



<Suggestions for Starting Assignment Four>

I've posted a zipped directory for a site template (html, css, and images) called "Delicious Fruit" here:

http://www.fineminddesign.com/cdw/delicious_fruit.zip

I got it free from www.oswd.org. You can open the html file in your browser and the css file in a text editor and start to see how a more complex css template is constructed.

What you'll want to look for are the divs in the htm file (I would take a piece of paper and sketch out the page almost like a floor plan, labeling the parts (container, header, right, left, footer, etc). When you understand the structure of the site, start to examine the css file - what are the measurements (margin, padding) for placing each block where it should go?

What I would do next is take the data from the avalanche project and start to integrate it into the html file (i.e. put the header info from the avalanche page into the header div of the Delicious Fruit template). I don't know your experience with graphics programs, but you can then start to play around with the images in the images subdirectory next. For example, open the image file `container_bg.png`. You can see that it provides the background look for the top half the page. Replace the fruit basket with a picture of an avalanche or snowy mountain top. Save the file and reload your html file in the browser to see the changes.

By tinkering with the template, replacing bits with the avalanche html doc, you'll start to get a better sense of how information gets placed. You can do things like replace the login block at top right with the "Did you know" section from the avalanche page. Here's how I would do it:

1. Locate the div for the login block in the fruit template html doc:

```
<div id="header_right">
```

2. Copy the "Did you know" section from the avalanche page (by which I mean the actual code):

```
<!-- e -->
<div id="e">
<h4>Did You Know?</h4>
<p>A typical dry snow avalanche travels around 60 to 80 miles
per hour (97 to 129 kilometers per hour). An avalanche can reach
these speeds within five seconds after it fractures.</p>
<p><a href="more.html">More About Natural Disasters</a></p>
```

3. Paste it over (replace) the entire header_right section in the template - and rename <div id="e"> to <div id="header_right">.

4. Now, reload your template in the browser. You should see your "Did you know" section appear where the login block used to be.

5. Next, if needed, visit the header_right rules in the css doc and tweak the lines to make it look how you want.

I hope this makes sense. The basic process is to insert your avalanche data into the skeleton of an existing template in an effort to learn how information can be styled. If the template suits your taste, continue this process until Delicious Fruit becomes Your Avalanche template. It's the beauty of open source - ta da! It's yours now!

To follow the recommendations I made in class, I would modify the header of the css doc by adding a line below the credits:

```
/* CSS Document av Dieter Schneider 2007 */
/* CSS Document modified by Your Name 2008 */ [add this line]
```

And in the html doc, take the title info "Delicious Fruit | Dieter Schneider 2007 | www.csstemplateheaven.com" and do the same thing by putting something like this (it can go anywhere - top or bottom usually):

```
<!-- Original template: Delicious Fruit | Dieter Schneider 2007
| www.csstemplateheaven.com -->
<!-- Modified template: Your Name | 2008 --> [add this line]
```

It's good code karma and won't be considered bad form for the assignment in any way. In fact - it's the way I have learned what I know. Consider it the subtle art of flattery by cannibalism... Visit www.oswd.org for over 2000 free templates.

Mark