

CSS Text-Formatting

The **standard way** to use CSS styles is by defining them in a separate style sheet and then **linking to that style sheet in the head of each HTML page**.

This is called an external stylesheet

```
<head>
<meta charset="UTF-8">
<title>My Web Page</title>
<link href="style.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css">
</head>
```

Why do we normally use external style sheets?



But you may see two other methods/places of defining styles.
(These methods are only used in certain specific situations)

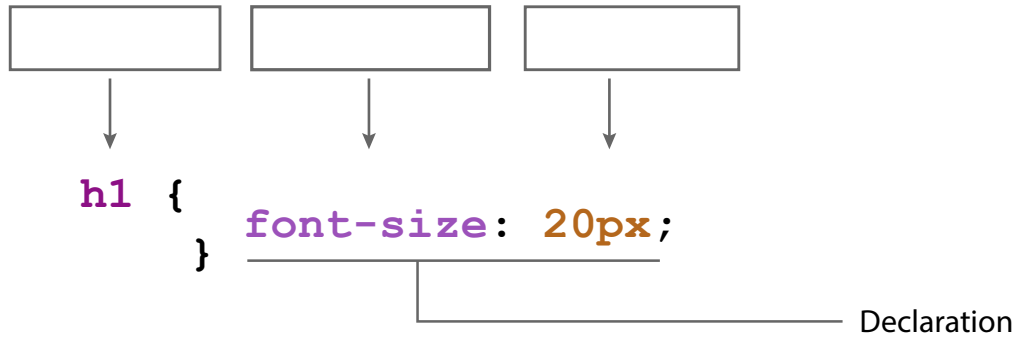
Inline styles:

```
<body>
  <p style="font-size: 12px;">This is a paragraph of text.</p>
</body>
```

Styles at the head of the document:

```
<title>My Web Page</title>
<style>
  p {
    font-size: 12px;
  }
</style>
```

CSS Syntax:



There are three kinds of selectors:

Example

Elements: _____

Classes: _____

IDs: _____

} We'll come back later to these two later

Note: IDs and classes cannot start with a number

Text Styling

Text Alignment

The text-align property is used to set the horizontal alignment of a text. Text can be aligned to the center, left, right, or justified.

Designers often avoid justify because it can be unreliable in the browser.

```
h2 {  
  [ ] : center;  
}  
  
p {  
  [ ] : right;  
}
```

Text Decoration

The text-decoration property is mostly used to remove underlines from links for design purposes. Typical values are: underline, overline, line-through, and none

You'll use this one the most as it removes the default underline of links.

```
a {  
  text-decoration: [ ];  
}
```

Text Transform

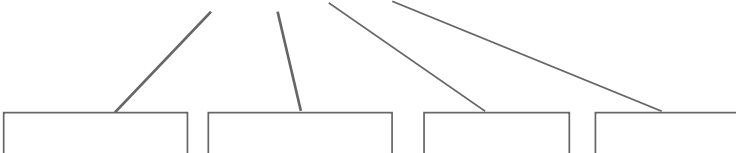
Allows you to easily change the capitalization. Available values: uppercase, lowercase, and capitalize

```
h3 {  
  [ ] : uppercase;  
}
```

Text Shadow

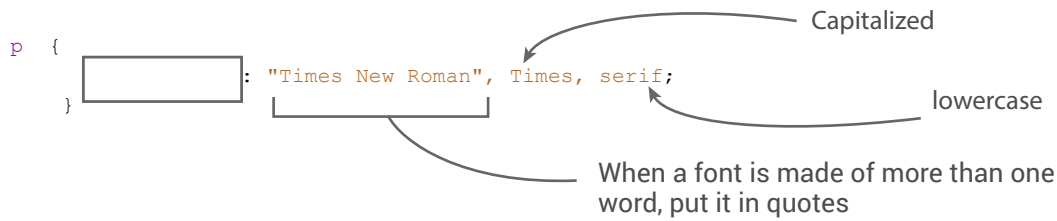
Adds a dropshadow to the text.

```
h1 {  
  text-shadow: -1px 1px 1px red;  
}
```



Font (Font Family)

Start with the font you want, then your second choice, then end with the generic family.
Typical generic family names are: serif, sans-serif, cursive, and monospace.



