

Cascading Style Sheets

Primer

Selector
Property
Value

```
body {  
  background: #eed;  
  background-image: url(shadow.png);  
  background-position: top left;  
  background-repeat: repeat-x;  
}
```

The Hash Mark indicates that this is an ID selector.
You should only use IDs once per HTML page.

```
#redbox {  
  padding: 10px;  
  border: red dotted 1px;  
  margin: 5px;  
}
```

The Period indicates that this is a Class selector.
You may use classes multiple times.

```
.left {  
  float: left;  
}
```

```
/* this is a comment, and will be ignored by the browser */
```

```
/* this will only affect a paragraph with an id="para1" */  
p#para1 {  
  font-size: 12px;  
}
```

```
/* you can use these classes with multiple paragraphs */  
p.right {text-align: right}  
p.left {text-align: left}
```

There are three ways to use styles. External style sheets, document-level styles and inline styles. Inline will override document and linked styles, document-level styles will override external styles. However, external styles can apply to an ENTIRE site allowing one change to the style sheet to cascade down to every page.

Here's the HTML to use styles:

External Styles

```
<head>
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="styles.css" />
</head>
```

Document-level Styles

```
<head>
<style type="text/css">
  p {margin-left: 20px}
  body {background-image: url("images/bg.gif")}
</style>
</head>
```

Inline Styles

```
<p style="color: sienna; margin-left: 20px">
```

Use Inline Styles sparingly – only when necessary, for single uses.

To apply a style to HTML

```
<p id="para1">
```

This text will have 12 pixel type, as indicated in the above style.

```
</p>
```

```
<p class="left">
```

This type will be aligned to the left.

```
</p>
```

You can redefine or enhance built-in HTML tags, such as the body selector above. This specific selector will apply to the body tag a light yellow color with a horizontal repeating image.

Read more about CSS syntax at the W3Schools:
http://w3schools.com/css/css_syntax.asp