

Basic syntax

Theory

Practice

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Theory

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CSS has its own code rules. The syntax of this language is not complicated: it is a list of parameters responsible for the design of elements on the page.

Basic CSS syntax can be schematically described as follows:

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

CSS syntax consists of two main parts: a **selector** and a **declaration block** that is put in curly brackets. Let's look at them more closely.

§1. Selector

Selector indicates which HTML elements the styles will be applied to. For example:

```
1 | h1 { color: red; }
```

In this case, the style will apply to all `<h1>` elements on the page. The text of the `<h1>` elements will turn red.

You can write multiple selectors separated by commas, and all styles specified in the declaration block will be applied to them. For example:

```
1 | h1, p { color: red; }
```

Here, styles are applied to two HTML tags at once. All `<h1>` and `<p>` elements on the web page will have a red text color.

§2. Declaration block

Declaration block contains one or more *declarations* separated by semicolons. Several declarations look like this:

```
1 | div {
2 |     width: 500px;
3 |     height: 50px;
4 |     color: yellow;
5 | }
```

In this example, three styles are applied to `<div>` elements simultaneously: specify width equal to 500 pixels, change the height value to 50 pixels, and make the entire text yellow.

Each declaration includes a CSS **property name** and a **value** separated from each other by a colon.

Property determines what exactly will be altered: background, text color, position on the page, or something else. **The value** of a property is a kind of refinement of what it will be changed to. Each property has its own individual set of permissible values. We will learn about the most common properties and their permissible values in the following topics. Take a look at another example:

```
1 | span { font-size: 25px; }
```

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- ✓ [Connecting CSS to HTML](#) In project ▾

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In this case, `font-size` is a property applied to the elements and `25px` is the value. As you probably guessed, here we change the font size to 25 pixels in `` elements.

Declaration blocks are always enclosed in curly brackets.

§3. Conclusion

Here's the deal: there are numerous existing CSS properties: [more than 500!](#) One can't possibly memorize them all, so if you forget something, do not hesitate to simply look it up. It's alright, really, as even the most experienced developers refer to guides and resources! The important thing is to grasp the basics of CSS syntax. Let's make sure you do!

 Report a typo

 Thanks for your feedback!

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