

Week 7 – CSS Font and Text Properties

Last week you learned how to use CSS together with an HTML file. We used a few CSS properties, but the focus was on how to incorporate CSS, not exactly how to use CSS most effectively. This week we begin to investigate the intricacies of CSS. This endeavor will take several more weeks, and you still won't know it all, but you'll have a great deal more control over the look of your pages.

font-family:

- list in order of preference, comma delineated
- multiple word font names should be in quotes – “Comic Sans MS”
- spell font names with proper capitalization for best results
- always end list with a generic family name – **sans-serif**, **serif**, **monospace**, **cursive**, or **fantasy**

font-size:

- choices – px, %, em, keywords
- keywords – **xx-small**, **x-small**, **small**, **medium**, **large**, **x-large**, **xx-large**
- rule – use keyword for body, then use em or % for other elements

font-weight

- choices – keywords, 100-900
- keywords – **lighter**, **normal**, **bolder**, **bold**
- rule – use only normal or bold for best results, browsers don't support the other choices well

font-style

- choices – **normal**, **italic**, **oblique**
- **italic** and **oblique** render the same in most browsers, so just pick one

font-variant

- choices – **normal**, **small-caps**
- not all fonts have a small-caps variant

text-decoration

- choices – **underline**, **overline**, **line-through**, **none**, **blink**
- frequently used to omit text link underline
- and, if you want to keep your friends, don't use the dreaded blink!!!

color

- choices – name, hex value, rgb value (% or number), rgb shorthand
- 17 color names in CSS – see p. 367 in your book
- usually best to use hex value of color, always preceded by #
- check the Resources page for links to online color references
- no need to stick with 216 color-safe palette, but it is convenient
- choose high contrast colors for text against background (no red-green!)