



CSS

What is CSS?

- ▶ **Cascade Style Sheets**
- ▶ Defines a Web page's appearance
- ▶ CSS separates style and content
- ▶ Consists of a plain text file with rules for the display of HTML elements
- ▶ Formatting includes fonts and colors as well as layout and position
- ▶ Can be created outside of your HTML and applied to multiple Web pages
- ▶ Well-formed HTML is important for your CSS to work properly

History

- ▶ Prior to CSS, Web pages were commonly styled with HTML tags and structured with tables
- ▶ This was both tedious and inefficient Nine different style sheet languages were proposed, two were chosen as the foundation
- ▶ CSS Level 1 emerged as a W3C Recommendation in December 1996
- ▶ Browsers began to support CSS over the next few years

Using CSS

- ▶ CSS can be applied in three different ways to a Web page:
 - ▶ In an external .css file
 - ▶ In the <head> section of an HTML document
 - ▶ The <style> tag is used to insert CSS
 - ▶ Inline with HTML code

Selectors

- ▶ Specific Elements
 - ▶ h1, h2 -h6, body, p, etc
- ▶ id
 - ▶ Identifier unique to the document
- ▶ class
 - ▶ Identifier that groups multiple elements in a document

The diagram illustrates the syntax of a CSS declaration. The code `a { background-color: yellow; }` is shown with various parts highlighted and labeled. Brackets above the code group the selector (`a`), the property (`background-color`), and the value (`yellow`). Arrows point to the opening curly brace, the colon, the semicolon, and the closing curly brace, each with a descriptive label.

selector

property

value

declaration end

a { background-color: yellow; }

declaration start

property/value separator

declaration separator

Cascading






- ▶ The principle of the “cascade” is applied when style rules are in conflict
- ▶ Three primary factors determine which style rule wins out:
 - ▶ Inheritance
 - ▶ Specificity
 - ▶ Location

CSS3

- ▶ Latest standard for CSS
- ▶ CSS2 is best supported
- ▶ CSS3 is still evolving but offers new features for designers and developers
- ▶ Modern browsers support many aspects of CSS3
- ▶ Backwards compatible with CSS2

CSS3

Taxonomy & Status (October 2014)

-  W3C Recommendation
-  Candidate Recommendation
-  Last Call
-  Working Draft
-  Obsolete or inactive