*** BEWARE:** The font stacks that pop up in Dreamweaver are NOT web-safe stacks, but instead are Adobe-licensed fonts. Refer to your list of web-safe fonts.

Font Style

The font-style property is mostly used to specify italic text.
This property has three values:

- normal - The text is shown normally
- italic - The text is shown in italics
- oblique - The text is "leaning" (oblique is very similar to italic, but less supported)

```
p {  
  [ ] : italic;  
}
```

Font Weight

The font-weight property sets how thick or thin characters in text should be displayed.

Property Values

normal
bold

← The only ones you usually use

- Everything below this line will only be used if the font *was made* with those particular weights
- bolder
 - lighter
 - 100
 - 200
 - 300
 - 400
 - 500
 - 600
 - 700
 - 800
 - 900
- Defines from thin to thick characters.
400 is the same as normal, and 700 is the same as bold

```
p {  
  [ ] : bold;  
}
```

Font Size

The font-size value can be an absolute or relative size. Its values can be set in `px`, `em`, `%`, or keywords like `large`.

keywords aren't usually used because they are less consistent across browsers

If you do not specify a font size, the default size for normal text, like paragraphs, is 16px (16px=1em).

We'll stick with `px` for now since it's less confusing.

```
h2 {  
  font-size: 12px;  
}  
  
p {  
  font-size: .875em;  
}  
  
body {  
  font-size: 87.5%;  
}
```

ems can be decimals

Line Height (Leading)

What we call leading in print design, we call line-height in web design.

Line-height controls the vertical spacing above and below the line of text.

The line-height value can also be an absolute or relative size.

Its values can be set in `px`, `em`, `%`, or keywords like `normal` for the default.

Line height is particularly helpful with links, as it vertically centers the text, which creates the height of the clickable area.

```
h2 {  
  [ ] : 24px;  
}
```

Letter Spacing

The letter-spacing property increases or decreases the space between characters in a text.

Its values can be set in `px` or `em`, AND its value can be negative (-2px).

The `em` value can be a decimal (.05em), (but pixels have to be whole numbers).

```
h1 {  
  [ ] : -2px;  
}
```

```
a {  
  [ ] : .5em;  
}
```

Color is usually specified in 3 different ways:

a HEX value: `#ff0000` ← We use this one most often
an RGBA value: `rgba(255,0,0,.5)`
a color name:

← The last number is for the alpha (transparency) value. It can be any number from 0–1.

(Text) Color

To change the text color, use the `color` property

```
p {  
  : #FF0000;  
}
```

