Where CSS styles can be located
- The different types of CSS selectors
- What the CSS cascade is and how it works
- The CSS box model
- CSS text styling



#### What Is CSS?

- CSS is a W3C standard for describing the appearance of HTML elements.
- With CSS, we can assign font properties, colors, sizes, borders, background images, positioning and even animate elements on the page.
- CSS can be added directly to any HTML element (via the style attribute), within the <head> element, or, most commonly, in a separate text file that contains only CSS.

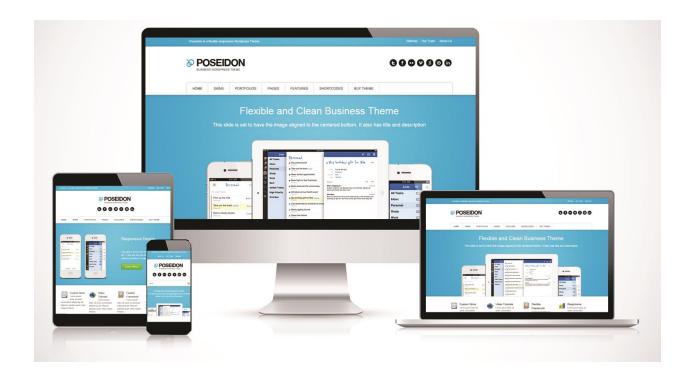


### **Benefits of CSS**

- Improved control over formatting.
- Improved site maintainability. All formatting can be centralized into one CSS file
- **Improved accessibility.** By keeping presentation out of the HTML, screen readers and other accessibility tools work better.
- **Improved page-download speed.** Each individual HTML file will contain less style information and markup, and thus be smaller.
- Improved output flexibility. CSS can be used to adopt a page for different output media. This approach to CSS page design is often referred to as responsive design.



### **CSS allows Responsive Design**





### **CSS Versions**

- Style sheets as a way to visually format markup predate the web.
- W3C decided to adopt CSS, and by the end of 1996, the CSS Level 1 Recommendation was published
- A year later, the CSS2 was published
- CSS2.1, did not become an official W3C Recommendation until June 2011
- At the same time the CSS2.1 standard was being worked on, a different group at the W3C was working on a CSS3 draft



### **Browser Adoption**

- Perhaps the most important thing to keep in mind with CSS is that the different browsers have not always kept up with the W3C.
- For this reason, CSS has a reputation for being a somewhat frustrating language.
- In this book, we hope to redress that negative reputation by covering CSS basics and then incrementally introducing ideas until finally we cover modern frameworks that address many of those challenges.



### **CSS Syntax**

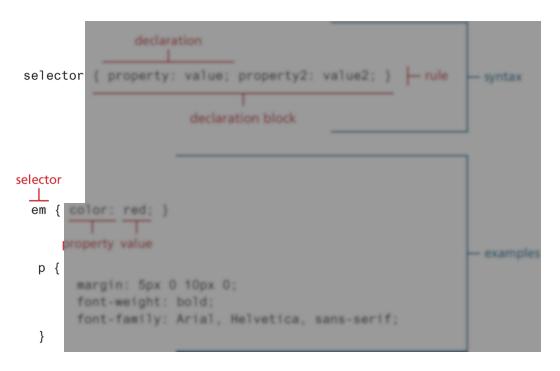
- A CSS document consists of one or more style rules.
- A rule consists of a selector that identifies the HTML element or elements that will be affected, followed by a series of property:value pairs called the declaration
- The series of declarations is also called the declaration block.

```
declaration
 selector { property: value; property2: value2; }
                                                                 svntax
                        declaration block
selector
  em { color: red; }
      property value
                                                                  examples
   p {
        margin: 5px 0 10px 0;
        font-weight: bold;
        font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
```



### **CSS Syntax: Selector**

- Every CSS rule begins with a selector.
- The selector identifies
   which element or elements
   in the HTML document will
   be affected by the
   declarations in the rule.





## **CSS Syntax: Properties**

- Each individual CSS declaration must contain a property
- The CSS2.1
   recommendation defines
   over a hundred different
   property names!
- Table 4.1 lists many of the most commonly used CSS properties.

```
selector
       property:
              value;
                   property2:
   color:
   property
    margin:
    font-weight:
    font-family:
```



### **CSS Syntax: Values**

- Each individual CSS declaration must also contain a value
- The unit of any given value is dependent upon the property.
- Some property values are from a predefined list of keywords.
   Others are values such as length measurements, percentages, numbers without units, color values, and URLs.

```
value;
                                 value2;
      red;
       5px 0 10px 0:
font-weight: bold;
fort family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
```



