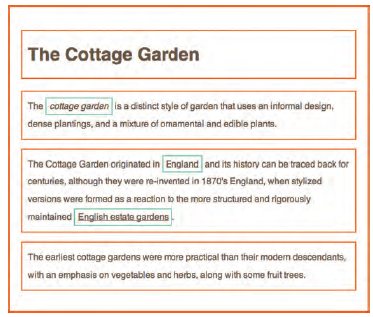
The key to understanding how CSS works is to imagine that there is an invisible box around every HTML element.

CSS allows you to create rules that control the way that each individual box (and the contents of that box) is presented.

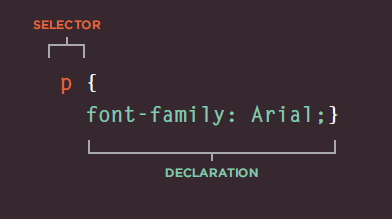
I have added outlines to each of the elements so that you can see how CSS will treat each elements if it lives inside its own box. In this example, block level elements are shown with red borders, and inline elements have green borders.



CSS works by associating rules with HTML elements. These rules govern

How the content of specified elements should be displayed. A CSS rule

Contains two parts: a selector and a declaration.



CSS declarations sit inside curly brackets and each is made up of two

Parts: a property and a value, separated by a colon. You can specify

Several properties in one declaration, each separated by a semi-colon.





If there are two or more rules

If there are two or more rules that apply to the same element, it is important to understand which will take precedence. LAST RU Le

if the two selectors are identical, the latter of the two will take precedence. Here you can seethe second I selector takes precedence over the first.

SPECIFICITY

If one selector is more specific than the others, the more specific rule will take precedence over more general ones. In this example:

h1 is more specific than \*

P b is more specific than P

p#intro is more specific than p

IMPORTANT

You can add !important after any property value to indicate that it should be considered more important than other rules that apply to the same element.

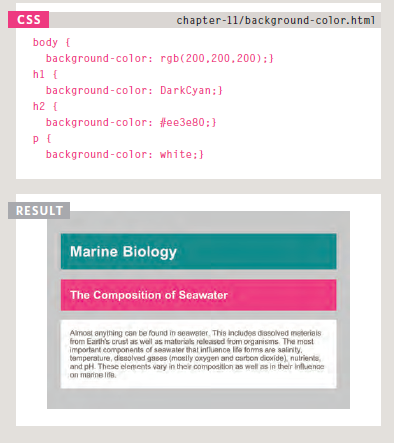
If you specify the **font-family** or **color** properties on the**<body>** element, they will apply to most child elements. This is because the value of the **font-family** property is **inherited** by child elements. It saves you from having to apply these properties to as many elements (and results in simpler style sheets).

You can compare this with the **background-color** or **border** properties; they are **not inherited** by child elements. If these were inherited by all child elements then the page could look quite messy.

You can force a lot of properties to inherit values from their parent elements by using **inherit** for the value of the properties. In this example, the**<div>** element with a **class** called **page** inherits the padding size from the CSS rule that applies to the **<body>** element



CSS treats each HTML elements if it appears in a box, and the **background-color** property sets the color of the background for that box.If you do not specify background color, then the background is transparent



**@font-face** allows you to use font, even if it is not installed on the computer of the person browsing, by allowing you to specify a path to a copy of the font, which will be downloaded if it is not on the user's machine.

The **font-weight** property allows you to create bold text. There are two values that this property commonly takes:

**Normal** This causes text to appear at abnormal weight.

**Bold** This causes text to appear bold.

If you want to create italic text,you can use the **font-style** property. There are three values this property can take:

**Normal** This causes text to appear in abnormal style (as opposed to italic or oblique).

**Italic** This causes text to appear italic.

**Oblique** This causes text to appear oblique.

The **text-transform** property is used to change the case of text giving it one of the followingvalues:

**Uppercase** This causes the text to appearuppercase.

**Lowercase** This causes the text to appearlowercase.

**Capitalize** This causes the first letter of each word to appear capitalized.

The **text-decoration** propertyallows you to specify the following values:

**None** This removes any decoration already applied to the text.

**Underline** This adds a line underneath the text.

**Overline** This adds a line over the top of the text.

**line-through** This adds a line through words.

**Blink** This animates the text to make it flash on and off (however this is generally frowned upon, as it is considered rather annoying).

