Hands On: Moving Styles into a Separate File

In this lesson, we will learn how to move the style part of our HTML code to a dedicated style sheet. Let's begin!

It is a great thing that you can build up an HTML page to separate style from the content.

But wait a minute!

If you have many styles and dozens of pages, you still may suffer from maintainability issues if you embed the `<style>` into each HTML page. Just

imagine what it means to update a single style setting: you have to change it in each affected page.

Evidently, there is a simple technique to resolve this issue. You can move the content of the `<style>` section into a **separate CSS file** (with `.css` extension), as you will learn in the upcoming exercise.

EXERCISE 1.5: Adding a CSS file to the project

To move the style information into a separate `.css` file, follow these steps:

Step 1

In the live coding widget provided, navigate to the file **style.css**. From **index.html**, copy the content of the `<style>` section (without the opening and closing `<style>` tags) into the newly created **style.css** file. After this operation, **style.css** should look like this:

```
style.css
```

```css
body {
        font-family: Verdana, Arial, sans-serif;
}

h1 {
        color: white;
        background-color: #61b3e7;
}

h2 {
        color: #61b3e7;
        margin-left: 40px;
}
```

LIVE coding widget

Use our live coding widget below to write your code. As always, we encourage you to type out the code to get better practice.

To get the code up and running simply click the `Run` button below and see the output in action both in the output tab and the host link provided below.

If you make any changes to your code, the live-server will detect these. Just press run as there is no need to restart the server!

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```html
<html>
<head>
  <title>Table of Contents</title>
  <style>
    body {
      font-family: Verdana, Arial, sans-serif;
    }
    h1 {
      color: white;
      background-color: #61b3e7;
    }

    h2 {
      color: #61b3e7;
      margin-left: 40px;
      border-bottom: 4px dotted black;
    }
  </style>
</head>
<body >
  <h1>Introduction</h1>
  <h2>Whom this book is for?</h2>
  <h2>Errata</h2>
  <h1>Chapter 1</h1>
  <h2>What you will learn in this chapter</h2>
  <h2>Summary</h2>
  <h1>Chapter 2</h1>
  <h2>Recap</h2>
  <h2>Conclusion</h2>
</body>
</html>
```

Step 2:

In **index.html**, replace the whole `<style>` section with this markup:

```html
<link href="style.css" rel="stylesheet" />
```

Step 3:

Now, the `<head>` section of **index.html** should look like this:

```html
<head>
  <title>Table of Contents</title>
  <link href="style.css" rel="stylesheet" />
</head>
```

Step 4:

When you display the page via the link provided in our live widget, it has the same appearance as at the end of the previous exercise.

The final output is as follows:

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Great, we hope you were able to follow the above exercise successfully! In the *next lesson*, we'll understand the workings behind the above implementation.

See you there! :)