### **TABLE 4.2 Color Values**

Method	Description	Example
Name	Use one of 17 standard color names. CSS3 has color: red; 140 standard names. color: hotpink; /* CSS3 only */	
RGB	Uses three different numbers between 0 and color: rgb(255,0,0); 255 to describe the red, green, and blue values of the color. color: rgb(255,105,180);	
Hexadecimal	Uses a six-digit hexadecimal number to color: #FF0000; describe the red, green, and blue value of the color: #FF69B4;	
RGBa	This defines a partially transparent background color: rgba(255,0,0,0.5); color. The "a" stands for "alpha," which is a term used to identify a transparency	
HSL	Allows you to specify a color using Hue Saturation and Light values. This is available only in CSS3. HSLA is also available as well.	color: hsl(0,100%,100%); color: hsla(330,59%,100%,0.5);



#### **Common Units of Measure Values**

#### Units of measure in CSS are either

- relative units, in that they are based on the value of something else, or
- absolute units, in that they have a real-world size.

#### Some example measures (See Table 4.3 for more)

- px Pixel. In CSS2 this is a relative measure, while in CSS3 it is absolute (1/96 of an inch)
- em Equal to the computed value of the font-size property of the element on which it is used.
- % A measure that is always relative to another value.
- in Inches
- cm Centimeters



#### **CSS Comments**

#### **NOTE**

It is helpful to add comments to your style sheets. Comments take the form:

/\* comment goes here \*/

It is a common practice to locate related style rules together, and then indicate that they are related via a comment. For instance:

```
/* main navigation */
nav#main { ... }
nav#main ul { ... }
nav#main ul li { ... }

/* header */
header { ... }
h1 { ... }
```

Comments can also be a helpful way to temporarily hide any number of rules, to help with debugging.



### **Location of Styles**

CSS style rules can be located in three different locations.

- Inline Styles
- Embedded Style Sheet
- External Style Sheet

These three are not mutually exclusive, in that you could place your style rules in all three.



## **Inline Styles**

Inline styles are style rules placed within an HTML element via the style attribute

- An inline style only affects the element it is defined within and overrides any other style definitions for properties used
- Notice that a selector is not necessary

```
<h1>Share Your Travels</h1>
<h2 style="font-size: 24pt">Description</h2>
...
<h2 style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">Reviews</h2>
LISTING 4.1 Inline styles example
```

### **Embedded Style Sheet**

Embedded style sheets (also called internal styles) are style rules placed within the <style> element (inside the <head> element of an HTML document)

 While better than inline styles, using embedded styles is also by and large discouraged.

```
<head>
  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <title>Chapter 4</title>
  <style>
            h1 { font-size: 24pt; }
            h2 {
             font-size: 18pt;
             font-weight: bold;
  </style>
  </head>
<body>
```

**LISTING 4.2** Embedded styles example



### **External Style Sheet**

External style sheets are style rules placed within an external text file with the .css extension.

- When you change an external style sheet, all HTML documents that reference that style sheet will automatically use the updated version.
- The browser is able to cache the external style sheet, which can improve performance as well.

```
<head>
  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <title>Chapter 4</title>
  link rel="stylesheet" href="styles.css" />
  </head>
```

**LISTING 4.3** Referencing an external style sheet



### **Selectors**

When defining CSS rules, you will need to use a selector.

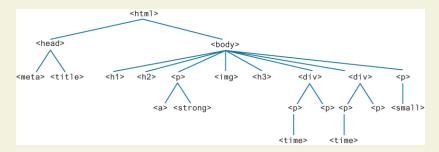
- Selectors tell the browser which elements will be affected by the property values
- Selectors allow you to select individual or multiple HTML elements.
- Three basic selector types have been around since the earliest CSS2 specification.
  - Element Selectors
  - Class Selectors
  - Id Selectors



### The Document Object Model (DOM)

#### **NOTE**

The **Document Object Model** (DOM) is how a browser represents an HTML page internally. This DOM is akin to a tree representing the overall hierarchical structure of the document.



In the last chapter, we learned some of the familial terminologies (such as descendants, ancestors, siblings, etc.) in an HTML document. You will at times have to think about the elements in your HTML document in terms of their position within the hierarchy.





#### **Element Selectors**

**Element selectors** select all instances of a given HTML element.

You can also select all elements by using the universal element selector (\*)

You can select a group of elements by separating the different element names with commas.

```
/* commas allow you to group selectors */
p, div, aside {
 margin: 0;
 padding: 0;
/* the above single grouped selector is equivalent to the
following: */
p {
 margin: 0;
 padding: 0;
div {
 margin: 0;
 padding: 0;
aside {
 margin: 0;
 padding: 0;
```

LISTING 4.4 Sample grouped selector



#### Class and ID Selectors

A class selector allows you to simultaneously target different HTML elements regardless of their position in the document tree.

HTML elements labeled with the same class attribute value, can be targeted for styling by using a class selector, which takes the form:

period (.) followed by the class name.

An **ID** selector allows you to target a specific element by its id attribute regardless of its type or position in the document tree.

