


Connecting CSS to HTML

Theory

Practice

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Theory

🕒 11 minutes reading

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Technically, it's possible to create a web page using only the capabilities of HTML, but its appearance will not seem modern and pleasant to the eye. In order to give the web page a unique design without resorting to programming and overly difficult logic, you can use the **CSS (Cascading Style Sheets)** technology. With the help of CSS, it is possible to change the color of the elements, the font, text style, as well as the size and location of individual blocks on the page.

You can connect CSS styles found on the Internet to your HTML file or write your own. The most popular source for ready-made templates is [Bootstrap](#): if you want, you can take a look at it and figure out how it works on your own.

CSS styles are saved in files with the corresponding extension `.css`. The number of styles you can connect is unlimited. However, remember that heavy styles may slow down the rendering of the page.

There are several ways to connect CSS files to an HTML document. In this topic, we will consider the simplest ones.

§1. External CSS

CSS styles written in a separate file are called **External Style Sheets**. To include External Style Sheets in an HTML document, use an unpaired `<link>` tag. Take a careful look at the syntax in this example:

```
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3    <head>
4      <meta charset="utf-8">
5      <title>Connecting External CSS to HTML</title>
6      <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
7    </head>
8    <body>
9    </body>
10 </html>
```

The `href` attribute specifies the file's address, and the `rel` attribute with the `stylesheet` value tells the browser that we are connecting styles and not something else.

It is best to include the styles inside the `<head>`, but it's not a strong requirement. The `<link>` tag will also work fine elsewhere on the page.

§2. Internal CSS

CSS styles can be written directly in HTML markup instead of a separate file. Such sets of styles are usually called **Internal Style Sheets**. They are wrapped in a paired `<style>` tag and must be located inside `<head>`:

2 required topics

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In project
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In project

1 dependent topic

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In project

```
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3    <head>
4      <meta charset="utf-8">
5      <title>Connecting Internal CSS to HTML</title>
6      <style>
7        There should be a CSS code here
8      </style>
9    </head>
10   <body>
11   </body>
12 </html>
```

This method of connection is good only when there are very few styles. Remember to always put the volumetric CSS code in a separate file. This practice makes HTML code cleaner and lets you reuse CSS for other web pages.

§3. Inline CSS

You can also define a style for a single element using the HTML attribute style. In this case, CSS properties are written as attribute values:


```
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3    <head>
4      <meta charset="utf-8">
5      <title>Connecting Internal CSS to HTML</title>
6    </head>
7    <body>
8      <p style="css property; css property;">Inline CSS</p>
9    </body>
10 </html>
```

However, this way of connection is considered bad practice because it complicates project support: the code becomes more difficult to read.

§4. Conclusion

Now you know how to connect CSS to your web page in three different ways, so you can make your page truly appealing and very unique. A nice design will please both you and the visitors of your web page.

 Report a typo

 Thanks for your feedback!

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