

Development Mini Project #1

Introduction

For your very first mini project in this class, you'll be putting your newly learned CSS skills to the test by creating a CSSZenGarden template.

If you've never heard of CSSZenGarden (<http://www.csszengarden.com/>) before, it's a CSS gallery where designers submit CSS styles - go check it out! The cool thing is that all of the pages have the *exact* same HTML (remember how we said that HTML is only used for structure, and CSS provides all of the styling?) - you'd be surprised at how much power CSS has over the look and feel of the website.

Deliverables

We will provide the HTML file (it's also available on the CSSZenGarden website), and we will be expecting you to create CSS styles (in the form of a .css file) for your own design.

Your CSS file must:

- Validate through <http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/>
 - Except CSS3 properties -- the validator might complain about browser-specific extensions
- Present a cohesive design
 - You don't have to be a designer and we're not grading fully on aesthetics, but the page should look like it is ONE design (not a Frankenstein design)
 - Again, don't worry too much about aesthetics
- Include at least the following components:
 - Absolutely/relatively positioned elements OR a floated layout
 - Combination of different font colors/styles, backgrounds, borders, links/link hovers, etc.
 - Don't go too crazy on this (subtle is sometimes better), it should just be obvious you gave the styling some thought
 - At least one background image
 - At least one CSS3 technique (gradients, text-shadow, box-shadow, transformations, etc.)
- Be uploaded to your server so that when we visit /~cs198-xx/mp1, we will see the HTML page with your CSS styles applied

Extra credit (and kudos) if you actually submit your design to CSSZenGarden!

- Please note this somewhere on your submission
- There's no way we can actually enforce this, so honor system, I guess
- Make sure you meet the [guidelines](#) before submitting!

Web Design:

Basic to Advanced Techniques

Spring 2012

<http://www.webdesigndecal.com>

Getting Started

We recommend you take the following steps to get started:

1. Get inspired! Check out the other designs on CSSZenGarden or CSSRemix, or any other CSS gallery
2. Have an idea of what you want your design to look like (PS: It helps to make sketches!)
3. Read the HTML page, taking note of all the ID's/class names of elements
 - a. Remember, you are NOT allowed to change any part of the HTML page. You must use the class names and ID names that already exist
4. Code up the CSS from the "inside out"
 - a. Layout
 - b. Larger changes you need to make (backgrounds/images, etc)
 - c. Finer-grained styling (font/link colors, borders, etc)
5. Look up CSS3 properties, and be aware of differing browser support/property names. If possible, try to make your effects work across multiple browsers.