

Web Tools: Task Runners: Grunt and Gulp

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Web Development

- Web development involves a lot of repetitive tasks
- The DRY (do not repeat yourself) principle
- Need for build tools to automate tasks

CSS Tasks

- Compiling Sass or Less into CSS
- Running Autoprefixer to add any vendor prefixes that are needed
- Minification: removing unnecessary characters (white spaces, newlines, comments) from source code without compromising functionality
- Concatenation

JavaScript Tasks

- JSHint: Checking JavaScript code for errors and potential problems (static code analysis)
- Concatenation
- Uglification: minification + mangling (reduce local variables to single letters)
- Rechecking for errors

Other Tasks

- Images: optimizing files to reduce file size
- Watch: watching for changes in files and automatically rerunning tasks
- Server and Livereload
- Testing
- Building your site for deployment

Task Runners

- Configure the tasks once, and rerun it automatically as many times as needed
- Several Task runners out there: Grunt, Gulp, Cake, Brunch, Broccoli
- Build systems for the web

JavaScript Task Runners

Grunt

Configuration over Code



Gulp

Code over Configuration

