

# Text Formatting

In this lesson, we will see how to format text in CSS.  
Let's begin!

## WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- Text formatting in CSS
- Text properties



## Text formatting in CSS



In the previous chapter you learned all fundamental concepts about using Cascading Style Sheets.

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*Creating web pages with the proper usage of HTML and CSS is a combination of art, craftsmanship, and science.*

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I cannot promise that you will learn everything about CSS that immediately makes you a web designer. However, I'm sure that after reading this chapter you'll be able to understand the basic CSS patterns, and analyze web pages to peek how they work and what tricks they utilize to achieve a particular design

effect.

This chapter introduces the majority of CSS properties and demonstrates their usage with short examples.

## Text formatting in CSS #

At the beginning of this course you started learning HTML at the very basics, by using text. It is worth it to do the same thing with CSS.

CSS offers a number of text-formatting options that let you assign font types, color, sizes, line spacing, and many other properties to display text in your web pages.

The table below summarizes the CSS properties that allow you to customize the rendering of text elements, ranging from simple text snippets to paragraphs and lists.

## Text properties #

Property	Description
color	Sets the color of text. This property is inherited, thus if you set the color of an HTML tag—let’s say <body>—to blue, all text and all other tags inside that tag—<body>—is set to blue, too. In <a href="#">Chapter 9</a> , you already learned how you can specify colors.
font	This is a shorthand notation for packing the following text properties into a single style declaration: font-style, font-variant, font-weight, font-size, line-height, and font-family.
font-family	<p>Specifies the font the browser should use to display text. When you specify font names, provide a comma-separated list of names (should the font name have spaces, surround the name with quotes).</p> <p>The browser attempts to use the font names from left to right, it uses the font it finds installed on the web page visitor’s device. The last font in the list is usually set to one of the following generic font types: serif, sans-serif, monotype, fantasy, or cursive. This setting instructs browsers to choose a suitable font if the other listed fonts aren’t installed.</p>
font-size	Sets the size of the text. Do not forget, this property is inherited, so if you use one of the flexible size types (em or ex) the size is relative to the font size of the parent HTML element (see the example after <a href="#">Table 9-4</a> and the related explanation).
font-style	Allows transforming the text to italic (with the values of italic or oblique), or back to normal.
font-variant	Allows transforming the text to use small caps (small-caps), or remove small caps from text (normal).
font-weight	Makes text bold or removes bolding from text. Although about a dozen

	keywords and values from 100 to 900 can be used as the value of this property, most browsers and devices work only with bold and normal.
letter-spacing	Adjusts the space between letters to spread out them (adding extra space between each) or pack letters together (removing space). Use any valid CSS size type unit—a positive value to increase, and a negative value to condense space. The value normal resets letter-spacing to 0.
line-height	Sets the space between lines of text in a paragraph. The normal line height is 120 percent of the size of the text. Use any valid size type units.
text-align	Positions a block of text to the left, right, or center of the page or container element. The value justify aligns the left and right edges of the text to the edges of the container.
text-decoration	Adds decorations to text elements, such as lines above, under, and/or through text. The color of the decoration is the same as the font color of the tag being styled. You can use any combination of the following keywords (separated by whitespaces): underline, overline, line-through, blink (makes the text flash, however most browsers ignore this option). The none value turns off all decorations.
text-indent	Sets the indent size of the first line of a block of text. You can use any valid size types. With a negative value, you can make the first line off the left edge. Percentage values are based on the width of the box containing the text.
text-shadow	Adds a drop shadow to any text. You can apply four values (each separated by a whitespace): two size type values (ems or pixels) for horizontal and vertical offset, a value for the amount of blur to the text, and a color value, respectively. For the horizontal and vertical offset, a negative number places the shadow to the left or above of the text, a positive value to the right or below.
text-transform	Sets the capitalization of text, to make it appear in all uppercase or lowercase. The value capitalize makes only the first letter of each word capitalized. The none option lets the text remain in the case as it is specified in the HTML markup.
vertical-align	Sets the baseline of an inline element relative to the baseline of the surrounding contents. You can use the baseline, sub, super, top, text-top, middle, bottom, text-bottom keywords, or size values (even negative ones). Percentages are calculated based on the element's
	line-height value. <i>This value is used for inline elements only, and it is not inherited.</i>
white-space	Use this property to control how the browser displays space characters in the HTML code. The value normal uses the standard behavior of browsers, and removes the extra spaced between words. The nowrap value prevents the text from splitting a line of text at a space, if the line will not fit within the browser's window. The pre value instructs to preserve the spaces in the text, just like the <pre> HTML tag does. <i>This value is not inherited.</i>
word-spacing	This property works similarly to letter-spacing, but it adjusts the space between words, and not between letters.

Let's see some examples in the next lesson.