← Notice it does not have the word text in it

Background Color

Sets the color behind the text or other content

Examples:

```
h1 {  
  : #FF0000;  
}
```

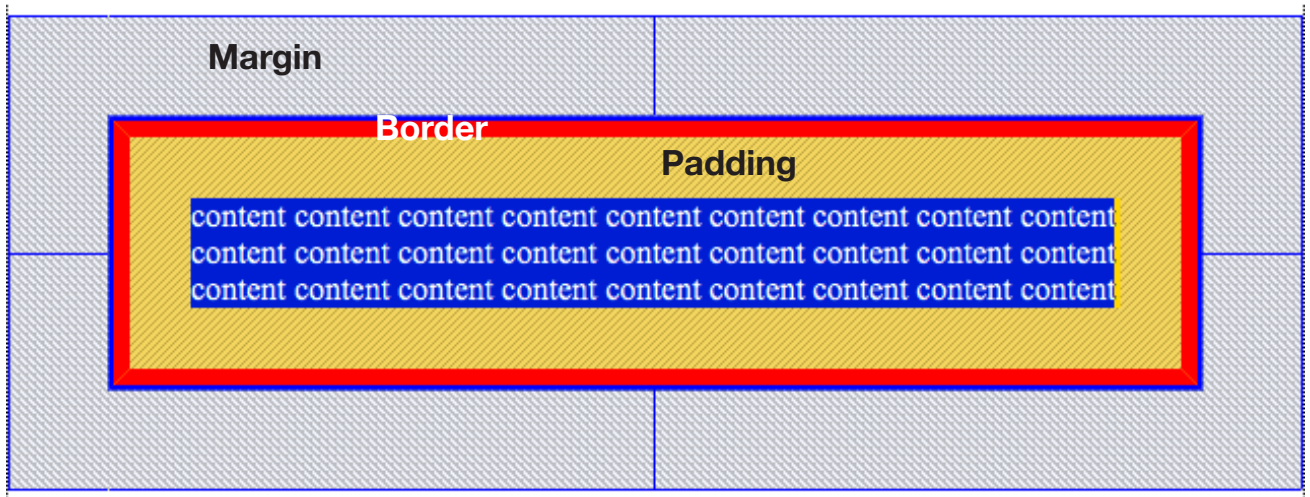
← This space is optional

← But make sure there are no spaces in here

Box Model (basics)

The CSS box model is essentially a box that wraps around HTML elements. It consists of: [margins](#), [borders](#), [padding](#), and the actual [content](#).

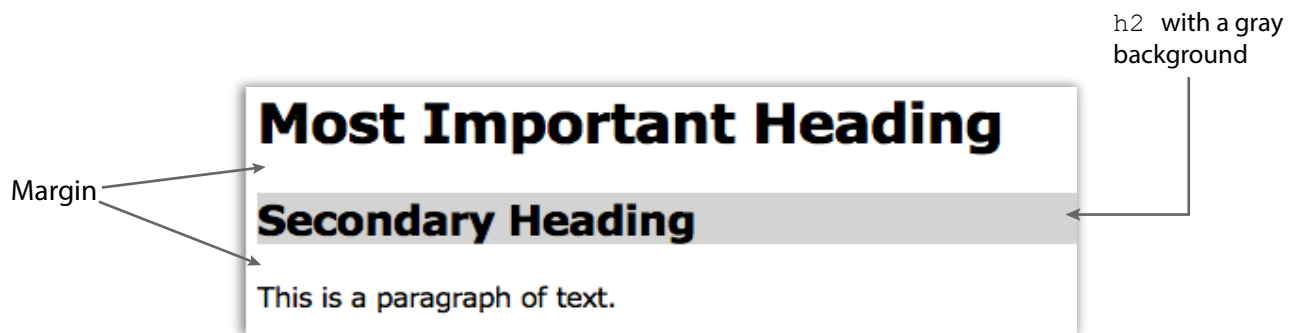
As seen in Dreamweaver (Design View):



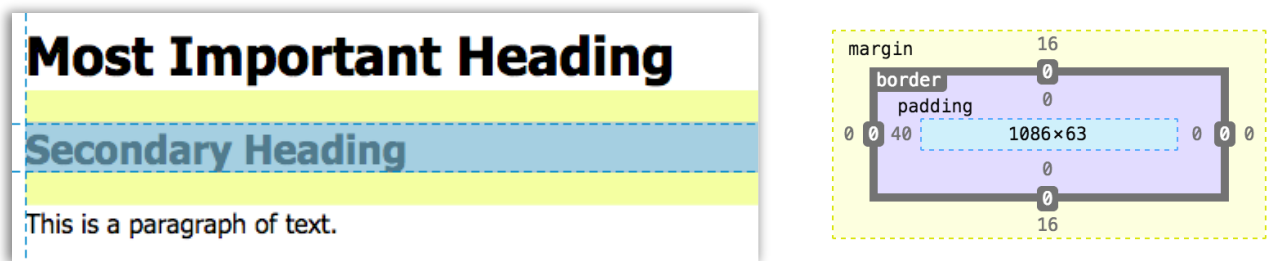
Margin

Margin creates space **OUTSIDE** of an element to separate it from other elements

Many elements have **default** margins assigned to them.