HTML elements labeled with an id attribute, can be targeted for styling by using an id selector, which takes the form:

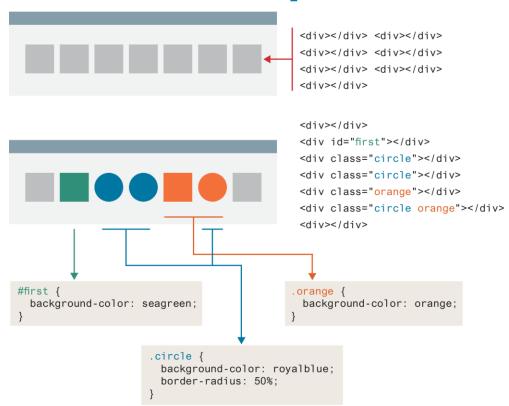
pound/hash (#) followed by the id name.



### Class and ID Selector Example

Consider Figure 4.4. The original HTML can be modified to add class and id values, which are then styled in CSS.

- Id selector #first matches the div with id "first"
- Class selectors .orange and .circle, match all divs with those class values.
- Notice that an element can be tagged with multiple classes.





### **Attribute Selectors**

An attribute selector provides a way to select HTML elements either by the presence of an element attribute or by the value of an attribute.

- Attribute selectors can be helpful in the styling of hyperlinks and form elements (which come up in the next chapter)
- These selectors can be combined with the element id and class selectors.
- You use square brackets to create attribute selectors (see Table 4.3)



#### **TABLE 4.4 Attribute Selectors**

	Matches	Example
[]	A specific attribute.	[title] Matches any element with a title attribute
[=]	A specific attribute with a specific value.	a[title="posts from this country"] Matches any <a> element whose title attribute is exactly "posts from this country"</a>
[~=]	A specific attribute whose value matches at least one of the words in a space-delimited list of words.	[title~="Countries"] Matches any title attribute that contains the word "Countries"
[^=]	A specific attribute whose value begins with a specified value.	a[href^="mailto"] Matches any <a> element whose href attribute begins with "mailto"</a>
[*=]	A specific attribute whose value contains a substring.	<pre>img[src*="flag"] Matches any <img/> element whose src attribute contains somewhere within it the text "flag"</pre>
[\$=]	A specific attribute whose value ends with a specified value.	a[href\$=".pdf"] Matches any <a> element whose href attribute ends with the text ".pdf"</a>



## **Attribute Selector Example**

Here we show an attribute selector style links to show PDF files differently than other links (from Figure 4.5)

```
a[href$=".pdf"] {
   background: url(pdf_icon.svg) no-repeat left center;
   padding-left:19px;
}

ca href="abc.html">First link</a>
ca href="sample.pdf">One PDF</a>
ca href="amother.pdf">This attribute selector selects only those <a> elements whose href attribute value ends with the characters ".pdf".

First link  one PDF  Two PDF

Two PDF

Two PDF
```



#### **Pseudo-Element and Pseudo-Class Selectors**

A pseudo-element selector is a way to select something that does not exist explicitly as an element in the HTML document tree.

 You can select the first line or first letter of any HTML element using a pseudo-element selector.

A pseudo-class selector targets either a particular state or a variety of family relationships

 This type of selector is for targeting link states and for adding hover styling for other elements



#### Common Pseudo-Class and Pseudo-Element Selectors

- a:link Selects links that have not been visited.
- a:visited Selects links that have been visited.
- :hover Selects elements that the mouse pointer is currently above.
- **:active** Selects an element that is being activated by the user. A typical example is a link that is being clicked.
- :first-child Selects an element that is the first child of its parent.
- :first-letter Selects the first letter of an element.
- :first-line Selects the first line of an element.
- Table 4.5 for more common selectors.



### Styling a link using pseudo-class selectors

```
MensWomensKidsHouse<br/>( )GardenContactli:hover { . . . }
      Mens Womens Kids House Garden Contact li:first-child { ... }
Home
Home Mens Womens Kids House Garden Contact li:nth-child(2n) { ... }
      Mens Womens Kids House Garden Contact li:nth-child(2n-1) { ... }
Arsenal
                    a:link { ... }
                    a:visited { color: royalblue }
Chelsea
Liverpool
                    a:hover { color: lavender: background-color: hotpink}
Manchester United
                    a:active { font-weight: bold }
West Ham United
                    a:link:last-child { text-decoration: none}
                      Pseudo selectors can be combined
```



### Syntax of a descendant selection

```
context selected element

div p { ... } #main div p:first-child { ... }

Selects a  element somewhere within a <div> element within a <div> element with an id="main"
```



### **Contextual Selectors**

A **contextual selector** (in CSS3 also called **combinators**) allows you to select elements based on their *ancestors*, *descendants*, or *siblings*.

