

# Introduction to CSS

## Duration: Two days

This course covers CSS (Cascading Stylesheets) in detail, from basic formatting to creating complex page layouts. We discuss issues such as browser compatibility, and demonstrate how to create standards-compliant pages combined with sophisticated structure and design. Delegates will leave the course with a thorough understanding of how CSS works, and the ability to write their own stylesheets from scratch.

Requirements: A working knowledge of HTML as taught in our Getting started with HTML course.

### Concepts

- CSS and XHTML – creating pages that adhere to current standards
- Semantic markup – separating content from presentation
- Browser compatibility issues and how to deal with them
- Devising a strategy for building pages with HTML & CSS
- Creating a hierarchical structure
- Accessibility and Usability issues

### Writing CSS

- The Cascade, Inheritance and Specificity - how rules apply and how they override other rules.
- Syntax: selectors, declarations, rules, redefining tags, creating classes and IDs, grouped styles, descendant styles
- When to use an ID or a Class
- Formatting text - fonts, colour, sizes etc.
- Background images - controlling repeat and position, applying to individual elements
- Stylesheets for printable pages
- Units and values - relative vs. fixed measurements
- Understanding the Box Model - margins, padding and borders

### Page Layout and Design

- Strategies for working with CSS layouts
- Page layouts without tables
- Defining page sections with DIV tags
- Converting a Photoshop mockup to HTML and CSS

### Positioning and Floating

- Creating single and multi-column layouts
- Using Floats to create side by side columns and other designs
- Using Absolute positioning
- Controlling stacking order, width and other issues

### Links and menus

- Applying Hyperlink styles
- Converting HTML lists to horizontal or vertical menus
- Creating a 'block' menu with rollover effects
- Creating highlighted 'current page' links

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### Recommended Further training

- Advanced CSS
- Introduction to Flash
- Photoshop for the Web