

Can I put a `<style>...</style>` tag within the body of a HTML file to send in email?

Asked 16 years, 2 months ago Modified 2 years, 4 months ago

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Since a lot of email clients ignore the HEAD tag, can I embed an inline stylesheet in the body?

61



html

css

email



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edited Dec 9, 2016 at 21:28



Kzqai

23k ● 26 ● 111 ● 138

asked Oct 22, 2008 at 13:56



Manu

29.1k ● 28 ● 77 ● 83

- 1 Note: the accepted answer is no longer correct. See below for recent answers. You CAN use `<style>` tags (within the `<head></head>`), and elements can have classes, at least as of 2022. – Richard Aug 21, 2022 at 0:41

6 Answers

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The short answer is no. Gmail strips the tag and it's content.

75



Hotmail, Yahoo! Mail and Windows Live Mail does not strip style-tags in the body-element.



But take a look at ["The Ultimate Guide to CSS" for HTML email](#) over at Campaign Monitor.



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edited Dec 11, 2013 at 9:45

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Bart Verkoeijen

17.6k ● 7 ● 55 ● 58

answered Oct 22, 2008 at 13:58



clipse

21.7k ● 37 ● 133 ● 170

10 The guide you've linked to is either out of date or in error on what seems like rather an important point. It indicates that Gmail strips out `<style>` elements regardless of whether they occur in the `<head>` or the `<body>`, but a quick test using [putsmail.com](#) reveals that they are currently not stripped if they occur in the `<head>`. (Gmail does strip classes and ids from all elements, though, which reduces the usefulness of this.) – [Mark Amery](#) Aug 12, 2014 at 22:48

3 Does this is still relevant now, in 2018? – [lolbas](#) Feb 22, 2018 at 14:07

4 Yes and no. You cannot use `<style />` in the BODY of an email for most clients, but you can use `<style />` in the HEAD: [campaignmonitor.com/css/style-element/style-in-head](#) – [png](#) Dec 20, 2018 at 23:11



9

Creating an HTML email that works in every email client is hard. I spent several months refining a good looking template.



<http://commadot.com/the-holy-mail/> - original blog with my findings.



<http://commadot.com/email-best-practices/> - latest greatest.

Specific answer to your question: Gmail will be ok with `style=""` but not with a `<style>` block.

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edited Dec 3, 2015 at 16:19



Phrancis

2,282 ● 2 ● 28 ● 41

answered Oct 23, 2008 at 1:13



Glen Lipka

1,029 ● 8 ● 14

As of 2022, this answer is no longer true of Gmail. It will accept `<style>` as long as it is in the `<head>` section.

– Richard Aug 21, 2022 at 0:43



5

Most gmail clients now support embedded CSS as of September 2016, so it should be safe to do.



<https://litmus.com/blog/gmail-to-support-responsive-email-design>



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answered Jan 5, 2017 at 19:28



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Chris Villa

3,911 ● 1 ● 20 ● 10



2

The top answer is outdated. Gmail now supports using media query's along with other css properties now -

<https://developers.google.com/gmail/design/css>



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answered Feb 6, 2022 at 21:14

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makonnen

21 ● 1



Your answer could be improved with additional supporting information. Please [edit](#) to add further details, such as citations or documentation, so that others can confirm that your answer is correct. You can find more information on how to write good answers [in the help center](#). – Community Bot Feb 6, 2022 at 23:08



2

As others have pointed out, the accepted answer is out of date.

In my own tests, as of **8/20/2022**, Gmail supports elements with classes, and the use of the `<style>` tag, as long as it is in the `<head>`. Also, Gmail no longer strips out inline classes for elements.



Example email:

```
<head>
  <style>
    div.mydiv { background-color: blue; }
  </style>
</head>

<body>
  <div class='mydiv'>This is the contents of my email
  google, for observing the style tag!</div>
</body>
```

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answered Aug 21, 2022 at 0:38

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Richard

2,100 ● 22 ● 32



1



Yes you can. However you have to keep in mind that few email clients respect css standards. Just stick to basic css properties like `margin` and `padding`, etc., and it should all be fine.



Also you can style your html elements inline (`<div style="">`) though it's not an elegant solution.

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edited Jun 2, 2016 at 13:44

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Ulf Gjerdingen

1,424 ● 3 ● 17 ● 21

answered Oct 22, 2008 at 14:02



teebot

1,100 ● 2 ● 12 ● 25