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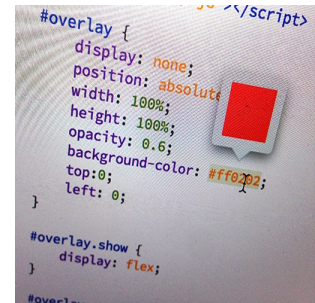
## Style and link tags

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### <style> tag

The best practice when working with CSS is to keep it in an external file using the <link> tag, however, when starting, it is simpler to merely place it directly into the document under edit.

To place CSS directly into an HTML document, we use the <style> tag. This tag can appear anywhere in an HTML document, however, the most common practice is to place it in the <head> section. Such as:



```
1. <!DOCTYPE html>
2. <html lang="en">
3.
4.   <head>
5.     <meta charset="UTF-8">
6.     <title>Style and link tags</title>
7.     <style>
8.       /* CSS will go in this area */
9.     </style>
10.  </head>
11.
12.  <body>
13.
14.  </body>
15. </html>
```

### <link> tag

While `<style>` is convenient, the better practice is to put the CSS into a separate file. One of the key advantages of using a separate file is that the CSS styles can easily be re-used between your different .html pages. Many authors further divide their CSS up into different files (for example: one for text styles and another one for layout).

Simply put your CSS into a separate file. This file does not need any HTML markup (i.e., no `<style>` tag required). Use the .css file extension and use a `<link>` tag to bind it in. The `<link>` tag must appear in the `<head>` section. By convention, css files are kept in a directory named `css`.

Use this `<link>` as a template:

```
1. <link rel="stylesheet" href="css/my_styles.css">
```

Here is an example HTML document.

```
1. <!DOCTYPE html>
2. <html lang="en">
3.
4.   <head>
5.     <meta charset="UTF-8">
6.     <title>Style and link tags</title>
7.     <link rel="stylesheet" href="css/my_styles.css">
8.   </head>
9.   <body>
10. </body>
11. </html>
```