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Anne Boehm

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Introduction

This 4th edition of our best-selling book integrates all of the HTML and CSS skills that you need today with the proven instructional approach that made the first three editions of this book so popular. And now, this new edition includes chapters on Flexible Box Layout and Grid Layout, which are the latest approaches to laying out web pages.

In short, this is the right book if you're learning HTML and CSS for the first time. But this is also the right book if you're a web developer who wants to expand and update your skills. That includes web designers, JavaScript and jQuery programmers, and server-side programmers...because all web developers need a solid set of HTML5 and CSS3 skills and a great on-the-job reference.

What this book does

- To get you started right, the eight chapters in section 1 present a complete subset of HTML and CSS that shows you how to develop web pages at a professional level. In chapter 3, for example, you'll learn how to use the HTML5 semantic elements. Then, chapters 4 through 6 show you how to use CSS and CSS3 to format the HTML, including the CSS3 properties for text and border shadows, rounded corners, and background gradients.
- The last chapter in section 1 shows you how to build web pages with Responsive Web Design. That means that your pages will look good and work correctly on every type of screen from phone to tablet to desktop computer. This is an essential skill for a modern website, and that's why it's presented in section 1.
- When you finish the first 8 chapters, you will have the perspective and skills you need for developing professional web pages. Then, you can add to those skills by reading any of the chapters in the next 4 sections...and you don't have to read those sections or chapters in sequence. In other words, you can skip to any of the chapters in the last four sections after you finish section 1.

- The chapters in section 2 show you how to use the two new approaches to page layout. Chapter 9 presents Flexible Box Layout, chapter 10 presents Grid Layout, and you can use whichever approach is right for the types of web pages that you'll be creating.
- The chapters in section 3 let you learn new skills whenever you need them... like having a mentor right at your side, showing you how to do whatever you need to know next. If, for example, you want to learn how to use the HTML5 data validation features for forms, you can skip to chapter 13. If you want to learn how to use the HTML5 audio and video tags, you can skip to chapter 14. And if you want to learn how to use CSS3 transitions, transforms, animations, and filters, you can skip to chapter 16.
- The two chapters in section 4 present related skills that you can skip to whenever you're ready for them. In chapter 17, you can learn the basic principles for designing a website. In chapter 18, you can learn how to test and deploy a website and get it into the search engines.
- The last section introduces other skills that professional web developers need. Because most websites use JavaScript, chapter 19 shows you how JavaScript and jQuery can be used to enhance your web pages. Then, chapter 20 introduces you to third-party development tools like Emmet, SASS, GitHub, and Bootstrap.

Why you'll learn faster and better with this book

- Like all our books, this one has features that you won't find in competing books. That's why we believe you'll learn faster and better with our book than with any other. Here are a few of those features.
- From the first page to the last, this book shows you how to use HTML and CSS the modern, professional way, with HTML for the structure and content of each page and CSS for the formatting and page layout. That way, your web pages and your websites will be easier to create and maintain.
- Because HTML and CSS are integrated throughout the book, you won't learn these features out of context, which is the way they're often treated in competing books. Instead, you'll learn exactly where these features fit into the overall context of website development.
- Because section 1 presents a complete subset of HTML and CSS, you are ready for productive work much sooner than you are when you use competing books. In many competing books, for example, you won't learn how to use CSS for page layout until late in the book, even though that's a critical part of web page development.
- If you page through this book, you'll see that all of the information is presented in "paired pages," with the essential syntax, guidelines, and examples on the right page and the perspective and extra explanation on the left page. This helps you learn faster by reading less...and this is the ideal reference format when you need to refresh your memory about how to do something.