

design. Select any style sheet from the list to load it into this page. Download the example . HTML FILE and . CSS FILE

#### THE ROAD TO ENLIGHTENMENT

Littering a dark and dreary road lay the past relics of browser-specific

achieved thanks to the tireless efforts of folk like the W3C, WASP, and the

lessons of the masters. Begin to see with clarity. Learn to use the time-

#### SO WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

There is a continuing need to show the power of CSS. The Zen Garden aims to excite, inspire, and encourage participation. To begin, view some of the existing designs in the list. Clicking on any one will load the style sheet into this very page. The HTML remains the same, the only thing that has changed is the external CSS file. Yes, really.

CSS allows complete and total control over the style of a hyper document. The only way this can be illustrated in a way that gets people excited is by demonstrating what it can truly be, once the reins are placed in the hands of those able to create beauty from structure. Designers and coders alike have contributed to the beauty of the web; we can always push it further.

A ROBOT NAMED

PARTICIPATION

page, so strong CSS skills are necessary too, but the example files are commented well enough that even CSS novices can use them as starting points. Please see the CSS Resource Guide for advanced tutorials and tip on working with CSS.

You may modify the style sheet in any way you wish, but not the HTML This may seem daunting at first if you've never worked this way before, but follow the listed links to learn more, and use the sample files as a

you have completed your masterpiece (and please, don't submit half-finished work) upload your CSS file to a web server under your control. Send us a link to an archive of that file and all associated assets, and if we choose to use it we will download it and place it on our server

#### BENEFITS

refer to showing people how amazing CSS really can be. This site serves as equal parts inspiration for those working on the web today, learning tool for those who will be tomorrow, and gallery of future technique

# REQUIREMENTS

Where possible, we would like to see mostly CSS 1 & 2 usage. CSS 3 & 4 should be limited to widely-supported elements only, or strong fallback should be provided. The CSS Zen Garden is about functional, practical CSS and not the latest bleeding-edge tricks viewable by 2% of the

implemented CSS by now. When sticking to the guidelines you should see fairly consistent results across most modern browsers. Due to the you factor in mobile - pixel-perfect layouts may not be possible across every platform. That's okay, but do test in as many as you can. Your design should work in at least IE9+ and the latest Chrome, Firefox, iOS and Android browsers (run by over 90% of the population).

Please keep objectionable material to a minimum, and try to incorporate unique and interesting visual themes to your work. We're well past the point of needing another garden-related design.

This is a learning exercise as well as a demonstration. You retain full guidelines), but we ask you release your CSS under a Creative Commonst

By Dave Shea. Bandwidth graciously donated by mediatemple. Now available: Zen Garden, the book











section .intro #zen-intro header div.summary div.preamble

main #zen-supporting div.explanation div.participation div.benefits div.requirements

footer

aside .sidebar div.design-selection div.design-archives div.zen-resources

CSS ZEN GARDEN

# The Beauty of CSS

## The Road to Enlightenment

Littering a dark and dreary road lay the past relics of browser-specific tags, incompatible DOMs, broken CSS support, and abandoned browsers.

achieved thanks to the tireless efforts of folk like the W3C, WaSP, and the

The CSS Zen Garden invites you to relax and meditate on the important lessons of the masters. Begin to see with clarity. Learn to use the time-honored techniques in new and invigorating fashion. Become one with the

# Select a Design:

Mid Century Modern

Garments by Dan Mall

Steel by Steffen Knoeller Apothecary by Trent Walton

Screen Filler by Elliot Jay Stocks

Fountain Kiss by Jeremy A Robot Named Jimmy by

# Archives:

View All Designs

Resources: View This Design's CSS

Submit a Design Translations

# Participation

# Requirements

### Benefits

and a resource we can all refer to showing people how amazing CSS really can be. This site serves as equal for those who will be tomorrow, and gallery of future techniques we can all look forward to. Where possible, we would like to see mostly CSS1&2 usage. CSS3&4 should be provided. The CSS Zen Garden is about functional, practical CSS and not the latest bleeding-edge tricks viewable by 2% of the browsing public. The only real requirement we have is that your CSS

Luckily, designing this way shows how well various browsers have implemented CSS by now. When sticking to the guidelines you should see fairly consistent results across most modern browsers. Due to the sheer number of user agents on the web these days — especially when you factor in mobile — pixel-perfect layouts may not be possible across every platform. That's okay, but do test in as many as you can. Your design should work in at least IE9+ and the latest Chrome, Firefox, iOS and Android browsers (run by over 90% of the population).

We ask that you submit original artwork. Please respect copyright laws. Please keep objectionable material to a minimum, and try to incorporate unique and interesting visual themes to your work. We're well past the point of needing another garden-related design.

copyright on your graphics (with limited exceptions, see submission guidelines), but we ask you release your <u>CSS</u> under a Creative Commonsticense identical to the one on this site so that others may learn from

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