CSS font-family Property

### Example

Specify the font for two paragraphs:

p.a {  
  font-family: "Times New Roman", Times, serif;  
}  
  
p.b {  
  font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;  
}

## Definition and Usage

The font-family property specifies the font for an element.

The font-family property can hold several font names as a "fallback" system. If the browser does not support the first font, it tries the next font.

There are two types of font family names:

* **family-name** - The name of a font-family, like "times", "courier", "arial", etc.
* **generic-family** - The name of a generic-family, like "serif", "sans-serif", "cursive", "fantasy", "monospace".

Start with the font you want, and always end with a generic family, to let the browser pick a similar font in the generic family, if no other fonts are available.

**Note:** Separate each value with a comma.

**Note:**If a font name contains white-space, it must be quoted. Single quotes must be used when using the "style" attribute in HTML.

font-family: Georgia;

font-family: Times New Roman;

font-family: Arial;

font-family: Helvetica;

font-family: Arial Black;

font-family: Impact;

font-family: Lucida Sans Unicode;

font-family: Tahoma;

font-family: Verdana;

font-family: Courier New;

font-family: Lucida Console;

font-family: serif;

font-family: sans-serif;

font-family: cursive;

font-family: fantasy;

font-family: monospace;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Default value:** | *depends on the browser* |
| **Inherited:** | yes |
| **Animatable:** | no. [Read about *animatable*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_animatable.asp) |
| **Version:** | CSS1 |
| **JavaScript syntax:** | *object*.style.fontFamily="Verdana,sans-serif" |

## CSS Syntax

font-family: *family-name*|generic-family|initial|inherit;

## Property Values

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Value** | **Description** |  |
| *family-name / generic-family* | A prioritized list of font family names and/or generic family names |  |
| initial | Sets this property to its default value. [Read about initial](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_initial.asp) |  |
| inherit | Inherits this property from its parent element. [Read about inherit](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_inherit.asp) |  |

# CSS initial Keyword

## Definition and Usage

The initial keyword is used to set a CSS property to its default value.

The initial keyword can be used for any CSS property, and on any HTML element.

## CSS Syntax

property: initial;

# CSS inherit Keyword

### Example

Set the text-color for <span> elements to blue, except those inside elements with class="extra":

span {  
  color: blue;  
}  
  
.extra span {  
  color: inherit;  
}

[Try it Yourself »](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/tryit.asp?filename=trycss_inherit)

## Definition and Usage

The inherit keyword specifies that a property should inherit its value from its parent element.

The inherit keyword can be used for any CSS property, and on any HTML element.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Version:** | CSS3 |
| **JavaScript syntax:** | *object*.style.property="inherit" |

# CSS Fonts

Choosing the right font for your website is important!

## Font Selection is Important

Choosing the right font has a huge impact on how the readers experience a website.

The right font can create a strong identity for your brand.

Using a font that is easy to read is important. The font adds value to your text. It is also important to choose the correct color and text size for the font.

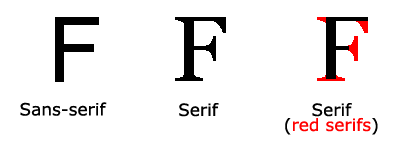
## Generic Font Families

In CSS there are five generic font families:

1. **Serif** fonts have a small stroke at the edges of each letter. They create a sense of formality and elegance.
2. **Sans-serif** fonts have clean lines (no small strokes attached). They create a modern and minimalistic look.
3. **Monospace** fonts - here all the letters have the same fixed width. They create a mechanical look.
4. **Cursive** fonts imitate human handwriting.
5. **Fantasy** fonts are decorative/playful fonts.

All the different font names belong to one of the generic font families.

## Difference Between Serif and Sans-serif Fonts



## Some Font Examples

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Generic Font Family** | **Examples of Font Names** |
| Serif | Times New Roman Georgia Garamond |
| Sans-serif | Arial Verdana Helvetica |
| Monospace | Courier New Lucida Console Monaco |
| Cursive | Brush Script MT Lucida Handwriting |
| Fantasy | Copperplate Papyrus |

# CSS font Property

### Example

Set some font properties with the shorthand declaration:

p.a {  
  font: 15px Arial, sans-serif;  
}  
  
p.b {  
  font: italic small-caps bold 12px/30px Georgia, serif;  
}

## Definition and Usage

The font property is a shorthand property for:

* [font-style](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-style.asp)
* [font-variant](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-variant.asp)
* [font-weight](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_weight.asp)
* [font-size](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-size.asp)/[line-height](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_dim_line-height.asp)
* [font-family](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-family.asp)

The font-size and font-family values are required. If one of the other values is missing, their default value are used.

**Note:** The line-height property sets the space between lines.

he line-height property sets the space between lines.

[Show demo ❯](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/playdemo.asp?filename=playcss_font)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Default value:** | *The default value of the font properties* |
| **Inherited:** | yes |
| **Animatable:** | yes, *see individual properties*. [Read about *animatable*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_animatable.asp)[Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/tryit.asp?filename=trycss_anim_font) |
| **Version:** | CSS1 |
| **JavaScript syntax:** | *object*.style.font="italic small-caps bold 12px arial,sans-serif"[Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/tryit.asp?filename=trycss_js_font) |

## CSS Syntax

font: *font-style* *font-variant* *font-weight* *font-size/line-height font-family*|caption|icon|menu|message-box|small-caption|status-bar|initial|inherit;

## Property Values

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Property/Value** | **Description** | **Demo** |
| [*font-style*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-style.asp) | Specifies the font style. Default value is "normal" | [Demo ❯](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/playdemo.asp?filename=playcss_font-style) |
| [*font-variant*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-variant.asp) | Specifies the font variant. Default value is "normal" | [Demo ❯](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/playdemo.asp?filename=playcss_font-variant) |
| [*font-weight*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_weight.asp) | Specifies the font weight. Default value is "normal" | [Demo ❯](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/playdemo.asp?filename=playcss_font-weight) |
| [*font-size*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-size.asp)*/*[*line-height*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_dim_line-height.asp) | Specifies the font size and the line-height. Default value is "normal" | [Demo ❯](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/playdemo.asp?filename=playcss_font-size) |
| [*font-family*](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/pr_font_font-family.asp) | Specifies the font family. Default value depends on the browser | [Demo ❯](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/playdemo.asp?filename=playcss_font-family) |
| caption | Uses the font that are used by captioned controls (like buttons, drop-downs, etc.) |  |
| icon | Uses the font that are used by icon labels |  |
| menu | Uses the fonts that are used by dropdown menus |  |
| message-box | Uses the fonts that are used by dialog boxes |  |
| small-caption | A smaller version of the caption font |  |
| status-bar | Uses the fonts that are used by the status bar |  |
| initial | Sets this property to its default value. [Read about initial](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_initial.asp) |  |
| inherit | Inherits this property from its parent element. [Read about inherit](https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_inherit.asp) |  |