

# Stylin'

- Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)
  - Separate formatting from content
  - More flexibly specify HTML formatting
  - Do layout better than vanilla HTML (although still difficult)
- Use element style instead of:
  - Lots of different attributes (align, valign, size, etc)
  - Lots of inline tags (<b></b>, <em></em>, <font></font> etc)
  - Tables and frames for visual layout

# The sheet part

- Inline styles are still messy and should be rare
  - Fails to separate formatting from content

- Internal style sheet, in the <head>

```
<style type="text/css">...</style>
```

- External style sheet, in the <head>

```
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="style.css" />
```

# Selectors

- Style sheet contains style rules
  - selector { property:value; property:value; ... }
- The selector indicates what elements the rule applies to
  - All elements of a certain type
    - p { color:blue; }
  - All elements with a certain *id* attribute
    - #myid { text-align:center; }
  - All elements with a certain *class* attribute
    - .myclass { text-align:right; }
  - Mix-and-match type, class and id
    - p.myclass { color:yellow; }

# Selectors

- More advanced selectors:
  - Matching multiple selectors
    - `p, div, h1`
  - Matching elements that are inside other matching elements
    - `p.calendar ul { padding-right: 10px; }`
  - Matching elements that are direct children of other matching elements
    - `p.calendar>ul>li { font-weight: bold; }`
  - Elements with a certain attribute value
    - `a[title=portrait]`
- Plenty of references are out there, e.g.:
  - [http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css\\_selectors.asp](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_selectors.asp)

# The cascading part

- Multiple sheets can be used
  - Multiple rules may apply to the same element
  - Those rules may have conflicting property values
  - Conflicts are resolved in the order sheets are included in the HTML file
    - Inline styles always win, so they are used for exceptions

# Inline styles

```
<body bgcolor="red">
```

**vs.**

```
<body style="background-color:red">
```

```
<font size="4"></font>
```

**vs.**

```
<p style="font-size:20px"></p>
```

**Bunch of <table> tags**

**vs.**

```
<div style="position:fixed; top:50px; right: 100px">  
</div>
```

# All the styles you could want

- <http://www.w3schools.com/css/default.asp>
- Notable properties:
  - visibility:hidden
    - The element isn't shown, but it still takes up space
  - display:block
    - Has line breaks before and after it, like <p>
  - display:inline
    - No line breaks, only takes up the space it needs, like <a>
  - display:none
    - The element isn't shown, and takes up no space at all
  - position:static/fixed/relative/absolute
    - Static is normal HTML flow, the others allow different layouts
    - Modified by top/left/right/bottom properties