Inline Style Sheets

Inline style sheets mainly use the **SPAN** tag within the BODY of an HTML page to add style to selected text.

Example (abbreviated):

<span>Here is some text.</span>

SPAN requires one attribute: **STYLE**. The **STYLE** attribute of the **SPAN** tag will be set to some number of properties which would then apply to that one **SPAN** tag.

Example:

<p>Here is <span style="font-size:24pt; color:#FF0000;">some text.</span></p>

Displayed:

Here is some text.

Example:

<p>Here is <span style="font-size:36pt; color:#660066; font-family:'Arial', 'Helvetica', sans-serif;">some more text.</span></p>

Displayed:

Here is some more text.

In the above example, you will notice that I have placed the quoted font names for font-family in SINGLE-quotes rather than double-quotes. Since you can NOT put extra double-quote marks inside an attribute value in HTML, you must substitute single-quote marks.

As you can see, inline style sheets do NOT redefine tags; they merely mark text in HTML using the**SPAN** tag. Again, inline style sheets override both embedded style sheets and linked style sheets applying to the same HTML page.

The **STYLE** attribute may ALSO be added to ordinary HTML tags, as in the following example:

<p style="font-size:36pt;">Here is some more text.</p>

Displayed:

Here is some text.

Warning: This sort of inline style does NOT always behave predictably when in conflict with linked or embedded style sheets.

Inline styles are useful only under very specialized circumstances, such as when you don't have access to putting tags in the HEAD of an HTML page. Inline styles can become burdensome very rapidly if you want to change the appearance of your HTML page, since you have to go back in and change every **SPAN** tag separately. In general, mainly use linked or embedded style sheets when applying CSS to HTML pages. On the other hand, there are times when using an inline style or two can be very convenient.