## **CSS Basics**

* ****What is CSS?****: Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) is a markup language used to apply styles to HTML elements. CSS is used for colors, background images, layouts and more.
* ****Basic Anatomy of a CSS Rule****: A CSS rule is made up of two main parts: a selector and a declaration block. A selector is a pattern used in CSS to identify and target specific HTML elements for styling. A declaration block applies a set of styles for a given selector or selectors.

Here is the general syntax of a CSS rule:

selector {

property: value;}

* **meta name="viewport"**Element****: This meta element gives the browser instructions on how to control the page's dimensions and scaling on different devices, particularly on mobile phones and tablets.
* ****Default Browser Styles****: Each HTML element will have default browser styles applied to them. This usually includes items like default margins and paddings.

## **Inline, Internal, and External CSS**

* ****Inline CSS****: These styles are written directly within an HTML element using the style attribute. Most of the time you will not be using inline CSS due to separation of concerns.

Here is an example of inline CSS:

<p style="color: red;">This is a red paragraph.</p>

* ****Internal CSS****: These styles are written within the <style> tags inside the head section of an HTML document. This can be useful for creating short code examples, but usually you will not need be using internal CSS.
* ****External CSS****: These styles are written in a separate CSS file and linked to the HTML document using the link element in the head section. For most projects, you will use an external CSS file over internal or inline CSS.

## **Working With the width and height Properties**

* **width**Property****: This property specifies the width of an element. If you do not specify a width, then the default is set to auto. This means the element will take up the full width of its parent container.
* **min-width**Property****: This property specifies the minimum width for an element.
* **max-width**Property****: This property specifies the maximum width for an element.
* **height**Property****: This property specifies the height of an element. Similarly, the height is auto by default, which means it will adjust to the content inside.
* **min-height**Property****: This property specifies the minimum height for an element.
* **max-height**Property****: This property specifies the maximum height for an element.

## **Different Types of CSS Combinators**

* ****Descendant Combinator****: This combinator is used to target elements that are descendants of a specified parent element. The following example will target all li items inside ul elements.

<ul>

<li>Example item one</li>

<li>Example item two</li>

<li>Example item three</li></ul>

ul li {

background-color: yellow;}

* ****Child Combinator (**>**)****: This combinator is used to select elements that are direct children of a specified parent element. The following example will target all p elements that are direct children of the container class.

<div class="container">

<p>This will get styled.</p>

<div>

<p>This will not get styled.</p>

</div></div>

.container > p {

background-color: black;

color: white;}

* ****Next-sibling Combinator (**+**)****: This combinator selects an element that immediately follows a specified sibling element. The following example will select the paragraph element that immediately follows the h2 element.

<h2>I am a sub heading</h2>

<p>This paragraph element will get a red background.</p>

h2 + p {

background-color: red;}

* ****Subsequent-sibling Combinator (**~**)****: This combinator selects all siblings of a specified element that come after it. The following example will style only the second paragraph element because it is the only one that is a sibling of the ul element and shares the same parent.

<div class="container">

<p>This will not get styled.</p>

<ul>

<li>Example item one</li>

<li>Example item two</li>

<li>Example item three</li>

</ul>

<p>This will get styled.</p></div><p>This will not get styled.</p>

ul ~ p {

background-color: green;}

## **Inline, Block, and Inline-Block Level Elements**

* ****Inline Level Elements****: Inline elements only take up as much width as they need and do not start on a new line. These elements flow within the content, allowing text and other inline elements to appear alongside them. Common inline elements are span, anchor, and img elements.
* ****Block Level Elements****: Block-level elements start on a new line and take up the full width available to them by default, stretching across the width of their container. Some common block-level elements are div, paragraph, and section elements.
* ****Inline-Block Level Elements****: You can set an element to inline-block by using the display property. These elements behave like inline elements but can have a width and height set like block-level elements.

## **Margin and Padding**

* **margin**Property****: This property is used to apply space outside the element, between the element's border and the surrounding elements.
* **padding**Property****: This property is used to apply space inside the element, between the content and its border.
* **margin**Shorthand****: You can specify 1–4 values to set the margin sides. One value applies to all four sides; two values set top and bottom, then right and left; three values set top, horizontal (right and left), then bottom; four values set top, right, bottom, left.
* **padding**Shorthand****: You can specify 1–4 values to set the padding sides. One value applies to all four sides; two values set top and bottom, then right and left; three values set top, horizontal (right and left), then bottom; four values set top, right, bottom, left.

