

# <CSS> Workshop

Communication Design for the World Wide Web



## **Task:**

Build a Web page using HyperText Markup Language (HTML).  
Style it using a linked (external) Cascading Style Sheet (CSS).

## **What you will need:**

A basic text editor (or CSS editor)  
A Web browser

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## ##### STEP 1: Prepare #####

Open your text editor and your Web browser.

I will be using net2ftp.com, a web-based File Transfer Protocol (FTP) app.

## ##### STEP 2 - Create basic HTML page (index.htm) #####

In your text editor, create a basic HTML document.

If you are not familiar with HTML, this is your basic page structure:

```
<html>
<head>
  <title>Page Title</title>
</head>
<body>
  Body Text
</body>
</html>
```

## ##### STEP 3 - Add content to page (index.htm) #####

Copy the code on the next page into your document and save it as *index.htm*.

Note that I have already labelled the basic sections of code using `<!--` and `-->` for easy reference. The words contained within these brackets will not appear on the Web page.

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```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content=" charset=iso-8859-1 " />
  <title>Authors & Artists</title>
</head>
<body>

<!-- Header -->
<h1>Lewis Carroll's Jabberwocky</h1>

<!-- Site navigation menu -->
<ul class="navbar">
  <li><a href="index.html">Home</a></li>
  <li><a href="authors.html">Authors</a></li>
  <li><a href="artists.html">Artists</a></li>
  <li><a href="links.html">Links</a></li>
</ul>

<!-- Main content -->
<h2>Jabberwocky</h2>
<h3>by Lewis Carroll</h3>

<p>'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves<br />
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:<br />
All mimsy were the borogoves,<br />
And the mome raths outgrabe.</p>

<p>"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!<br />
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!<br />
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun<br />
The frumious Bandersnatch!"</p>

<p>He took his vorpal sword in hand:<br />
Long time the manxome foe he sought --<br />
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,<br />
And stood awhile in thought.</p>

<p>And, as in uffish thought he stood,<br />
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,<br />
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,<br />
And burbled as it came!</p>

<p>One, two! One, two! And through and through<br />
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!<br />
He left it dead, and with its head<br />
He went galumphing back.</p>

<p>"And, has thou slain the Jabberwock?<br />
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!<br />
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!"<br />
He chortled in his joy.</p>

<p>'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves<br />
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:<br />
All mimsy were the borogoves,<br />
And the mome raths outgrabe.</p>

<!-- Image -->


<!-- Footer -->
<p>&copy; 2008 Authors & Artists</p>

</body>
</html>
```

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## ##### STEP 4 - Mark your <div> elements #####

```
.
.
<body>

<div id="container">

<!-- Header -->
<div id="header"><h1>Lewis Carroll's Jabberwocky</h1></div>

<!-- Header -->

<!-- Site navigation menu -->

<div id="nav">
  <ul class="navbar">
    <li><a href="index.html">Home</a></li>
    <li><a href="authors.html">Authors</a></li>
    <li><a href="artists.html">Artists</a></li>
    <li><a href="links.html">Links</a></li>
  </ul>
</div>
.
.
.
<!-- Main content -->

<div id="content">

  <h2>Jabberwocky</h2>
  <h3>by Lewis Carroll</h3>

  <p>'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves<br />
  Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:<br />
.
.
.
</div>

<!-- Image -->
<div id="sidebar"></div>

<!-- Footer -->
<div id="footer"><p>&copy; 2008 Authors & Artists</p></div>

</div>

</body>
</html>
```

**Here is the layout of divisions you are making:**

```
<div id="container">
  <div id="header"></div>
  <div id="nav"></div>
  <div id="content">
  <div id="sidebar"></div>
  <div id="footer"></div>
</div>
```

Note that <div> elements have two parts, a beginning and ending tag. Once your divisions are marked, save and open the file in your Web browser.

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## ##### STEP 5 - Create CSS file (style.css) #####

In your text editor, open a new document.

First, we'll zero out values so we know we're starting clean across browsers. Copy and paste the following code and save the file as *style.css*.

```
/* Normalize margin, padding */
body, div, h1, h2, h3, h4, h5, h6, p, ol, ul, dt, dl, dd, form, blockquote,
fieldset, input { padding: 0; margin: 0; }

/* Normalize font-size for headers */
h1, h2, h3, h4, h5, h6 { font-size: 1em; }

/* Remove list-style from lists */
ol, ul { list-style: none; }

/* Remove text-decoration from links */
a { text-decoration: none; }

/* Remove border from img */
a img { border: none; }
```

## ##### STEP 6 - Link from index.htm to CSS file (index.htm) #####

Add this line of code between the <head></head> tags in your *index.htm* file:

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

Save the file and reload it in your Web browser.

Notice that the browsers default formatting has been stripped and you are seeing a mostly format-free page (header elements are still bold, for example).

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## ##### STEP 7 - Build CSS: Set styles (style.css) #####

From here on out, I'll just post the css style code with a brief description of what it should do to your content. Feel free to adjust and experiment.

If you want to use the background image I am using, you can download it from here: [www.fineminddesign.com/cdw/css/back.jpg](http://www.fineminddesign.com/cdw/css/back.jpg).

A. First, let's set the background color and image as well as the text color:

```
body,
html {
  background: #fff;
  background-image: url(back.jpg);
  color: #000;
}
```

B. Next, set the body and container width, etc:

