

CSS Selectors

Discussion

CSS allows you to cleanly add styling to your web pages. By separating out the styling from the structure, you can easily change the style whenever you want. Using CSS is also an effective way to get consistent styling on a website that contains many, many web pages. Simply link to the CSS page, and your web page is properly styled!

With great power, comes great responsibility, however. When you use CSS in your web pages, you must think carefully about what exactly you *do* want styled. Do you really want **all** of the paragraphs to have neon green letters? Do you really want **all** of the links to be size 32 font? CSS classes come in handy in these situations. By assigning a certain class to a tag, you can still quickly and easily style elements.

Class Exercise

Get in groups of two or three. Each group will design a website for a museum and style it using CSS. It can be any kind of museum that you'd like.

Here are the requirements:

1. The website must contain at least **three** different web pages
2. The website must use the **same** CSS styling on all of the web pages
3. Each web page must contain at least **four elements** in it

Your website should have the following pages in it:

1. Homepage

- a. to describe what your museum is all about and the name of your museum

2. Visit Us

- a. to describe how to get to your museum, the hours, the price of admission, or anything else visitors should know about before visiting your museum

3. Special Exhibits

- a. to describe any special events, attractions, or visiting items that are currently at your museum

You should start by drawing out each page of your website. Each page should have a common title area and navigation bar.

After you've drawn each page, look at the elements you've made. Which ones should be styled similarly? Decide whether you will make a class or use tag selection. Write out the CSS styles by listing the classes or tags you will use to

style. Then list the kind of styling you would add. For example, say I have a class called "banner" for the top of my page. Part of my CSS page could say:

class banner:

Size 24 font

Tan background

Capital black lettering

Dotted border

Color code the classes and the elements on your webpage.

Example Homepage

Yours should be done on paper. The colored borders and fonts correspond to CSS classes and tag selectors (not shown).

