What is Sass?

* **Sass** stands for **S**yntactically **A**wesome **S**tyle**s**heet
* Sass is an extension to CSS
* Sass is a CSS pre-processor
* Sass is completely compatible with all versions of CSS
* Sass reduces repetition of CSS and therefore saves time
* Sass was designed by Hampton Catlin and developed by Natalie Weizenbaum in 2006
* Sass is free to download and use

## Why Use Sass?

Stylesheets are getting larger, more complex, and harder to maintain. This is where a CSS pre-processor can help.

Sass lets you use features that do not exist in CSS, like variables, nested rules, mixins, imports, inheritance, built-in functions, and other stuff.

### **Sass Example**

/\* define variables for the primary colors \*/  
$primary\_1: #a2b9bc;  
$primary\_2: #b2ad7f;  
$primary\_3: #878f99;  
  
/\* use the variables \*/  
.main-header {  
  background-color: $primary\_1;  
}  
  
.menu-left {  
  background-color: $primary\_2;  
}  
  
.menu-right {  
  background-color: $primary\_3;  
}

## How Does Sass Work?

A browser does not understand Sass code. Therefore, you will need a Sass pre-processor to convert Sass code into standard CSS.

This process is called transpiling. So, you need to give a transpiler (some kind of program) some Sass code and then get some CSS code back.

**Tip:** Transpiling is a term for taking a source code written in one language and transform/translate it into another language.

Sass File Type

Sass files has the ".scss" file extension.

Sass Comments

Sass supports standard CSS comments /\* comment \*/, and in addition it supports inline comments // comment:

With Sass, you can store information in variables, like:

* strings
* numbers
* colors
* booleans
* lists
* nulls

Sass uses the $ symbol, followed by a name, to declare variables:

Sass Variable Syntax:

$*variablename*: *value*;

The following example declares 4 variables named myFont, myColor, myFontSize, and myWidth. After the variables are declared, you can use the variables wherever you want:

SCSS Syntax:

$myFont: Helvetica, sans-serif;  
$myColor: red;  
$myFontSize: 18px;  
$myWidth: 680px;  
  
body {  
  font-family: $myFont;  
  font-size: $myFontSize;  
  color: $myColor;  
}  
  
#container {  
  width: $myWidth;  
}