- A descendant selector matches all elements that are contained within another element. The character used to indicate descendant selection is a space " "
- A child selector matches a specified element that is a direct child of the specified element. The character used is a ">"
- An Adjacent selector matches a specified element that is the next sibling of the specified element. The character used is a "+"
- A General selector matches All following elements that shares the same parent as the specified element. The character used is a "~"



#### Contextual selectors in action

```
<nav>
                                                                    <u1>
            ul a:link {
                                                                         <1i><a href="#">Canada</a>
                   color: blue;
                                                                      <a href="#">Germany</a>
                                                                        <a href="#">United States</a>
                                                                                                                                                                                               descendant selector
          descendant selector
                                                                    div time { color: red; }
                                                           </nav>
    #main>time {
                                                           <div id="main">
          color: purple;
                                                       child selector
                                                                   Service 
                                                                   Easy on the HDR buddy.
   hr+p {
                                                                    <hr>
         color: green;
                                                                   Susan on <time>2020-11-18</time>
                                                                   I love Central Park.
adjacent sibling
                                                                    <hr>
selector
                                                                   Usage stats are here
                                                                    <h3>Social</h3>
                                                                                                                                          h3~p {
                                                                   Visits: 2300
                                                                                                                                                 color: orange:
                                                                   Shares: 5
                                                           </div>
                                                                                                                                       general sibling selector
                                                           <footer>
                                                                    <u1>
                                                                         <a href="#">Home</a> | 
                                                                        <a href="#">Browse</a> | 
                                                                    </footer>
```



## The Cascade: How Styles Interact

The "Cascade" in CSS refers to how conflicting rules are handled.

CSS uses the following cascade principles to help it deal with conflicts:

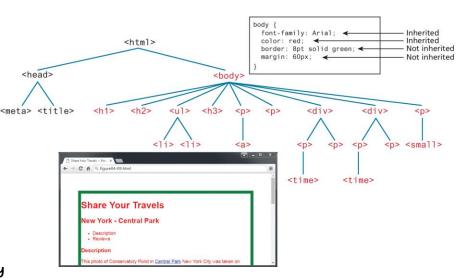
- inheritance,
- specificity, and
- location.



#### The Cascade: Inheritance

**Inheritance** is the principle that many CSS properties affect their descendants as well as themselves.

- Font, color, list, and text properties (from Table 4.1) are inheritable;
- Layout, sizing, border, background, and spacing properties are not.
- it is also possible to inherit properties that are normally not inheritable using inherit





## The Cascade: Specificity

**Specificity** is how the browser determines which style rule takes precedence when more than one style rule could be applied.

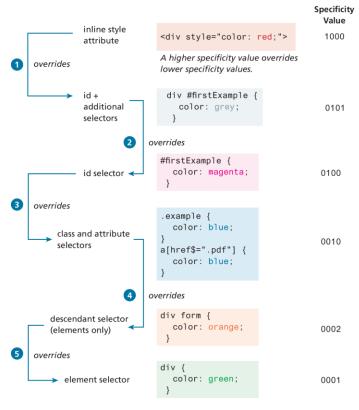
- The more specific selector takes precedence
- Class selectors take precedence over element selectors, and id selectors take precedence over class selectors

Note: In figure 4.14 <body> color and fontweight properties are overridden by the more specific <div> and selectors.

```
font-weight: bold;
                                     This text is not within a p element.
color: red:
                                     Reviews
                                        Sep Ricardo on <time>2016-05-23</time>
                           -----
                                        Easy on the HDR buddy.
font-weight: normal
                                        This text is not within a p element.
color: magenta;
                                     <hr/>
                                        Susan on <time>2016-11-18</time>
                                        I love Central Park.
                                     </div>
                                     <hr/>
                                        By Dave on <time>2016-11-24</time>
                                        Thanks for posting.
                                     </div>
                                     <hr/>
                                  </body>
color: orange
font-size: 16pt:
                                   This text is not within a p element.
                                   By Ricardo on 2016-05-23
                                   Easy on the HDR buddy.
                                   This text is not within a p element.
                                   By Susan on 2016-11-18
                                   I love Central Park.
                                   By Dave on 2016-11-24
```



## Simplified Specificity algorithm



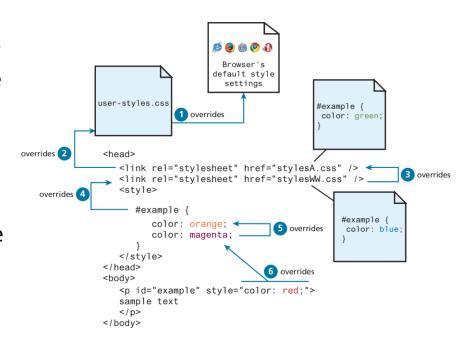


#### The Cascade: Location

Finally, when inheritance and specificity cannot determine style precedence, the principle of **location** will be used.

When rules have the same specificity, then the latest are given more weight.

