

CSS, which stands for Cascading Style Sheet, is used to set attributes which are not exposed by standard HTML. With CSS properties you can hide underlines from your links, add colors or images to form objects, change the border style on objects, and much more. There are a few different ways in which you can set CSS properties, which are explained below.

To add a property to an individual object, you use the style tag, like this:

```
<a href="http://www.bashsoftware.tk" style="text-decoration:none">Bash Software</a>
```

The above example will remove the underline from that link. With some properties you may use more than one value, like this:

```
<a href="http://www.bashsoftware.tk" style="text-decoration:underline overline">Bash Software</a>
```

That will cause the link to have both a underline and an overline.

You may also use more than one property by seperating them with a semicolon, like this:

```
<a href="http://www.bashsoftware.tk" style="text-decoration:none; background-color:#FFFF00">Bash Software</a>
```

That will not only remove the underline, but also add a yellow background behind the words, giving it a highlighted effect.

Let's say you wanted to apply the same properties to every link on your page. You can accomplish that by adding the definitions to the Head of your document.

```
<style type="text/css">
<!--
A { text-decoration:none; background-color:#FFFF00 }
I { color:#FF0000 }
-->
</style>
```

As you can see properties may be added to any element which it can be applied to. In the above example all italic text will be made red.

Another way to include CSS properties in your page is to have them in a seperate file and make a reference to that file. To do this, save all of your CSS attributes (you don't need the style or comment tags, just the attributes) to a file with a .css extension and then in the Head of the page you are applying them to, put the following code:

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="stylesheet.css">
```

If you plan on using the same CSS properties in multiple pages, this is really useful because if you ever make changes you only have to edit one file instead of several.

Additional Notes:

When setting attributes for plain text, use the span tag as a carrier of your style tag. The span tag has no functionality other than this. Here's an example:

```
<span style="font-weight:900">very bold text</span>
```

You may define a custom class which can contain multiple attributes, then use it in place of the style tag to save time, as shown in this example:

```
<style type="text/css">
<!--
.fancyinput { background-color:#FFFF00; border-style:dashed; border-width=1 }
-->
</style>
```

```
<input type="text" width="200" class="fancyinput">
```

The text field will then have a thin, dashed border and a yellow background.

Likewise, you can also sub-class the A tag so that your custom style for links can change when the mouse hovers over them.

```
<style type="text/css">
<!--
A.fancylink { color:#0000FF; text-decoration:none }
A.fancylink:hover { color:#FF0000; text-decoration:underline overline }
-->
```

```
-->  
</style>
```

```
<a href="http://www.bashsoftware.tk" class="fancylink">Bash Software</a>
```

Now the link will be blue with no underline until you mouseover it, at which point it will be red with both an underline and overline. The A tag is the only tag which supports the hover attribute.