**List of common and handy CSS properties**

There are hundreds of CSS properties. Below is a small selection of some basic properties mostly focussed on layout and type representation, grouped by module.

**Backgrounds and borders**

* [background-color](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/background-color)
* [border](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/border) - The border CSS property sets an element's border.
* [border-radius](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/border-radius) - The border-radius CSS property rounds the corners of an element's outer border edge.
* [box-shadow](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/box-shadow) - The box-shadow CSS property adds shadow effects around an element's frame.

**Color**

* [color](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/color) - The color CSS property sets the foreground color value of an element's text and text decorations.
* [opacity](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/opacity) - The opacity CSS property sets the opacity of an element. Opacity is the degree to which content behind an element is hidden, and is the opposite of transparency.

A colors value can defined in multiple ways:

* By [name/keyword](http://web.simmons.edu/~grovesd/comm244/notes/week3/css-colors#keywords) - color: red; will make your text red.
* By [hex value](http://web.simmons.edu/~grovesd/comm244/notes/week3/css-colors#hex) - color: #ff0000; also red.
* Or as a [function](http://web.simmons.edu/~grovesd/comm244/notes/week3/css-colors#rgba), which allows transparency. - color: rgba(255,0,0,0.5); red, but 50% transparent.

**Box model**

* [margin](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/margin) - The margin property sets the margin area on all four sides of an element. Margin refers to space between different elements.
* [padding](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/padding) - The padding property sets the padding area on all four sides of an element at once. Padding refers to the spacing inside the border of an element.

**Fonts**

* [font-family](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/font-family) - The font-family CSS property specifies a prioritized list of one or more font family names and/or generic family names for the selected element.

You can choose one of the following generic fonts. Which exact font will be used is dependant on your computers' settings.

font-family: serif;

font-family: sans-serif;

font-family: monospace;

font-family: cursive;

font-family: fantasy;

It is also possible to specify an exact font name, but it will only be used if it is actually available on your system. For example following statement will try to use Helvetica if available, but will fallback on a generic sans-serif font if not. (Note the quotes around the font name).

font-family: "Helvetica Neue", sans-serif;

Also see the section on uploading fonts below.

* [font-size](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/font-size) - The font-size CSS property sets the size of the font. Changing the font size also updates the sizes of the font size-relative units, such as em, ex, and so forth.
* [font-style](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/font-style) - The font-style CSS property sets whether a font should be styled with a normal, italic, or oblique face from its font-family.
* [font-weigh](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/font-weight) - The font-weight CSS property sets the weight (or boldness) of the font. The weights available depend on the font-family that is currently set.
* [line-height](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/line-height) - The line-height CSS property sets the height of a line box. It's commonly used to set the distance between lines of text.

**Text**

* [letter-spacing](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/letter-spacing) - The letter-spacing CSS property sets the horizontal spacing behavior between text characters.
* [text-align](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/text-align) - The text-align CSS property sets the horizontal alignment of the content inside a block element.
* [text-transform](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/text-transform) - The text-transform CSS property specifies how to capitalize an element's text. It can be used to make text appear in all-uppercase or all-lowercase, or with each word capitalized.
* [white-space](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/white-space) - The white-space CSS property sets how white space inside an element is handled.
* [word-break](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/word-break) - The word-break CSS property sets whether line breaks appear wherever the text would otherwise overflow its content box.
* [word-spacing](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/word-spacing) - The word-spacing CSS property sets the length of space between words and between tags.
* [text-shadow](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/text-shadow) - The text-shadow CSS property adds shadows to text.

**Transforms**

* [rotate](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/rotate) - The rotate CSS property allows you to specify rotation of elements
* [scale](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/scale) - The scale CSS property allows you to specify the scale (size) of elements
* [translate](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/translate) - The translate CSS property allows you to specify translation transforms (position relative to where it originally was) of elements.

I've borrowed shamelessly from Mozilla to make this text: <https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn/CSS/First_steps/What_is_CSS> and <https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn/HTML/Introduction_to_HTML>