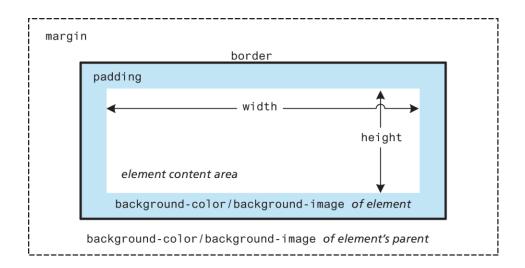
For instance, an inline style will override one defined in an external author style sheet or an embedded style sheet.





#### The Box Model

In CSS, all HTML elements exist within an **element box**. In order to become proficient with CSS, you must become familiar with the box model.





#### **Block Elements**

**Block-level elements** such as , <div>, <h2>, , and are each contained on their own line.

- without styling, two block-level elements can't exist on the same line
- Block-level elements use the normal CSS box model





#### **Inline Elements**

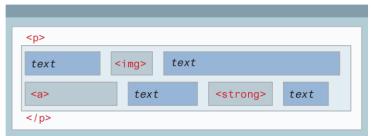
**Inline elements** do not form their own blocks but instead are displayed within lines.

- Normal text in an HTML document is inline, as are elements such as <em>,
   <a>, <img>, and <span>.
- When there isn't enough space left on the line, the content moves to a new line



### Inline Element Example

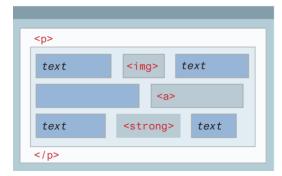
This photo <img src="photo-con.png"> of Conservatory Pond in <a href="http://www.centralpark.com">Central Park</a> was taken with a <strong>Canon EOS 30D</strong> camera.



Inline content is laid out horizontally left to right within its container.

Once a line is filled with content, the next line will receive the remaining content, and so on.

Here the content of this element is displayed on two lines

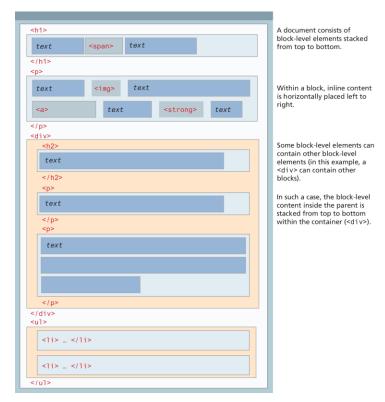


If the browser window resizes, then inline content will be "reflowed" based on the new width.

Here the content of this element is now displayed on three lines.



# Block and inline elements together





# **Background**

The background of an element fills an element out to its border

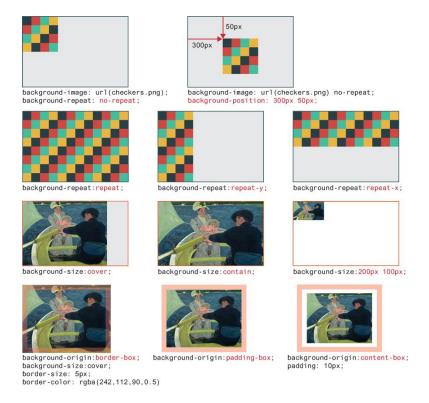
Background image properties include:

 Background, background-attachment, background-color, background-image, background-origin, background-position, background-repeat, background-size

Some of these properties work together, others do not.

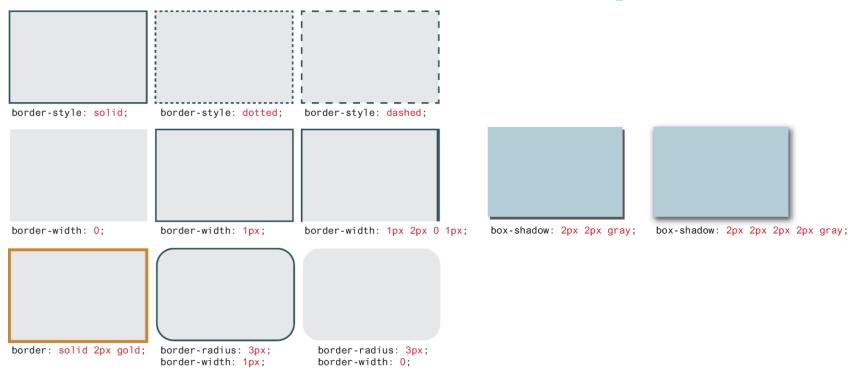


### **Background image examples**





### **Border and Shadow Examples**





### **Margins and Padding**

Margins add spacing around an element's content

Padding adds spacing within elements.

