

# CSS Cheat Sheet

Styles are applied to the content of containers through descriptors/selectors. Descriptors/selectors are “filters” which allow identification of containers in an XHTML document using a combination of tag names (e.g. *p*, *div*), labels (e.g. *id* and *class*), and position of the container in the document tree. All style definitions have the form

*descriptor/selector* {*property*<sub>1</sub> : *value*; ... ; *property*<sub>*n*</sub> : *value*}

For example in the following XHTML code snippet

```
< p >...some text ...  
< span class = " unusual " id = " special " >big blue< /span >  
...more text ...  
< /p >
```

if one wants to display the content of the above `< span >< /span >` container in a blue font color of twice the size of the default font size, one can use any of the following methods in the associated `.css` file:

1. `span {color : blue; font - size : 200%}`
2. `p span {color : blue; font - size : 200%}`
3. `#special {color : blue; font - size : 200%}`
4. `.unusual {color : blue; font - size : 200%}`
5. `span.unusual {color : blue; font - size : 200%}`

The first method will apply the defined style to all `< span >< /span >` containers in the document. The second will apply it only to those `< span >< /span >` containers which are nested within a `< p >< /p >` container. The third will be applied only to the unique container with the `id = " special "`. The fourth will be applied to all containers which are labeled `class = " unusual "`. The last one will be applied to only those `< span >< /span >` containers which are labeled `class = " unusual "`.

Note: property/attribute values can be given in absolute or relative units. For certain properties/attributes their values can be given as a list of elements to choose from.

## Typical Style Properties

The description and a complete list of all style properties/attributes and its values is beyond the scope of this cheat sheet. Style properties exist for almost anything one would like to do to a reasonable document. Searching the Internet for the exact definition of styles, their values, and usage is the best way to proceed.

*background* - sets the background color

*color* - sets the text/font color

*font - size* - sets the text/font size

*font - family* - sets the text/font family

*font - style* - sets the text/font style

*font - weight* - sets the text/font weight

*text - align* - sets the text alignment

*text - indent* - sets the text indentation

*line - height* - sets the line height

*float* - sets the position of the container's content and sets the text wrapping mode around it

*vertical - align* - sets the vertical alignment of a container's content relative to the center of the line

*border* - sets the border properties

*margin* - sets the margin values

*padding* - sets the padding values

*list - style* - sets the list enumerating style

*width* - sets the width of a container

Further CSS Resources: W3Schools - <http://www.w3schools.com/css/>

There are numerous books and web pages which can help you learn more about XHTML/CSS, as well as other web related subjects. Please be advised that the U of A Math Dept. computer support team does not help with XHTML coding issues. We will not be able to debug your HTML web pages. We recommend that you utilize resources such as other instructors, grad students, books, and search engines such as Google to find the help you need.