

When using CSS, what are a few topics a beginner should be aware of?

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When we teach CSS to beginners, we often talk about associating styles with elements, with classes, and with IDs. We tell you that these things are possible, and then we race down the road with classes. Classes are always the right way to solve all of our problems in CSS.

I'm here to tell you that CSS selectors are really interesting. There's all kinds of crazy selectors that you can form, probably a little bit beyond what you're doing right now. But not all of your stuff should be using classes. Classes are for exceptions to the rule. Make sure you start by setting up your CSS for as many HTML tags as possible, kind of like thinking of these as defaults, using classes only as exceptions.

And then, before long, once you get a little bit more familiar with CSS, do take a look into some of the other types of CSS selectors that are out there. For example, you can select every other item on a page of a certain type. You can select various states of links. And there's all kinds of other crazy selectors out there that are really, really interesting and fun.