

# What is CSS?

The Magic Behind Beautiful Websites

CSS = Cascading Style Sheets

CSS dictates how HTML content is displayed: colors, fonts, layouts, and animations.

# How Does CSS Work?

1

## Browser Interpretation

Your web browser reads both the HTML structure and the linked CSS files.

2

## Targeting Elements

CSS rules use selectors to pinpoint specific HTML elements or groups of elements.

3

## Applying Styles

Styles like color, size, spacing, and positioning are then applied to the targeted elements.

For example: `h1 { color: blue; font-size: 36px; }` would make all level 1 headings blue and 36 pixels tall.

# From Bare Bones to Beautiful



Before: Plain HTML



After: Styled with CSS

This visual comparison demonstrates the dramatic transformation CSS brings to a webpage, turning basic content into an engaging user experience.

# CSS Syntax Basics

## The Building Blocks of Style

CSS rules are composed of a selector and a declaration block:

- **Selector:** Points to the HTML element you want to style (e.g., `p`, `h1`, `.class`, `#id`).
- **Declaration Block:** Contains one or more declarations, separated by semicolons.
- **Declaration:** Includes a **property** (what you want to change) and a **value** (how you want to change it), separated by a colon.

```
selector {  
  property: value;  
  property: value;  
}
```

*/\* Example: Styling a paragraph \*/*

```
p {  
  color: #333;  
  font-family: Arial, sans-serif;  
  line-height: 1.6;  
}
```