

Cascading Style Sheets Cheat Sheet

Let's start from the beginning. CSS or Cascading Style Sheets is a syntax you can use to add broad formatting to your web pages. Styles can be created that are specific to an element, a tag, a single page or your whole website. The basic element in CSS is the style rule:

```
selector{style-property1:value; style-property2:value}
```

The *selector* indicates what the rule will apply to.

The *properties* are the particular style characteristics that are being modified.

The *value* is the new value for that property. Note that metrics for values have far more

For example:

```
h1 {text-align:center; color:#00f344}
```

Selector: h1

Property: text-align, Value: center

Property: color, Value: #00f344

This rule states that all h1 tags should be centered on the page and colored red.

The properties and values can be found in any good CSS reference. We will discuss some of the less obvious ones later in this document.

CSS Selectors

Now that you have the basics, let's talk about selectors.

Selectors can be:

- A tag
- A style class
- A pseudo-element
- An id

A tag is any extant tag in the document. This can also be used with XML to format XML custom tags. Examples are h1, li, p, td. Rules with tag selectors will be applied to every instance of that tag in the current document.

A style class is a name created by you. The class name should be prefaced with a dot (.) in the style rule.

```
.center {text-align:center}
```

Rules with class selectors will be applied only to elements in the current document that reference the class.

```
<h1 class="center">Some Text</h1>
```

Pseudo-elements extend the CSS specification.

a:link
a:visited
a:active
a:hover

- which all apply to the formatting of a link.
Also, first-child, last-child, before, after

Special Effects: Link hover effect

```
a:link {font-family: arial; color:#00ff00}  
a:visited {font-family: arial; color: #323232}  
a:active {font-family: arial; color:#323232}  
a:hover {background-color:#00ffff}
```

Link is an unvisited link

Visited is for a link that has been followed

Active is while the mouse is over and clicked

Hover is while the mouse is over and not clicked

ID selectors start with a hash mark (#) and apply only to the element with the specified id.

```
.head1{text-align:center}  
  
<h1 id="head1">Some Text</h1>
```

Variations on Selectors

In addition to a single tag or class, selectors can be combined to get powerful control over your style rules.

- tag rule applies to the specified tag
- tag1, tag2 rule applies to all of the specified tags
- tag1 tag2 rule applies when both tags are set
ie, "h1 b" applies when
"<h1> Text is h1 and bold</h1>"
- tag [attr=value] rule applies to specified tag only when the attribute
is set to the given value
<tag attr="value" ...
- .x rule applies when class="x"
<tag class="x" ...
- tag1.x rule applies for all tag1 when its class="x"
<tag1 class="x" ...
- a.x:active rule applies to links that specify class "x"
<a class="x" href=" " ...

- #x rule applies when *id* is x

Where do Style Rules Live?

- External Style Sheets

An external style sheet is a separate file to store the style rules. The style sheet must be accessible from the original document (usually it is in the same folder or a subfolder). The external style sheet can be linked to all of your pages to ensure that they are styled consistently.

- The file is a set of style rules
- The usual extension is .css
- Can be shared by several pages
- Use the link tag to attach to an external style sheet
`<link rel="stylesheet" type = "text/css" href="file.css">`

Note that the position of the <link> tag is important. Subsequent linked style sheets will add to or override styles that have already been specified. That's one reason they are termed "cascading"

Sample External Style Sheet:

```
h1 {color : #ff0000; font-family:arial}
p {font-size:18px }
p.center {font-size:16px; text-align:center}
p.quoted {font-style: italic; font-size:14pt;text-indent:1in }
a {font-family:arial; font-size:20px; color : #234567}
a:hover {color : gray}
```

- Internal style sheet

In an internal style sheet, all of the rules are contained within a document placed inside of "<style>" tags. Internal style sheets apply only to the current document. They can be placed after a link tag to add to or override any styles specified in an external style sheet.

- Use style tag
`<style type="text/css">`
`<!--`
style rules go here ...
`-->`
`</style>`
- Comment are sometimes used to avoid ugly code being displayed if the browser does not support CSS.
- Takes precedence over previously loaded stylesheets

- **Inline**
 Inline styles are placed within the tag using the “style” attribute. These should include the property/value pairs only. These will add to or change any previous style rules.
 - “at the tag”
 - `<h1 style=text-align:center>`

Some ideas- change the background, change the text color, change the font, bold the text, make the text larger. Be careful: if you change the size of the text, you will want it within a table cell or CSS block so that it does not affect the position of other elements on the page.

Special Effects: Pull down menu

```
<head>
<style type="text/css">
.menu {float:left}
.menu a {display:block; width:60; visibility:hidden;}
.menu:hover a {display:block; width:60; visibility:visible;}
a:link {font-family:Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
        font-size:14px; color:#669999; text-decoration:none}
a:visited {font-family:Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
           font-size:14px; color:#669999; text-decoration:none}
a:active {font-family:Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
          font-size:14px; color:#669999; text-decoration:none}
a:hover {text-decoration:underline}
</style>
</head>

<body>
<div class="menu">Events
<a href="#">Speaking Engagements</a>
<a href="#">Appearances</a>
</div>

<div class="menu">Catalog
<a href="#">Books</a>
<a href="#">Other merchandise</a>
</div>

<div class="menu"> More Info
<a href="#">Contact Information</a>
<a href="#">Favorite Links</a>
</div>
</body>
```

Explanation:

- **`.menu {float:left}`**

Each menu will be placed as far as possible to the left, but beside the last element.

- **`.menu a {display:block; width:60; visibility:hidden;}`**

Display each individual menu item in its own block with given width. The `display:block` also makes it convenient to set a background color as a hover effect.

Also, these items are hidden until the mouse hovers over the top level menu item.

- **`.menu:hover a {display:block; width:60; visibility:visible;}`**

This is where the magic happens. Whenever the mouse is over anything within the `<div>`, the links will be visible

- **`a:link {font-family:Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
font-size:14px; color:#669999; text-decoration:none}
a:visited {font-family:Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
font-size:14px; color:#669999; text-decoration:none}
a:active {font-family:Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
font-size:14px; color:#669999; text-decoration:none}
a:hover {text-decoration:underline}`**

This is a simple hover effect that adds an underline when you hover over the link itself.