

Class 4: The presentation layer – CSS

CSS and the Web Standards Model

Applying styles: <link>

CSS reset (Eric Meyer)

Style rules

Selectors: Type (elements)

CSS Type properties: Fonts and font stacks

The CSS Box Model

Colours and hexadecimal values

Working with CSS inheritance

Commenting your CSS

Validation

References

Learning Web Design by Jennifer Robbins (5th Edition)

Head First HTML and CSS by Elizabeth Robson & Eric Freeman

HTML & CSS by Jon Duckett

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS>

<https://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/>

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/CSS_Selectors

<https://learn.shayhowe.com/html-css/>

https://tympanus.net/codrops/css_reference/

<https://www.cssfontstack.com/>

Class 4 Homework

Read: Chapters 11-14 of Learning Web Design

or Chapters 7-10 of Head First HTML and CSS

or Chapters 10-14 of HTML & CSS

Watch: **Why is CSS so Weird?** (Mozilla Developer at YouTube) 15mins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHUtMbjw8iA>

Watch: **The 6 most important CSS concepts for beginners** (Kevin Powell at YouTube) 29mins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnTPd9G6hoY&t=22s>

Watch: Section 1 (CSS Basics) and section 2 (CSS Concepts) of **Introduction to CSS** by Carrie Dils at LinkedIn Learning:

<https://www.linkedin.com/learning/introduction-to-css-14934735/>

Have a browse around the LinkedIn Learning video courses. There is a lot of material that you'll find useful on this programme.

Your tasks this week

Task 1: Make corrections to your HTML, based on this week's feedback. For more information on the HTML tags you should be familiar with, view [The only tags you need when first learning HTML](#) (17 mins) from Kevin Powell.

Task 2: Create a style sheet for your three designed objects website, illustrating the range of CSS properties available to you in font, colour, link style, padding, border, and margin etc. Use the [Codrops CSS reference](#) to explore the possibilities. Link to the stylesheet from the <head> of your html files, using the correct syntax, for example (line 5):

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3   <head>
4     <meta charset="utf-8">
5     <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
6     <title>Three Designed Objects</title>
7   </head>
8   <body>
9     <h1>Three Designed Objects</h1>
10    <p>This is the homepage of the three designed objects project.</p>
11  </body>
12 </html>
```

Note: Remember, it's good practice to begin by resetting the CSS to remove browser default styles (we recommend starting with the [Eric Meyer reset](#)). The reset code should be added before your own styles in the CSS file (style.css). It's a good idea to use a comment to indicate where the reset ends and where your own style rules begin.

```
/* MY STYLE RULES */
```

You may also find it useful to add the universal box-sizing rule to your CSS reset so that box model values are applied more logically.

```
* {
  box-sizing: border-box;
}
```

Take special care to ensure that you use the correct syntax for your style rules, for example:

```
1 /* CSS Stylesheet */
2
3 body {
4   font-family: Calibri,Candara,Arial,sans-serif;
5   color: #444444;
6   background-color: #E0E0E0;
7 }
8 main {
9   width: 70%;
10  min-width: 450px;
11  padding: 2.0em 4.0em;
12  border: 1px solid #C0C0C0;
13  margin: 1.5em auto;
14  background-color: white;
15 }
```

Use only "web safe" system fonts, do **not** use a web font service such as Google Fonts (for now).

Use only [CSS Type Selectors](#) to select the HTML elements for styling. **Do not** use classes or IDs, even if you know how to do this.

Use the [W3C Markup Validation Service](#) to check your CSS code (and your HTML if you have changed this). Upload your work to your hosted webspace and link to it from your coursework homepage so that we can review your styling during the Class 5 session.

Task 3: Start styling your coursework homepage if you haven't already done so. You should do this using another *style.css* file in the root folder. You'll need one style file for each project (e.g. one style file for the Three Designed Object project, and one for your coursework page). If you have followed the [guidance on organising your folders](#), there will be no conflict between your different style files. Remember to consider the principles of the web standards model when applying styles. Do not use inline CSS. All your styles should be in the *style.css* file for that project.

We'll review your code next week.

Task 4: Add a "What I learned this week..." post to your blog. Add any useful CSS references as links on your blog.

Post any useful resources you find for HTML and CSS on our Slack channel so everyone can benefit.