

Using Web Fonts

In this lesson, we will learn how to use web fonts.

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^


- [Listing 10-4: Using web fonts](#)

As you learned earlier, the `font-family` property can be used to set the font type to be used by an HTML tag. However, there's an issue with this property: *you are limited to fonts likely to be installed on the devices of your visitors.*

In many cases, especially if you need a unique design for a brand, it is a real and annoying limitation. With using the CSS web fonts feature, you can instruct the browser to download the font from a web server, and immediately without installation use it to display text on the web page.

The web font technology is designed to support a number of font formats, but as of this writing, only the **WOFF (Web Open Font Format)**, a kind of compressed version of Open Type and True Type font formats, is a W3C recommendation. Nonetheless, major browsers support the **OTF** and **TTF** font types as well.

There are a number of web sites that allow you to download **WOFF** (and other types of web fonts), such as [Google Web Fonts](#), [Fontex.org](#), [Font Squirrel](#), [The Open Font Library](#), and many others.

 **NOTE:** Be sure to check the license of the selected font to avoid any legal issues. To add a web font to your style sheet, use the `@font-face` at rule, as shown in Listing 10-4. This project utilizes web font files that can be found in the Exercise-10-05/fonts folder stored at the backend.

Listing 10-4: Using web fonts

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Using web fonts</title>
  <style>
    @font-face {
      font-family: BPDots;
      src: url(./fonts/BPDots-webfont.woff);
      font-weight: normal;
    }
    @font-face {
      font-family: BPDots;
      src: url(./fonts/BPDotsBold-webfont.woff);
      font-weight: bold;
    }
    @font-face {
      font-family: "Cowboy Hippie Pro";
      src: url(./fonts/Cowboy_Hippie_Pro-webfont.woff);
    }
  </style>
  <style>
    h1 {
      font-family: "Cowboy Hippie Pro", sans-serif;
      font-size: 3em;
    }

    p {
      font-family: BPDots, sans-serif;
      font-size: 1.5em;
    }

    p.bold {
      font-weight: bold;
    }
  </style>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>This is awesome!</h1>
  <p>
    Sollicitudin urna fermentum ut fusce
    varius nisl ac ipsum gravida vel pretium
    tellus tincidunt integer eu augue augue.
  </p>
  <p class="bold">
    Sollicitudin urna fermentum ut fusce
    varius nisl ac ipsum gravida vel pretium
    tellus tincidunt integer eu augue augue.
  </p>
</body>
</html>

```

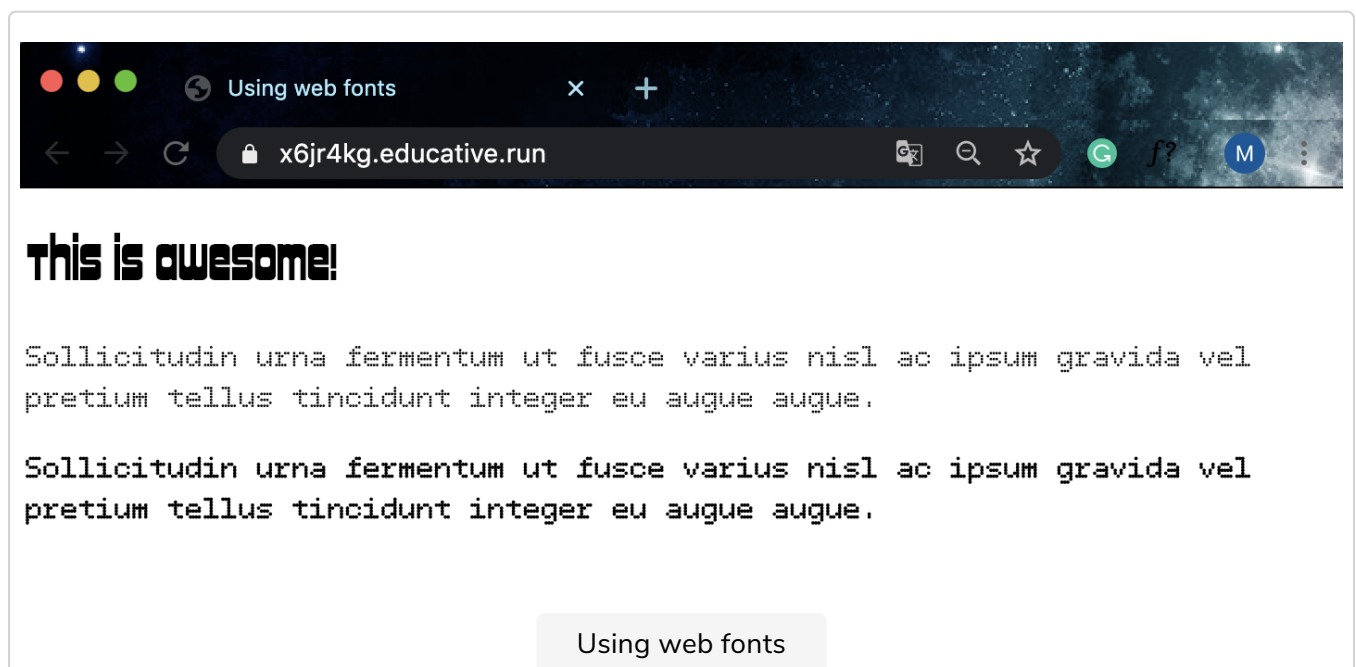
This listing contains three `@font-face` at-rules, each defining exactly one web font. You can use the `font-family` property inside `@font-face` to define a name for the font, and you should use this name in the `font-family` properties of style rules. Use the `src` property to specify the URI that provides

properties or style rules. Use the `src` property to specify the URL that provides access to the font file.

You can also specify other properties of the font, such as `font-weight`, `font-style`, and `font-variant`. The reason is that you can have a separately designed web font version for rendering the bold or italic representation.

In the listing, the first two fonts represent the regular and bold versions of `BPDots`. They use the same `font-family` value, but the second definition specifies the `font-weight` as bold. The result is that the first paragraph will use the first web font and the second will be displayed with the second `@font-face` definition, as its style instructs the browser to render a boldfaced font.

The image below clearly shows how this works.



Now that you have a good understanding of styling texts, it is time to learn about an important concept, the box model, in the *next lesson*.