```
body {
  min-width: 760px;
}
#container {
  background: #fff;
  margin: 0 auto;
  width: 760px;
}
```

C. Color the page sections for easy identification:

```
#header {
  background: #505a4b;
  color: #ffffff;
}
#nav {
  background: #dbd9c4;
}
#content {
  background: #ffffff;
}
#sidebar {
  background: #f6f1e5;
}
#footer {
  background: #505a4b;
  color: #ffffff;
}
```

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##### STEP 7 - Build CSS: Set styles (style.css) ##### continued...

D. Set columns side-by-side: (replace #content and #sidebar lines from item C)

```
#content {
  background: #ffffff;
  float: left;
  width: 500px;
}
#sidebar {
  background: #f6f1e5;
  float: right;
  width: 260px;
}
```

E. Put footer where it belongs: (replace #footer lines from item C)

```
#footer {
  background: #505a4b;
  color: #ffffff;
  clear: both;
}
```

F. Now we can see that the shorter column doesn't continue all the way down to the footer. To make it look like it does, we use the same background color for #sidebar and #container. (replace #container lines from item B)

```
#container {
  background: #f6f1e5;
  margin: 0 auto;
  width: 760px;
}
```

G. Make navigation horizontal:

```
#nav ul{
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
  list-style: none;
}
#nav li{
  display: inline;
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
}
```

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##### STEP 7 - Build CSS: Set styles (style.css) ##### continued...

H. Adjust the spacing of elements:

```
#header h1 {
  padding: 10px;
  margin: 0;
}
#content h2, #content h3, #content p {
  padding: 10px;
}
#sidebar ul {
  margin-bottom: 0;
}
#sidebar p {
  padding: 10px 0;
  text-align: center;
}
#footer p {
  padding: 10px;
  margin: 0;
}

(replace #nav)

#nav {
  background: #dbd9c4;
  padding: 5px 10px;
}
```

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## #### STEP 8 - Build CSS: Organize (style.css) ####

Now that our CSS is getting full, let's take a moment to organize our styles:

```
/* ZERO VALUES */

body, div, h1, h2, h3, h4, h5, h6, p, ol, ul, dt, dl, dd, form, blockquote, fieldset, input { padding:0; margin:0; }
h1, h2, h3, h4, h5, h6 { font-size: 1em; }
ol, ul { list-style: none; }
a { text-decoration: none; }
a img { border: none; }

/* BODY STYLES */

body,
html { background: #fff;
background-image: url(back.jpg);
color: #000; }
body { min-width: 760px; }
#container {
background: #f6f1e5;
margin: 0 auto;
width: 760px; }

/* HEADER STYLES */

#header {
background: #505a4b;
color: #ffffff; }
#header h1 {
padding: 10px;
margin: 0; }

/* NAVIGATION STYLES */

#nav { background: #dbd9c4;
padding: 5px; }
#nav ul{
margin: 0;
padding: 0;
list-style: none; }
#nav li{
display: inline;
margin: 0;
padding: 0; }

/* CONTENT STYLES */

#content {
background: #ffffff;
float: left;
width: 500px; }
#content h2, #content h3, #content p {
padding: 10px; }

/* SIDEBAR STYLES */

#sidebar {
background: #f6f1e5;
float: right;
width: 260px; }
#sidebar ul {
margin-bottom: 0; }
#sidebar p {
padding: 10px 0;
text-align: center; }

/* FOOTER STYLES */

#footer {
background: #505a4b;
color: #ffffff;
clear: both; }
#footer p {
padding: 10px;
margin: 0; }
```

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## ##### STEP 9 - Build CSS: Navigation style (style.css) #####

First, add the following line to the body element:

```
font: 1em Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
```

Now add this: (replace all #nav styles)

```
#nav {
  background:#dbd9c4;
  padding: 5px 10px;
  border-top:1px solid #000;
  border-bottom:1px solid #000;
}
#nav ul{
  margin:0;
  padding:0;
  list-style:none;
}
#nav li{
  display:inline;
  margin:0;
  padding:10px;
}
```

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## ##### NOW IT'S YOUR TURN (style.css) #####

For this next section you may wish to refer to one of the CSS Cheat Sheets available at <http://www.fineminddesign.com/cdw>.

1. Style the header elements (h1, h2, h3) so that they scale in size from larger to smaller. h1 is located in the header <div>. h2 and h3 are in the content <div>.
2. Add a 1px wide black dotted line between the content and sidebar.
3. Style the navigation links so that they behave differently when you mouse-over and click them. Keep the visited link the same as the normal link state.
4. Center the footer.

## ##### HOMEWORK FOR NEXT CLASS #####

Create a "fan" page for your favorite band or musician.

Specifically, a song from your favorite band or musician. Modify the page we've built to include an image, song lyric and appropriate information.

Choose a different color scheme and background (doesn't have to be an image).

Switch the left and right columns so that your image is on the left.

The style you design should reflect the nature or attitude of the performer(s) and lyric you choose (dark, funky, hip hop, etc.).

Use the cheat sheets and feel free to contact me with questions:  
[moppenneer@gmail.com](mailto:moppenneer@gmail.com)

E-mail the assignment (either in a zip folder or send me a URL) to that address by Sunday night so I can review before class. Be sure to include your full name so that I know who is doing the sending. Thanks!