How are classes and IDs used in CSS?

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So, classes and IDs. I think it's important to understand the difference between them before we talk about how they might be used. Classes are meant to be repeatable. So, if I have an element, say I have a header element, and that header element might appear in multiple contexts. It might appear inside of a blog post design. It might appear at the header of the page. I'll apply that same class to multiple instances of the element because I want those styles to be applied to all of them the same way.

If I only want those styles to apply to one thing on the page, then I would use an ID. So, the ID is meant to only be used once all the style is applied to the ID. When it comes to modern CSS, though, we almost never use IDs anymore on the elements because--IDs tend to be used more for JavaScript. And even there, it's not necessarily used in JavaScript. It depends on the framework.

The difference between them functionally, the class and an ID, is a matter of specificity. So, if I have a class rule applied throughout the page and then I apply an ID onto what--let's say an ID on that same element, the ID takes precedence, the rules attached to that ID, rather than the class. So, that's the specificity that's involved. So, if I have a class that, let's say, makes the font size 20, and you know, that's applied to my header, and then I have an ID on that same element that says the font size needs to be 30, the ID's gonna take precedence in the cascade.

It tends to introduce unnecessary complexity when you start using IDs. And there isn't really a reason, I think, to use them anymore unless maybe the philosophy that you're using in your CSS framework demands it. So, generally, IDs are just not used anymore when it comes down to it.