

1. Three Ways to Insert CSS

There are three ways of inserting a style sheet:

- External CSS
- Internal CSS
- Inline CSS

1.1 External CSS

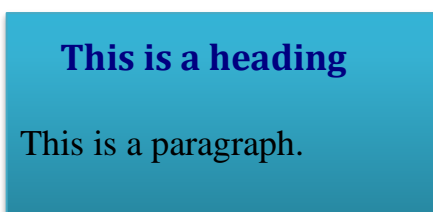
With an external style sheet, you can change the look of an entire website by changing just one file!

Each HTML page must include a reference to the external style sheet file inside the `<link>` element, inside the head section.

```
<html>
<head>
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="mystyle.css">
</head>
<body>

<h1>This is a heading</h1>
<p>This is a paragraph.</p>

</body>
</html>
Output:
```



An external style sheet can be written in any text editor, and must be saved with a `.css` extension.

The external `.css` file should not contain any HTML tags.

Here is how the "mystyle.css" file looks like:

```
"mystyle.css"
```

```
body {  
  background-color: lightblue;  
}  
  
h1 {  
  color: navy;  
  margin-left: 20px;  
}
```

1.2 Internal CSS

An internal style sheet may be used if one single HTML page has a unique style.

The internal style is defined inside the <style> element, inside the head section.

Example

Internal styles are defined within the <style> element, inside the <head> section of an HTML page:

```
<html>  
<head>  
<style>  
body {  
  background-color: linen;  
}  
  
h1 {  
  color: maroon;  
  margin-left: 40px;  
}  
</style>  
</head>  
<body>  
  
<h1>This is a heading</h1>  
<p>This is a paragraph.</p>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

Output:

This is a heading

This is a paragraph.

1.3 Inline CSS

An inline style may be used to apply a unique style for a single element.

To use inline styles, add the style attribute to the relevant element. The style attribute can contain any CSS property.

Example

Inline styles are defined within the "style" attribute of the relevant element:

```
<html>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<h1 style="color:blue;text-align:center;">This is a heading</h1>
```

```
<p style="color:red;">This is a paragraph.</p>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

Output:

This is a heading

This is a paragraph.

Tip: An inline style loses many of the advantages of a style sheet (by mixing content with presentation). Use this method sparingly.

2- Multiple Style Sheets

If some properties have been defined for the same selector (element) in different style sheets, the value from the last read style sheet will be used.

Assume that an **external style sheet** has the following style for the <h1> element:

```
h1 {  
  color: navy;  
}
```

Then, assume that an **internal style sheet** also has the following style for the <h1> element:

```
h1 {  
  color: orange; }
```

Example

If the internal style is defined **after** the link to the external style sheet, the <h1> elements will be "orange":

```
<html>  
<head>  
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="mystyle.css">  
<style>  
h1 {  
  color: orange;  
}  
</style>  
</head>  
<body>
```

```
<h1>This is a heading</h1>
```

```
<p>The style of this document is a combination of an external stylesheet, and internal style</p>
```

```
</body>
</html>
Output:
```

This is a heading

The style of this document is a combination of an external stylesheet, and internal style

Example

However, if the internal style is defined **before** the link to the external style sheet, the `<h1>` elements will be "navy":

```
<html>
<head>
<style>
h1 {
  color: orange;
}
</style>
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="mystyle.css">
</head>
<body>
```

```
<h1>This is a heading</h1>
```

```
<p>The style of this document is a combination of an external stylesheet, and internal style</p>
```

```
</body>
</html>
```

Output:

This is a heading

The style of this document is a combination of an external stylesheet, and internal style