

# HOW TO OVERRIDE STYLES IN A CSS FRAMEWORK

After  
installing a  
**CSS  
Framework**  
(Bootstrap,  
Semantic UI,  
whatever)...

Create a new CSS file called **override.css** and LINK to it from your HTML webpages; install the LINK *below* all other CSS LINKs

In a web browser, use **inspector tools** to find a property you want to change

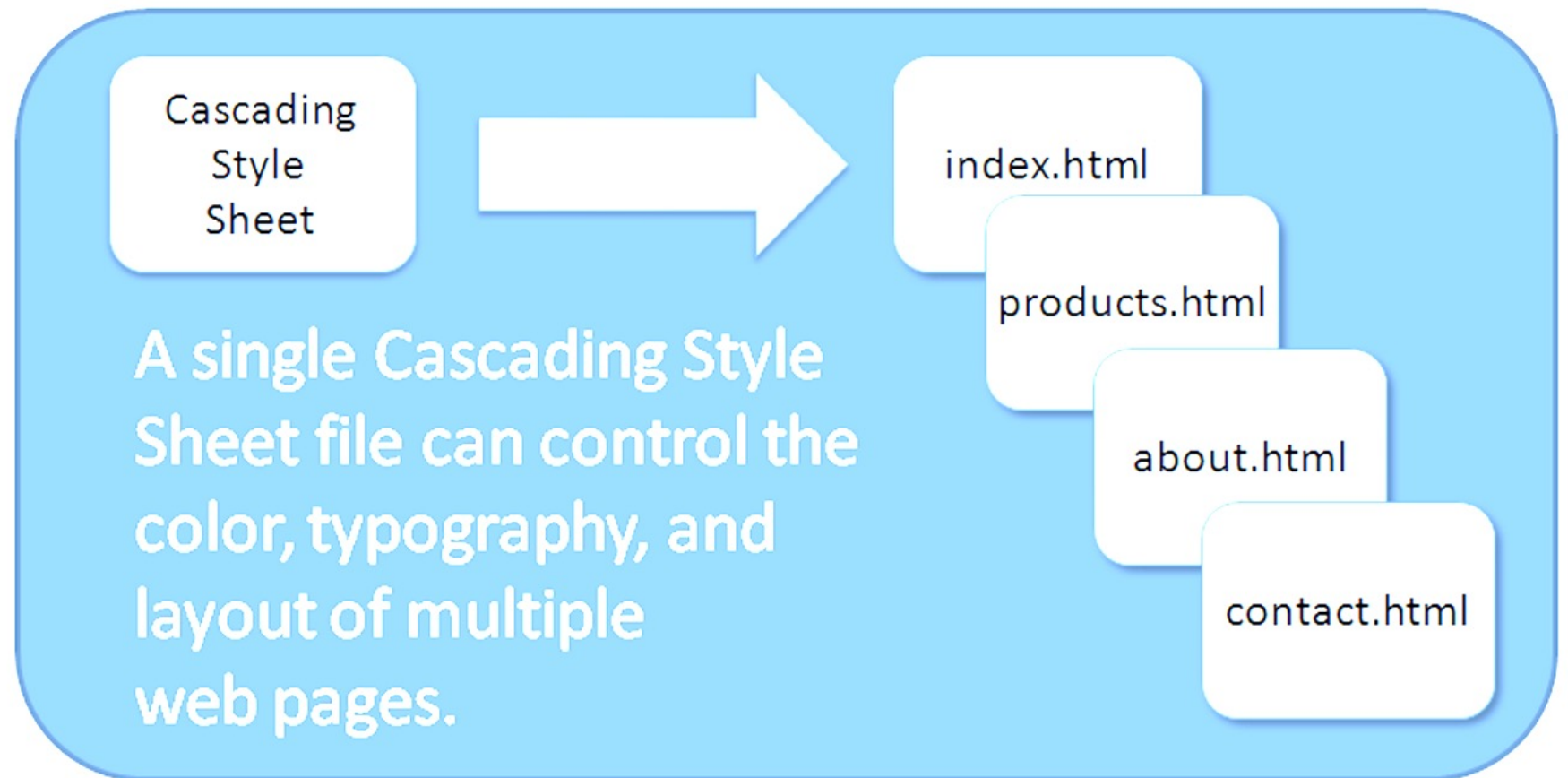
Using inspector tools, toggle and **play around with the property** until you get it looking the way you want

In your override.css file, **write the selector** exactly like (or with more "specificity" than) the selector from the CSS Framework

*Remember: the CSS Framework files ...no touchy!*

# THE "CASCADE"

- All the pages in a website inherit styles from an attached stylesheet(s)
- Nested HTML tags inherit styles from their parents
- Styles mix with each other  
**as they appear  
in the  
stylesheet**



# CSS OVERRIDES

- Separate area, last in-line – under all other CSS
- Includes customizations of CSS provide by plugins that you may have installed (and you don't want to mess with the originals)
- To override a style, you need to do two things:
  1. Write the style AFTER where it appears first, and
  2. Use as much or more "specificity"



# SPECIFICITY

## Conflict resolution

- Note: “conflict” isn’t necessarily bad – it’s part of the design process
- Selectors with more *specificity* override ones with less specificity

### 1. Count the **ID selectors**.

- The declaration with the highest count has the highest specificity.
- If two or more have the same number of ID selectors, or they all have zero ID selectors, proceed to the next step...

### 2. Count the **class selectors**, attribute selectors (for example, [type="submit"]), and pseudo-classes (for example, :hover).

- The declaration with the highest total has the highest specificity.
- If two or more have the same total, or they all have totals of zero, proceed to the next step...

### 3. Count the HTML element type selectors and pseudo-elements (for example, :first-letter)

- The declaration with the highest total has the highest specificity

### 4. !important overrides everything else (but it’s bad practice)

- E.g. `.warning { color: red !important; }`

```
p {  
  color: black;  
  background-color: white;  
}  
div.warning p {  
  color: red;  
}  
div#caution p {  
  color: yellow;  
}  
body#home div p {  
  color: white;  
}
```

# HOW TO OVERRIDE STYLES IN A CSS FRAMEWORK

1. Use inspector tools to find the property
2. Toggle it to make sure it does what you want
3. Copy the selector into your own **override.css**
4. Write your own properties