**Basic CSS Syntax: Introduction**

CSS does NOT use the same syntax as HTML; it is a completely separate language. In CSS, you redefine the appearance of HTML tags using PROPERTIES; these properties follow a specific syntax, which I will outline momentarily.

When you redefine an HTML tag's appearance using CSS properties, you override the web browser's default settings; conversely, any property which you do NOT define reverts to the browser's default setting. For instance, if you redefine the **B** (bold) tag to be green 48 point Arial, but you do NOT specify its boldness (font-weight) property, the browser will automatically revert to its default setting for boldness, displaying the **B** tag as BOLD green 48 point Arial. In another example, if you do NOT define the **H1** tag's appearance in CSS, the **H1** tag will display using the browser's default settings.

Again, anything you define using CSS will override the web browser's default appearance settings; anything which you do NOT define will display using the browser's default settings.

Before we talk precisely about how you redefine an HTML tag in CSS, let's talk a little bit about CSS property syntax itself.