# Sass (stylesheet language)

Sass (short for syntactically awesome style sheets) is a preprocessor scripting language that is interpreted or compiled into Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). SassScript is the scripting language itself.

Sass consists of two syntaxes. The original syntax, called "the indented syntax," uses a syntax similar to Haml. [2] It uses indentation to separate code blocks and newline characters to separate rules. The newer syntax, "SCSS" (Sassy CSS), uses block formatting like that of CSS. It uses braces to denote code blocks and semicolons to separate rules within a block. The indented syntax and SCSS files are traditionally given the extensions .sass and .scss, respectively.

CSS3 consists of a series of selectors and pseudo-selectors that group rules that apply to them. Sass (in the larger context of both syntaxes) extends CSS by providing several mechanisms available in more traditional programming languages, particularly object-oriented languages, but that are not available to CSS3 itself. When SassScript is interpreted, it creates blocks of CSS rules for various selectors as defined by the Sass file. The Sass interpreter translates SassScript into CSS. Alternatively, Sass can monitor the .sass or .scss file and translate it to an output .css file whenever the .sass or .scss file is saved.[3]

The indented syntax is a metalanguage. SCSS is a nested metalanguage, as valid CSS is valid SCSS with the same semantics.

SassScript provides the following mechanisms: variables, nesting, mixins, and selector inheritance. [2]

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# Sass



Developer Natalie Weizenbaum,

Chris Eppstein

First appeared November 28, 2006

Stable release 3.5.6 / March 23, 2018<sup>[1]</sup>

**Typing Dynamic** discipline

os Cross-platform

License MIT License **Filename** .sass, .scss

extensions

Website sass-lang.com (htt ps://sass-lang.co

m/)

**Major implementations** 

Dart, Ruby

Influenced by

CSS (both "indented" and SCSS)

YAML and Haml (indented syntax)

Less (SCSS)

Influenced

Less, Stylus, Tritium, Bootstrap (v4+)

#### References

#### **External links**

# **History**

Sass was initially designed by <u>Hampton Catlin</u> and developed by Natalie Weizenbaum. [4][5] After its initial versions, Weizenbaum and Chris Eppstein have continued to extend Sass with SassScript, a scripting language used in Sass files.

# **Major implementations**

SassScript was implemented in multiple languages, the noteworthy implementations are:

- The original <u>open-source</u> <u>Ruby</u> implementation created in 2006, since deprecated due to the lack of maintainers and reached End-of-Life in March 2019. [7][8]
- The official open-source Dart implementation. [6]
- libSass, the official open-source C++ implementation.
- the official JavaScript implementation, published as "sass" module on npm.
- JSass, an unofficial Java implementation.
- phamlp, an unofficial SASS/SCSS implementation in PHP. [6]
- <u>Vaadin</u> has a Java implementation of Sass. [10]
- Firebug, a Firefox XUL ("legacy") extension for web development. [11] It has been since deprecated in favor of developer tools integrated into Firefox itself. It stopped working since Firefox 57 dropped support for XUL extensions.

### **Features**

#### **Variables**

Sass allows variables to be defined. Variables begin with a <u>dollar sign</u> (\$). Variable <u>assignment</u> is done with a <u>colon</u> (:). [11]

SassScript supports four data types: [11]

- Numbers (including units)
- Strings (with quotes or without)
- Colors (name, or names)
- Booleans

Variables can be <u>arguments</u> to or results from one of several available <u>functions</u>. During translation, the values of the variables are inserted into the output CSS document. [2]

```
SCSS
                                                                               Compiled CSS
                                                   Sass
$primary-color: #3bbfce;
                                      $primary-color: #3bbfce
                                                                           content-navigation
                                      $margin: 16px
$margin: 16px;
                                                                             border-color:
                                                                           #3bbfce;
.content-navigation {
                                      .content-navigation
  border-color: $primary-color;
                                        border-color: $primary-color
                                                                             color: #2b9eab;
                                       color: darken($primary-
  color: darken($primary-color,
                                      color, 10%)
                                                                           .border {
}
                                      .border
                                                                             padding: 8px;
.border {
                                                                             margin: 8px;
                                        padding: $margin/2
  padding: $margin / 2;
                                        margin: $margin/2
                                                                             border-color:
  margin: $margin / 2;
                                        border-color: $primary-color
                                                                           #3bbfce;
  border-color: $primary-color;
}
```

## **Nesting**

CSS does support logical nesting, but the code blocks themselves are not nested. Sass allows the nested code to be inserted within each other. [2]

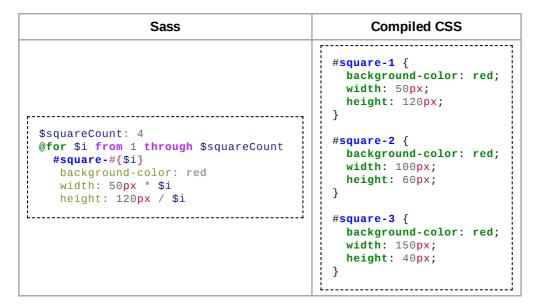
SCSS	Sass	Compiled CSS	
<pre>table.hl {     margin: 2em 0;     td.ln {         text-align: right;     } } li {     font: {         family: serif;         weight: bold;         size: 1.3em;     } }</pre>	table.hl margin: 2em 0 td.ln text-align: right  li font: family: serif weight: bold size: 1.3em	<pre>table.hl {   margin: 2em 0; } table.hl td.ln {   text-align: right; } li {   font-family: serif;   font-weight: bold;   font-size: 1.3em; }</pre>	