## **CSS Specificity**

* ****Inline CSS Specificity****: Inline CSS has the highest specificity because it is applied directly to the element. It overrides any internal or external CSS. The specificity value for inline styles is (1, 0, 0, 0).
* ****Internal CSS Specificity****: Internal CSS is defined within a style element in the head section of the HTML document. It has lower specificity than inline styles but can override external styles.
* ****External CSS Specificity****: External CSS is linked via a link element in the head section and is written in separate .css files. It has the lowest specificity but provides the best maintainability for larger projects.
* ****Universal Selector (**\***)****: a special type of CSS selector that matches any element in the document. It is often used to apply a style to all elements on the page, which can be useful for resetting or normalizing styles across different browsers. The universal selector has the lowest specificity value of any selector. It contributes 0 to all parts of the specificity value (0, 0, 0, 0).
* ****Type Selectors****: These selectors target elements based on their tag name. Type selectors have a relatively low specificity compared to other selectors. The specificity value for a type selector is (0, 0, 0, 1).
* ****Class Selectors****: These selectors are defined by a period (.) followed by the class name. The specificity value for a class selector is (0, 0, 1, 0). This means that class selectors can override type selectors, but they can be overridden by ID selectors and inline styles.
* ****ID Selectors****: ID selectors are defined by a hash symbol (#) followed by the ID name. ID selectors have a very high specificity, higher than type selectors and class selectors, but lower than inline styles. The specificity value for an ID selector is (0, 1, 0, 0).
* **!important**keyword****: used to give a style rule the highest priority, allowing it to override any other declarations for a property. When used, it forces the browser to apply the specified style, regardless of the specificity of other selectors. You should be cautious when using !important because it can make your CSS harder to maintain and debug.
* ****Cascade Algorithm****: An algorithm used to decide which CSS rules to apply when there are multiple styles targeting the same element. It ensures that the most appropriate styles are used, based on a set of well-defined rules.
* ****CSS Inheritance****: The process by which styles are passed down from parent elements to their children. Inheritance allows you to define styles at a higher level in the document tree and have them apply to multiple elements without explicitly specifying them for each element.

## **Styling Lists**

* **line-height**Property****: This property is used to create space between lines of text. The accepted line-height values include the keyword normal, numbers, percentages and length units like the em unit.
* **list-style-type**Property****: This property is used to specify the marker for a list item. Acceptable values can include a circle, disc, or decimal.
* **list-style-position**Property****: This property is used to set the position for the list marker. The only two acceptable values are inside and outside.
* **list-style-image**Property****: This property is used to use an image for the list item marker. A common use case is to use the url function with a value set to a valid image location.

## **Spacing list items using margin**

* Apart from line-height, margins can also be used in CSS to enhance the spacing and readability of list items.
* Margins create space outside each li element, allowing control over the gap between list items.
* margin-bottom is used to create space below each list item. For example, margin-bottom: 10px; will create a 10-pixel gap below each list item.

## **Styling Links**

* **pseudo-class**: This is a keyword added to a selector that allows you to select elements based on a particular state. Common states would include the :hover, :visited and :focus states.
* **:link pseudo-class**: This pseudo-class is used to style links that have not be visited by the user.
* **:visited pseudo-class**: This pseudo-class is used to style links where a user has already visited.
* **:hover pseudo-class**: This pseudo-class is used to style an elements where a user is actively hovering over them.
* **:focus pseudo-class**: This pseudo-class is used to style an element when it receives focus. Examples would include input or select elements where the clicks or tabs on the element to focus it.
* **:active pseudo-class**: This pseudo-class is used to style an element that was activated by the user. A common example would be when the user clicks on a button.

## **Working with Backgrounds and Borders**

* **background-size**Property****: This property is used to set the background size for an element. Some common values include cover for the background image to cover the entire element and contain for the background image to fit within the element.
* **background-repeat**Property****: This property is used to determine how background images should be repeated along the horizontal and vertical axes. The default value for background-repeat is repeat meaning the image will repeat both horizontally and vertically. You can also specify that there should be no repeat by using the no-repeat property.
* **background-position**Property****: This property is used to specify the position of the background image. It can be set to a specific length, percentage, or keyword values like top, bottom, left, right, and center.
* **background-attachment**Property****: This property is used to specify whether the background image should scroll with the content or remain fixed in place. The main values are scroll (default), where the background image scrolls with the content, and fixed, where the background image stays in the same position on the screen.
* **background-image**Property****: This property is used to set the background image of an element. You can set multiple background images at the same time and use either the url, radial-gradient or linear-gradient functions as values.
* **background**Property****: This is the shorthand property for setting all background properties in one declaration. Here is an example of setting the background image and setting it to not repeat: background: no-repeat url("example-url-goes-here");
* ****Good Contrast for Background and Foreground Colors****: It is important to ensure that the background and foreground colors have good contrast to make the text readable. The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) recommend a minimum contrast ratio of 4.5:1 for normal text and 3:1 for large text.

## **Borders**

* **border-top**Property****: This property is used to set the styles for the top border of an element. border-top: 3px solid blue; sets a 3-pixel-wide solid blue border on the top side of the element.
* **border-right**Property****: This property is used to set the styles for the right border of an element. border-right: 2px solid red; sets a 2-pixel-wide solid red border on the right side of the element.
* **border-bottom**Property****: This property is used to set the styles for the bottom border of an element. border-bottom: 1px dashed green; sets a 1-pixel-wide dashed green border on the bottom side of the element.
* **border-left**Property****: This property is used to set the styles for the left border of an element. border-left: 4px dotted orange; sets a 4-pixel-wide dotted orange border on the left side of the element.
* **border**Property****: This is the shorthand property for setting the width, style, and color of an element's border. border: 1px solid black; sets a 1-pixel-wide solid black border.
* **border-radius**Property****: This property is used to create rounded corners for an element's border.
* **border-style**Property****: This property is used to set the style of an element's border. Some accepted values include solid, dashed, dotted, and double.

## **Gradients**

* **linear-gradient()**Function****: This CSS function is used to create a transition between multiple colors along a straight line.
* **radial-gradient()**Function****: This CSS function creates an image that radiates from a particular point, like a circle or an ellipse, and gradually transitions between multiple colors.