Borders divide the margin area from the padding area.

```
Every CSS rule begins with a selector. The selector identifies which element or elements in the HTML
document will be affected by the declarations in the rule. Another way of thinking of selectors is that
                                                                                                          border: solid 1pt red;
they are a pattern which is used by the browser to select the HTML elements that will receive
                                                                                                          margin: 30px:
                                                                                                          padding: 0:
Every CSS rule begins with a selector. The selector identifies which element or elements in the HTML
document will be affected by the declarations in the rule. Another way of thinking of selectors is that
they are a pattern which is used by the browser to select the HTML elements that will receive
Every CSS rule begins with a selector. The selector identifies which element or elements in the HTML
document will be affected by the declarations in the rule. Another way of thinking of selectors is that
they are a pattern which is used by the browser to select the HTML elements that will receive
←→Every CSS rule begins with a selector. The selector identifies which element or elements in the←→
                                                                                                           border: solid 1pt red;
    HTML document will be affected by the declarations in the rule. Another way of thinking of
                                                                                                            margin: 0;
    selectors is that they are a pattern which is used by the browser to select the HTML elements
                                                                                                            padding: 30px;
    that will receive
  30px 1
    Every CSS rule begins with a selector. The selector identifies which element or elements in the
    HTML document will be affected by the declarations in the rule. Another way of thinking of
    selectors is that they are a pattern which is used by the browser to select the HTML elements
    that will receive
    Every CSS rule begins with a selector. The selector identifies which element or elements in the
    HTML document will be affected by the declarations in the rule. Another way of thinking of
    selectors is that they are a pattern which is used by the browser to select the HTML elements
    that will receive
```



# **Collapsing margins**

The W3C defines collapsing margins as:

 In CSS, the adjoining margins of two or more boxes (which might or might not be siblings) can combine to form a single margin. Margins that combine this way are said to collapse, and the resulting combined margin is called a collapsed margin.

What this means is that when the **vertical** margins of two elements touch, only the largest margin value of the elements will be displayed

Horizontal margins, on the other hand, **never** collapse.



#### **Box Model: All or one**

#### **NOTE**

With border, margin, and padding properties, it is possible to set the properties for one or more sides in a single property, or individually

border-top-color: red; /\* sets just the top side \*/

border-right-color: green; /\* sets just the right side \*/

border-bottom-color: yellow; /\* sets just the bottom side \*/

border-left-color: blue; /\* sets just the left side \*/

Alternately, we can set all four sides to a single value via:

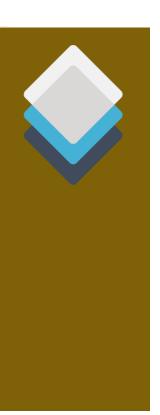
border-color: red; /\* sets all four sides to red \*/

Or we can set all four sides to different values via:

border-color: red green orange blue;

Another shortcut is to use just two values; in this case the first value sets top and bottom, while the second sets the right and left.

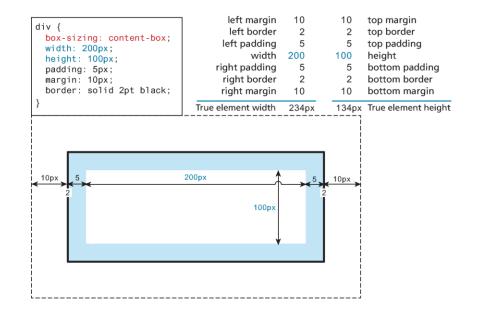
border-color: red yellow; /\* top+bottom=red, right+left=yellow \*/





#### **Box Dimensions**

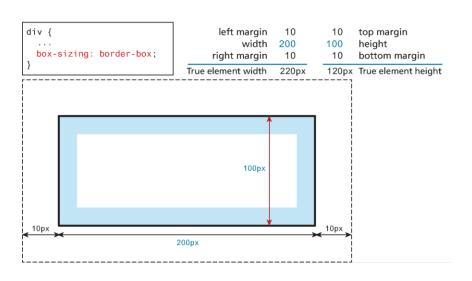
- Block-level elements have width and height properties.
- They also have a min-width, min-height, max-width, and max-height properties as well to help when the width or a height might be specified as a % of its parent container
- Since the width and the height only refer to the size of the content area, the **total size** of an element is equal to the size of its content area plus the sum of its padding, borders, and margins.





### The border-box approach

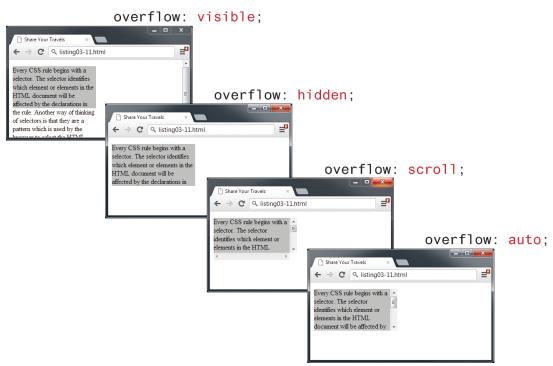
To reduce complexity of adding margins, content and borders, you can use the newer border-box approach that is more intuitive.





