# CSS: Cascading Style Sheets

CSS is another language with syntax and rules that gives different HTML elements their style

Browser’s Default Style > Stylesheet in File (best practice) > Stylesheet in HTML (small projects) > Style in Element (bad)

Inheritance: Rules are applied not only to the specified element but descendant elements. Inherited properties are color, font, letter-spacing, line-height, list-style, text-align, text-indent, text-transform, visibility, white-space, and word-spacing.

Other properties: background, border, display, float and clear, height, width, margin, min- and max-height and –width, outline, overflow, padding, position, text-decoration, vertical-align, and z-index.

Selector: targets the elements on a page the style applies to. Ex. P { attribute: value;}

Class: A group of elements that can be styled together. Don’t use punctuation in the name.

.description { attribute: value; }

Webkit (Chrome and Safari) Reference: <http://trac.webkit.org/browser/trunk/Source/WebCore/css/html.css>

Firefox Reference: <http://hg.mozilla.org/mozilla-central/file/tip/layout/style/html.css>

# CSS Vocabulary

**CSS**: Cascading Style Sheets.

Cascading: Go down the rules until you find the most specific which overwrites more general rules.

**Style**: This word can refer to many things and so it can be confusing. It can refer to:

* The HTML element. For example: <style>div {color:blue}</style>
* The HTML attribute. For example:<div style="color : blue">this text would be blue</div>
* The general look of a web page. For example: "I like that site's style."
* A verb. For example: "I'm making progress on my page. The structure is all done but now I have to style it."

**Rule**: a line of CSS code describing the value that a certain attribute should take.

**Property**: The property you want to change.

**Value**: The value that you want to assign to the attribute.

**Selector**: The name that you use to in order to target the elements that are assigned to a class or id attribute in the HTML.

**Class**: A class refers to a group of elements that can be styled together. Class names should not contain periods or any other punctuation marks such as class="1.1"

**ID**: ID's are unique identifiers that uniquely identifies an element in HTML.

# Including CSS

Method 1: Add <style> div { property:value }</style> in the <head> section

Method 2: Create a separate CSS file and add <link rel=”stylesheet” href=”filename.css”>

Method 3: Write the CSS inside the HTML. Don’t do this.

Comment: /\* this won’t be processed \*/

# Structure

Container Elements:

Division: Defines a block in a document

Span: Defines an in-line section of a document

Content: the image or text that appears on the site

Padding: clears an area around the content and has the background color

Border: goes around padding and content and has the color of the box itself

Margin: clears the area around the border and is transparent; space between boxes

Element Size: Content + Padding + Border

Flexbox: <https://css-tricks.com/snippets/css/a-guide-to-flexbox/>

Box Sizing

1. Every HTML box has four elements: content, padding, border, margin
2. Different browsers sometimes display the same code differently
3. It can be difficult to get the size of a box just right, so try two things:
   1. Set sizes in terms of percentages instead of pixels
   2. Set the box-sizing attribute to border-box

Divs default to the entire width of a page, but display: flex; will let divs appear next to each other

Methodology

Code > Test > Refine > Repeat

1. Break design into boxes
2. Look for repeated styles and semantic elements (which use tags)
3. Write HTML
4. Apply styles (from biggest to smallest)
5. Fix things

Verify HTML: <http://validator.w3.org/#validate_by_input>

Verify CSS: <http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/#validate_by_input>