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Static Files

Objectives:

- Know what *static content* is in the context of web development
- Know where to put static files in a Flask web application
- Learn how to access our static content in our HTML files

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Static content is any content that can be served up to the client without being modified, generally. Every framework will have its own way of serving static content. Flask serves static content from our **templates** directory, **the static directory *must* be called static**. This static folder will be used for **images, and JavaScript files**.

Now, say we placed a CSS file, a JavaScript file, and an image directly into our static folder. We can link to these files in our templates, like so:

```
<!-- based on the folder structure on the right -->
<!-- linking a css style sheet -->
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="{{ url_for('static', filename='my_style.css') }}">
<!-- linking a javascript file -->
<script type="text/javascript" src="{{ url_for('static', filename='my_script.js') }}">
<!-- linking an image -->

```

Note: although Flask knows to look for static files in the static directory, we must tell it when an

Organization

It is common to create a few more folders to organize our static files into categories according to **css**, **js**, and **img** and house the corresponding files in the different folders. We can reflect these changes in the following changes in the href/src attributes. Notice the way we change the file name in the u

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```
<!-- linking a css style sheet -->
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="{ url_for('static', filename='css/my_style.css') }}">
<!-- linking a javascript file -->
<script type="text/javascript" src="{ url_for('static', filename='js/my_script.js') }}">
    pt>
<!-- linking an image -->

```

CHECKLIST

Note: When using static files, your browser will likely cache them. If you are making changes in static files, you may need to be updating, do a hard refresh of the page in your browser: `ctrl + shift + r` (Windows) or `cmd + shift + r` (Mac).

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