**CSS Variables (Custom Properties)**

**CSS Variables** (also known as custom properties) are a powerful feature introduced in CSS3 that allows you to define and reuse values throughout your stylesheet. They provide a dynamic way to manage styles and make your CSS more maintainable.

**Syntax:**

To define a CSS variable, use the -- prefix followed by the variable name. For example:

CSS

:root {

--primary-color: #007bff;

--font-size: 18px;

}

Use code [with caution.](/faq#coding)

In this example, --primary-color and --font-size are CSS variables.

**Using CSS Variables:**

To reference a CSS variable within a property value, use the var() function. For example:

CSS

body {

color: var(--primary-color);

font-size: var(--font-size);

}

Use code [with caution.](/faq#coding)

**Example HTML Document:**

HTML

<!DOCTYPE html>

<html>

<head>

<style>

:root {

--primary-color: #007bff;

--font-size: 18px;

}

body {

color: var(--primary-color);

font-size: var(--font-size);

}

.button {

background-color: var(--primary-color);

color: white;

padding: 10px 20px;

border: none;

cursor: pointer;

}

</style>

</head>

<body>

<h1>Welcome to My Website</h1>

<p>This is a paragraph of text.</p>

<button class="button">Click Me</button>

</body>

</html>

Use code [with caution.](/faq#coding)

**Explanation:**

In this example, we define two CSS variables: --primary-color and --font-size. These variables are then used within the stylesheet to set the color and font size of various elements.

**Changing Variable Values:**

To change the value of a CSS variable, you can modify its definition in the :root selector. For example, to change the primary color to red:

CSS

:root {

--primary-color: red;

--font-size: 18px;

}

Use code [with caution.](/faq#coding)

This will update the color of all elements that reference the --primary-color variable.

**Benefits of Using CSS Variables:**

* **Centralized Management:** By defining variables in the :root selector, you can easily manage and update styles throughout your stylesheet.
* **Improved Maintainability:** Using variables makes your CSS code more readable and easier to maintain, especially for large projects.
* **Dynamic Styling:** You can create dynamic styles that change based on user interactions or other factors by modifying variable values.

By effectively using CSS variables, you can create more flexible, maintainable, and dynamic stylesheets.