### **Overflow Proprerty**

It is possible to control what happens with the content if the box's width and height are not large enough to display the content using the **overflow** property





# Box sizing via percent

Share Your Travels

```
<div class="pixels">
                              ← → C Q listing03-14.html
                                                         Pixels - 200px by 50 px
                                                       </div>
                               idth and height
                                                       <div class="percent">
<style>
                                          50%
                                                         Percent - 50% of width and height
  html,body {
                                                       </div>
     margin:0;
                                 50%
                                           50%
                                                   </body>
     width:100%;
     height:100%;
     background: silver;
                              ← → C Q listing03-14.html
  .pixels {
     width: 200px;
                              Percent - 50% of width and height
     height:50px;
     background: teal;
                                                     50%
 .percent {
     width:50%:
                                      50%
                                                            50%
     height: 50%;
     background: olive;
```

<body>



# **CSS Text Styling**

CSS provides two types of properties that affect text.

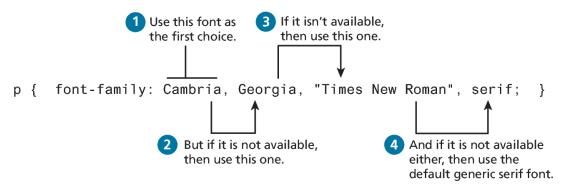
- Font properties that affect the font and its appearance.
- Paragraph properties that affect the text in a similar way no matter which font is being used
- Many of the most common font properties are shown in Table 4.9 and include
  - Font, font-family, font-style, font-size, font-variant, font-weight



# **Font Family**

Just because a given font is available on the web developer's computer does not mean it will be available for all users.

For this reason, it is conventional to supply a so-called **web font stack**— a series of alternate fonts to use in case the original font choice is not on the user's computer





#### Different font families

Generic **Font-Family** Name **This** serif **This** Without sans-serif ("sans") serif In a regular, In a monospace font, proportionally-spaced This each letter has the monospace variable width. This cursive Decorative and cursive fonts This vary from system to system; fantasy rarely used as a result.



### **Font Sizes**

If we wish to create web layouts that work well on different devices, we should learn to use relative units such as **em units** or **percentages** for our font sizes

- it can quickly become difficult to calculate actual sizes when there are nested elements
  - For this reason, CSS3 now supports a new relative measure, the rem (for root em unit). This unit is always relative to the size of the root element (i.e., the <html> element).

To muddy the picture even more, some developers have begun to advocate again for using the pixel as the unit of measure in CSS since modern browsers provide built-in scaling/zooming that preserve layout...



### **@font-face**

#### **DIVE DEEPER**

The @font-face selector that allows you to use a font even if it is not installed on the user's computer. Open source font sites such as Google Web Fonts (https://fonts.google.com) and Font Squirrel (http://www.fontsquirrel.com/) have promoted the use of @font-face

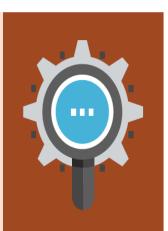
To use Droid Sans, you can add the following to your <head> section

<link href="https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Droid+Sans" rel="stylesheet"
type="text/css">

Or, add the following import inside one of your CSS files:

@import url(https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Droid+Sans);

Or check out the longer-form @font-face selector (on p 170)

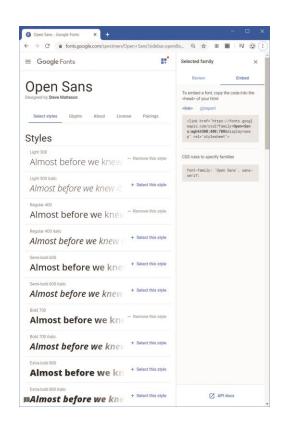




### **Font Weight**

Google Fonts made web fonts available to the masses, before that **font-weight** was typically set to either normal or bold

- For instance, the popular Open Sans font has five different weights: light, regular, semi-bold, bold, and extra bold
- Within your CSS you specify which of these weights by using their numeric value, which typically ranges from 100 and 900, with larger numbers bolder than lower numbers





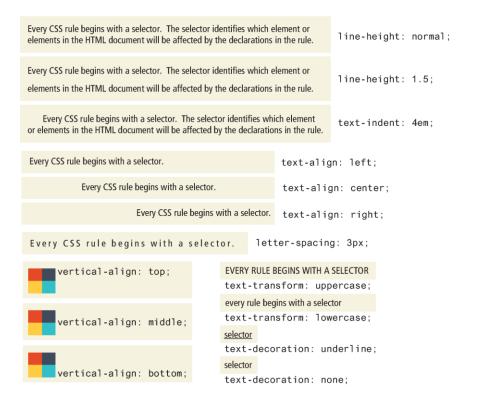
# **Paragraph Properties**

Just as there are properties that affect the font in CSS, there is also a range of CSS properties that affect text independently of the font.