Increasing the **line-height** makes the vertical gap between lines of text larger. A good starter setting is around 1.4 to1.5em. Because users can adjust the default size of text in their browser, the value of the **lineheight**property is best given items, not pixels, so that the gap between lines is relative to the size of text the user has selected.

Alignment

The **text-align** property allows

you to control the alignment of text. The property can take one of four values:

**left** This indicates that the text should be left-aligned.

**Right** This indicates that the text should be right-aligned.

**Center** This allows you to center text.

**Justify** This indicates that every line in paragraph, except the last line, should be set to take up the full width of the containing box.

Styling Links

In CSS, there are two **pseudoclasses**that allow you to set different styles for links that have and have not yet been visited

.**: link** This allows you to set styles for links that have not yet been visited

.**: visited** This allows you to set styles for links that have been clicked on. They are commonly used to control colors of the links and also whether they are to appear underlined or not.

Responding to Users

There are three pseudo-classesthat allow you to change the appearance of elements when abuser is interacting with them.

**: hover** This is applied when a user hovers over an element with appointing device such as a mouse. This has commonly been used to change the appearance of links and buttons when a user places their cursor over them. Itis worth noting that such events do not work on devices that use touch screens (such as the iPad) because the screen is not able to tell when someone is hovering their finger over an element.

**: active** This is applied when an element is being activated by a user; for example, when a button is being pressed or a link being clicked. Sometimes this is used to make button or link feel more like itis being pressed by changing the style or position of the element slightly.

**: focus** This is applied when an element has focus. Any element that you can interact with, such as link you can click on or any form control can have focus.

****

Overflowing Content

The **overflow** property tells the browser what to do if the content contained within a box is larger than the box itself. It can have one of two values:

**Hidden** This property simply hides any extra content that does not fit in the box.

**Scroll** This property adds a scrollbar tithe box so that users can scroll to see the missing content.

Border, Margin & Padding

Every box has a border (even if it is not visible or is specified Tobe 0 pixels wide). The border separates the edge of one box from another.

Margins sit outside the edge of the border. You can set the width of a margin to create agape between the borders of two adjacent boxes.

Padding is the space between the border of a box and any content contained within it.Adding padding can increase the readability of its contents



You can control the style of border using the **border-style** property. This property can take the following values:

**solid** a single solid line

**dotted** a series of square dots(if your border is 2px wide, then the dots are 2px squared with a2px gap between each dot)

**dashed** a series of short lines

**double** two solid lines (the value of the **border-width** property creates the sum of the two lines)

**groove** appears to be carved into the page

**ridge** appears to stick out from the page

**inset** appears embedded into the page

**outset** looks like it is coming out of the screen

**hidden** / **none** no border isshownYou can individually change the styles of different borders using:

**border-top-style**

**border-left-style**

**border-right-style**

**border-bottom-styleResu**

The **padding** property allows you to specify how much space should appear between the content of an element and itsborder.The value of this property is most often specified in pixels(although it is also possible tousle percentages or ems). If percentage is used, the padding is a percentage of the browser window (or of the containing box if it is inside another box).Please note: If a width is specified for a box, padding is added onto the width of the box

You can specify different values for each side of a box using:

**padding-top**

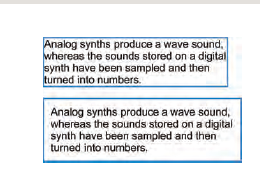
**padding-right**

**padding-bottom**

**padding-left**

Or you can use a shorthand (where the values are in clockwise order: top, right, bottom, left):

**padding: 10px 5px 3px 1px;**



The **margin** property controls

the gap between boxes. Its value is commonly given in pixels, although you may also use percentages or emissive one box sits on top of another, margins are collapsed , which means the larger of the two margins will be used and the smaller will be disregarded. Please note: If the width of a boxes specified then the margin is added to the width of the box. You can specify values for each side of a box using:

**margin-top**

**margin-right**

**margin-bottom**

**margin-left**

You can also use the shorthand (where the values are in clockwise order: top, right, bottom, left):

**margin: 1px 2px 3px 4px;**