

The Kentico administration interface is styled using the [Bootstrap framework](#), based on a series of [LESS](#) stylesheets.

If you need to extend or override the styling of the administration interface (for example when [developing a custom module](#)), add your custom styles into the **custom.less** file in the **App_Themes\Default\Bootstrap** folder of your Kentico web project.

Note: The *custom.less* file is explicitly intended for customization, and is never modified by Kentico upgrades or hotfixes.

Compiling the LESS code

Modifying LESS files does not have an immediate effect on the styles in the administration interface. You also need to compile the LESS code into CSS files, which are then linked into the administration interface pages.

For example, you can use Visual Studio and the [Grunt](#) task runner to set up automatic LESS compilation:

1. Download the [Gruntfile.js](#) and [package.json](#) files.
2. Copy both files into the **CMS** folder of your Kentico web project.
3. Open your Kentico solution in Visual Studio.

On **web site** projects, Visual Studio automatically installs the required packages.

For **web application** projects, you need to perform the following additional steps:

1. Include the new files in the *CMSApp* project:
 - a. Click **Show all files** at the top of the Solution Explorer.
 - b. Select the *Gruntfile.js* and *package.json* files.
 - c. Right-click one of the files and select **Include in Project**.
2. Right-click *package.json* and select **Restore Packages**.
3. Wait until the required packages are installed.
4. Save the *CMSApp* project.
5. Close and then reopen the solution.

You can now see a watch task in the Visual Studio *Task Runner Explorer*. When you modify the *custom.less* file, the styles are automatically compiled into the CSS that is applied to the administration interface.