

CSS Basics

CSS allows you to format an entire webpage (or an entire website!) in one document. This keeps the HTML code from becoming too confusing.

There are 3 kinds of style sheets: external, internal, and inline. External is the most useful one so we'll be using that.

External Style Sheets

Add this command in `<head> ... </head>` after `<title> ... </title>`:

```
<link href="location-of-your-file.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css">
```

Syntax

```
selector {  
    property: value;  
}
```

- Selector = the section of HTML that you wish to format
- Declarations = the format commands. Made of a property and a value
 - Property: style element that you want to change
 - Value: what you want to change it to
 - Each declaration ends in a semicolon ;
- Example:

```
#header {  
    background-color: blue;  
    font: Verdana, Helvetica, sans-serif;  
    height: 100px; width: 700px;  
}
```

Selectors

ID SELECTOR

- used to specify a style for a single, unique element.
- uses the id attribute of the HTML element
- is defined with a "#".
- Example:

```
#para1  
{  
    text-align:center;  
    color:red;  
}
```

This example would make the specified text red and center-aligned. It would ONLY affect the element with id="para1"

CLASS SELECTOR

- use when you want to style several HTML elements at once.
- Defined with the "." symbol.
- For example, a class that center-aligns text would look like:

```
.center {  
    text-align:center;  
}
```

This would make all HTML elements with class=center be center-aligned.

- You can also specify that only specific HTML elements should be affected by a class.
- For example, all p (paragraph) elements with class="center" will be center-aligned:

```
p.center {text-align:center;}
```

- REMEMBER: DO NOT START A CLASS NAME WITH A NUMBER BECAUSE IT IS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH ALL BROWSERS

COMMENTS

You can include comments to help explain your code. Think of it as writing a little note to yourself. Comments are ignored by the browser and don't show up in your actual website- they're just for explaining certain bits of code.

Comments begin with /* and end with */
FOR EXAMPLE:

```
/* This is a comment */
```

The stars are closest to your comment.

EXAMPLES

<http://www.w3schools.com/css/showit.asp?filename=ex1>

<http://www.w3schools.com/css/showit.asp?filename=ex2>