More complicated types of nesting including <u>namespace</u> nesting and parent references are discussed in the Sass documentation. [11]

```
Compiled CSS
        SCSS
                                    Sass
_____
@mixin table-base {
    text-align: center;
                            =table-base
    font-weight: bold;
                                                       #data th {
                                                         text-align: center;
                               text-align: center
  td, th {
                               font-weight: bold
                                                         font-weight: bold;
    padding: 2px;
                              td, th
                                padding: 2px
                                                       #data td, #data th {
}
                                                         padding: 2px;
#data {
                              +table-base
  @include table-base;
```

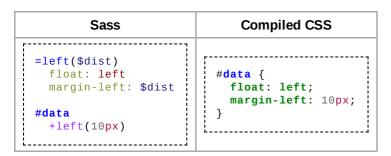
#### Loops

Sass allows for iterating over variables using <code>@for</code>, <code>@each</code> and <code>@while</code>, which can be used to apply different styles to elements with similar classes or ids.



### **Arguments**

Mixins also support arguments. [2]



#### In combination

```
Compiled CSS
         Sass
=table-base
  th
                            #data {
    text-align: center
                              float: left;
    font-weight: bold
                              margin-left: 10px;
  td, th
   padding: 2px
                            #data th {
                              text-align: center;
=left($dist)
                              font-weight: bold;
  float: left
  margin-left: $dist
                            \#data td, \#data th \{
                              padding: 2px;
  +left(10px)
  +table-base
```

### Selector inheritance

While CSS3 supports the <u>Document Object Model</u> (DOM) hierarchy, it does not allow selector inheritance. In Sass, inheritance is achieved by inserting a line inside of a code block that uses the @extend keyword and references another selector. The extended selector's attributes are applied to the calling selector. [2]

```
Sass
                             Compiled CSS
                         .error, .badError {
                          border: 1px #f00;
                          background: #fdd;
 border: 1px #f00
 background: #fdd
                        error intrusion,
.error.intrusion
                        .badError.intrusion {
 font-size: 1.3em
                          font-size: 1.3em;
 font-weight: bold
                          font-weight: bold;
.badError
 @extend .error
                         .badError {
 border-width: 3px
                           border-width: 3px;
```

Sass supports multiple inheritance. [11]

# **libSass**

At the 2012 HTML5 Developer Conference, Hampton Catlin, the creator of Sass, announced version 1.0 of libSass, an open source C++ implementation of Sass developed by Catlin, Aaron Leung, and the engineering team at  $\underline{\text{Moovweb.}}^{[13][14]}$  Current Sass maintainer, Chris Eppstein, has expressed intent to contribute as well.  $\underline{^{[15]}}$ 

According to Catlin, libSass can be "drop[ped] into anything and it will have Sass in it...You could drop it right into Firefox today and build Firefox and it will compile in there. We wrote our own parser from scratch to make sure that would be possible." [16]

The design goals of libSass are:

- Performance Developers have reported 10x speed up increases over the Ruby implementation of Sass. [17]
- Easier integration libSass makes it easier to integrate Sass into more software. Before libSass, tightly integrating Sass into a language or software product required bundling the entire Ruby interpreter. By contrast, libSass is a statically linkable library with zero external dependencies and C-like interface, making it easy to wrap Sass directly into other programming languages and tools. For example, open source libSass bindings now exist for Node, Go, and Ruby. [14]
- Compatibility libSass's goal is full compatibility with the official Ruby implementation of Sass. This goal has been achieved on libsass 3.3. [18]

# **IDE** integration

#### **IDE** integration of Sass

IDE	Software	website
Adobe Dreamweaver CC 2017		https://blogs.adobe.com/creativecloud/getting-started-with-css-preprocessors-less-and-sass/
Eclipse		
Emacs	SCSS Mode	https://github.com/antonj/scss-mode/
JetBrains IntelliJ IDEA (Ultimate Edition)		https://www.jetbrains.com/idea/
JetBrains PhpStorm		http://www.jetbrains.com/phpstorm/
JetBrains RubyMine		http://www.jetbrains.com/ruby/
JetBrains WebStorm		http://www.jetbrains.com/webstorm/
Microsoft Visual Studio	Mindscape	http://www.mindscapehq.com/products/web-workbench
Microsoft Visual Studio	SassyStudio	http://visualstudiogallery.msdn.microsoft.com/85fa99a6-e4c6- 4a1c-9f00-e6a8129b6f4d
Microsoft WebMatrix		http://www.microsoft.com/web/
NetBeans		http://plugins.netbeans.org/plugin/34929/scss-support
Vim	haml.zip	http://www.vim.org/scripts/script.php?script_id=1433
Atom		https://github.com/atom/language-sass
Visual Studio Code		https://code.visualstudio.com/Docs/languages/css
Sublime		https://github.com/P233/Syntax-highlighting-for-Sass
Edit+		https://www.editplus.com/others.html

# See also

- Less (stylesheet language)
- Stylus (stylesheet language)

# References

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  Sass Functions
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# **External links**

- Official website (https://sass-lang.com/)
- pyScss, a Python Scss library and client (https://github.com/Kronuz/pyScss)

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Sass\_(stylesheet\_language)&oldid=995389963"

This page was last edited on 20 December 2020, at 19:47 (UTC).

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