

Topic 1.2: CSS

There are three ways to add CSS to HTML.

Inline CSS

With the first way, *inline* CSS, the CSS code is passed as a `style` attribute within the HTML tag.

```
1 <h1 style="color: red;">Grocery List</h1>
```

CSS written as inline CSS is highest priority and will override the other methods of applying CSS to the HTML. For this reason, it should basically never be used beyond a quick hack to test something – your other CSS styles will be overridden and not show up, so if you don't remember you placed the inline CSS, it may take time to debug. Also, it violates the principle of *separation of concerns* – the HTML file is for structure, while the CSS file is for styling.

Internal CSS: `<script> ... </script>`

The second way to add CSS to HTML is to place CSS rules within an opening and closing `<script>` tag. It is best practice to put the `<script>` tag inside the `<head>` tag, usually at the bottom just before the closing tag, so that the styles will be read early and applied to the content as it's being generated, rather than potentially displaying the content without the CSS styling, then afterwards updating that content.

```
1 <head>
2   <meta charset="UTF-8">
3   <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
4   <title>Basic HTML</title>
5   <style>
6     h1 {
7       color: red;
8     }
9   </style>
10 </head>
```

Placing styling at the top of the file is reasonable for a single-page design, or programmatically generated content, but if you're going to have multiple web pages and want to maintain consistent formatting across those pages, it is better to move the CSS styles to a separate file.

External CSS

Moving the CSS to an external file allows the CSS to be easily applied to multiple HTML files by importing the styles using a `<link>` tag. The link tag should also go within the `<head>` tag, and if not, the page will almost certainly initially display un-styled content while the CSS file is being loaded from the server.

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

Below is an example of a CSS file with two CSS rules.

```
1 body {  
2     background-color: lightblue;  
3 }  
4 h1 {  
5     color: darkslategrey;  
6 }
```

Anatomy of a CSS Rule

Table Tags: <table> <th> <tr> <td>

The essential table tags are:

- <table> to start and end a table,
- <tr> for each table row
- <td> for each table cell (table data)

```
1 <table border="1">
2   <thead>
3     <tr>
4       <th>Name</th>
5       <th>Department</th>
6       <th>Salary</th>
7     </tr>
8   </thead>
9   <tbody>
10    <tr>
11      <td>Alice Johnson</td>
12      <td>Engineering</td>
13      <td>$85,000</td>
14    </tr>
15    <tr>
16      <td>Bob Smith</td>
17      <td>Marketing</td>
18      <td>$72,000</td>
19    </tr>
20    <tr>
21      <td>Carol Davis</td>
22      <td>Sales</td>
23      <td>$68,000</td>
24    </tr>
25  </tbody>
26  <tfoot>
27    <tr>
28      <td colspan="2">Total Employees:</td>
29      <td>3</td>
30    </tr>
31  </tfoot>
32 </table>
```