Table 2.10 describes the following paragraph properties in detail: letter-spacing, line-height, list-style-image, list-style-type, text-align, text-decoration, text-direction, text-intent, text-shadow, text-transform, vertical-align and word-spacing



# Sample text properties





#### **CSS Frameworks and Variables**

- This chapter and the exercises should make you reasonably confident about the CSS box model and text formatting
- Chapter 5 covers the CSS for working with forms and tables
- Chapter 7 covers layout, transitions, and animations as well
- If you are not feeling overwhelmed yet by CSS, you might be by the end of Chapter 7.
  - as an alternative to mastering CSS and getting an acceptable visual design, some developers instead use an already developed CSS framework



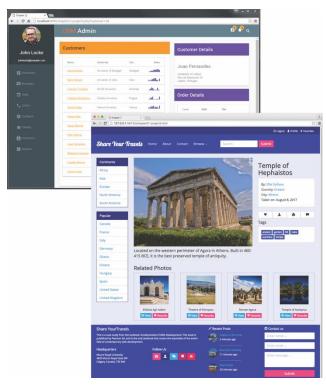
#### What is a CSS Framework?

A CSS framework is a set of CSS classes or other software tools that make it easier to use and work with CSS.

- Early CSS frameworks became popular chiefly as a way to more easily create complex grid-based layouts
- More sophisticated subsequent CSS Frameworks such as
  - Bootstrap (https://getbootstrap.com/) and
  - Foundation (https://get.foundation/) provide much more than a grid system;
     they provide a comprehensive set of predefined CSS classes, which makes it easier to construct a consistent and attractive web interface.
- Table 4.11 lists even more popular CSS Frameworks



### **Examples using Frameworks**





### **CSS Variables**

CSS Variables (also called custom properties) are a new feature that let you

- define variables (which must begin with a double hyphen) at the top of your CSS file usually within a special :root pseudo-class selector, and
- reference those variables as property values using the var() CSS function.

Duplication of colors, spacing, and borders, often happens numerous times within a single file (and rightly so). CSS variables address this issue without using a preprocessor (Chapter 7).



# **Example Part 1 (duplicate values)**

```
header {
                                                             #results {
background-color: #431c5d;
                                                              background-color: #431c5d;
color: #e05915;
                                                              font-size: 18px;
padding: 4px;
                                                              border-radius: 5px;
box-shadow: 6px 5px 20px 1px rgba(0,0,0,0.22);
                                                              padding: 4px;
                                                              box-shadow: 6px 5px 20px 1px rgba(0,0,0,0.22);
margin: 0;
header button {
background-color: #e05915;
border-radius: 5px;
border-color: #e6e9f0:
padding: 4px;
color: #e6e9f0;
font-size: 18px;
margin-top: 9px;
```

**LISTING 4.8** Duplicate property values in CSS



### **Example Part 2 (CSS variables)**

```
:root {
                                                              header button {
--bg-color-main: #431c5d;
                                                               background-color: var(--bg-color-secondary);
                                                               border-radius: var(--radius-boxes);
--bg-color-secondary: #e05915;
--fg-color-main: #e6e9f0;
                                                               border-color: var(--fg-color-main);
--radius-boxes: 5px;
                                                               padding: var(--padding-boxes);
--padding-boxes: 4px;
                                                               color: var(--fg-color-main);
--fontsize-default: 18px;
                                                               font-size: var(--fontsize-default);
--shadow-color: rgba(0,0,0,0.22);
                                                               margin-top: calc( --fontsize-default / 2 );
--dropshadow: 6px 5px 20px 1px var(--shadow-color);
                                                              #results {
header {
                                                               background-color: var(--bg-color-main);
background-color: var(--bg-color-main);
                                                               font-size: var(--fontsize-default:);
color: var(--bg-color-secondary);
                                                               border-radius: var(--radius-boxes);
 padding: var(--padding-boxes);
                                                               padding: var(--padding-boxes);
 box-shadow: var(--dropshadow);
                                                               box-shadow: var(--dropshadow);
margin: 0;
```

**LISTING 4.9** Using CSS Variables



**Key Terms** 

absolute units	combinators	element box	location	responsive design
attribute selector	contextual selector	element selectors	margin	selector
author-created style sheets	CSS	em units	Padding	specificity
block-level elements	CSS framework	embedded style sheets	percentages	style rules
box model	CSS variable	external style sheets	property	universal element
browser style sheets	CSS3 modules	generic font	property:value pair	selector
cascade	Declaration	grouped selector	pseudo-class selector	user style sheets
Cascading Style	declaration block	id selector	pseudo-element selector	vendor prefixes
Sheets	descendant selector	inheritance	relative units	web font stack
class selector	Document Object			x-height
collapsing margins	Model	inline styles	rem	



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