

As a web developer, you will typically write more CSS and JavaScript code than HTML code.



What are "Third-Party Packages"?

You CAN write all the CSS / JS code on your own!

But often, you have certain features, styles or tasks that are very common to a lot of projects

Default Styling

Image Carousel

Parallax Effect

"Third-Party Packages" provide "ready to use" code which you can add into your projects and sites



Popular CSS Packages & Use-Cases

Bootstrap

Material UI

Tailwind CSS

A very popular CSS framework (package) that provides dozens of pre-built component styles (e.g. buttons, alerts, ...)

A popular CSS framework (package) that provides dozens of pre-built component styles (e.g. buttons, alerts, ...) which follow the Material design specification (by Google)

A popular CSS framework
(package) that provides
dozens of pre-built utility
styles which you can
combine to style your HTML
code without writing (a lot of)
custom CSS code



Popular JavaScript Packages & Use-Cases

Unlike with CSS Packages, it's less about choosing "one package for everything"

Image Carousel

Scrollspy

Parallax Effect

Animated image gallery where images can be cycled through via page controls

An indicator (e.g. in an outline) that shows the user where on the page he / she is

A visual scrolling effect where different elements are animated at different speeds or with different effects



Third-Party vs Custom Code

Third Party

Less code to write, see results quickly

But: Less control, more "default behavior"

Custom Code

More code to write, more work to do, possibly more error-prone

But: Full control over the result

There is no single right or wrong way!

Typically, in bigger projects, you'll use some third-party code for some parts of your project and custom code for other parts



There Also Are Big JavaScript Frameworks

There also are major JS Framework which focus not just on specific problems but on making building highly interactive web pages easier

React.js

Angular

Vue.js

These frameworks are useful if you're building very complex, JS-driven web user interfaces. They typically introduce a framework-specific syntax (still JS, but enforcing certain patterns etc.).