By using an element inspector, we can see the space comes from a margin on the top and bottom



We can manually remove or override this default margin in the CSS

```
h2 {  
  margin: 0px;  
}
```

To set the margin on ALL sides:

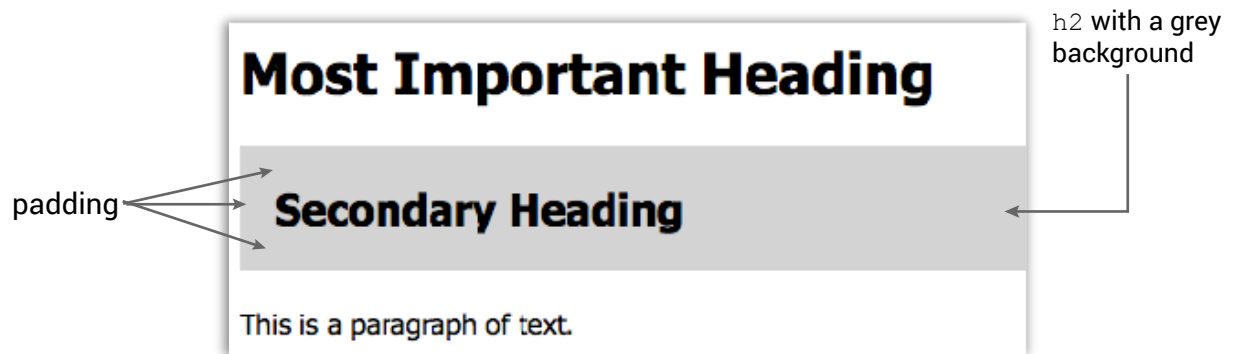
```
h1 {  
  margin: 5px;  
}
```

To set the margin on individual sides:

```
h1 {  
  margin-top: 5px;  
  margin-right: 10px;  
  margin-bottom: 7px;  
  margin-left: 0px;  
}
```

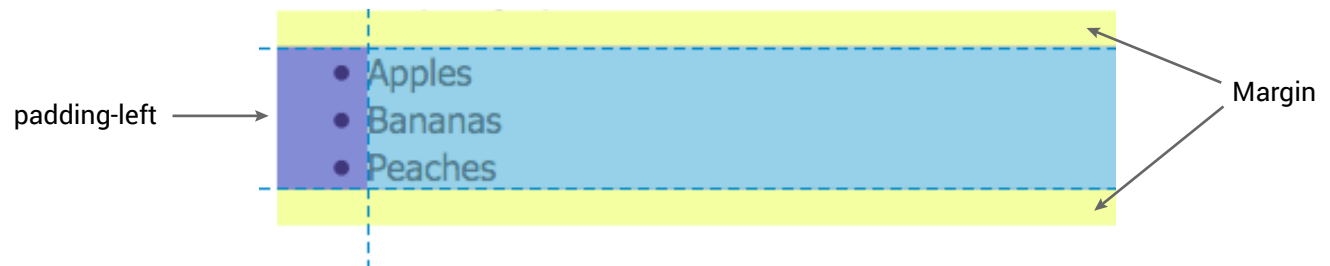

Padding

Padding creates space **INSIDE** of an element to give its contents more room



A dead give away that the space comes from padding is:

Some elements (like ul) have default padding assigned to them.



We can manually remove or override padding as well

```
h2 {  
  padding: 0px;  
}
```

To set the padding on ALL sides:

```
h1 {  
  padding: 5px;  
}
```

To set the padding on individual sides:

```
h1 {  
  padding-top: 5px;  
  padding-right: 10px;  
  padding-bottom: 7px;  
  padding-left: 0px;  
}
```

Border

Border creates a line on one or more sides around an object. It shows up outside of the padding, but inside of the margin.

Available properties: [border-width](#), [border-style](#), and [border-color](#)

Example:

```
p {  
  border-width: 5px;  
  border-style: solid;  
  border-color: red;  
}
```

Important: You MUST include , or it will not work.

The shorthand:

```
p {  
  border: 5px solid red;  
}
```

The standard order of the values is:

- border-width
- border-style
- border-color

Available Border Style Values:

none: Defines no border

dotted: Defines a dotted border

dashed: Defines a dashed border

solid: Defines a solid border

double: Defines two borders. The width of the two borders are the same as the border-width value

groove: Defines a 3D grooved border. The effect depends on the border-color value

ridge: Defines a 3D ridged border. The effect depends on the border-color value

inset: Defines a 3D inset border. The effect depends on the border-color value

outset: Defines a 3D outset border. The effect depends on the border-color value

But if you use these, your design will look boxy and outdated

You can also create a border for just one side:

```
p {  
  border-bottom: 2px dotted #8877AA;  
}
```