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# CSS

## Introduction/Intermediate

**Duration: 2 Days**

### Overview:

Web site design has grown up. Unlike the old days, when designers cobbled together chunky HTML, bandwidth-hogging graphics, and a prayer to make their sites look good, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) now brings your inner designer to life. But, CSS isn't just a tool to pretty up your site; it's a reliable method for handling all kinds of presentation - from fonts and colours to page layout.

Aspect Training's CSS Essentials course clearly explains this powerful design language and how you can use it to build sparkingly new Web sites or refurbish

On this course beginners and Web-building veterans alike can learn how to navigate the ins-and-outs of CSS and take complete control over their Web pages' appearance. The course combines crystal-clear explanations, real-world examples, a dash of humour, and dozens of hands on examples to show you ways to design sites with CSS that work consistently across browsers.

Want to learn how to turn humdrum Web sites into destinations that will capture viewers and keep them longer? Attend this course and learn the real magic of this tool.

### Prerequisites:

This course is suitable for people with limited CSS experience and those with no CSS experience at all and who have a good understanding of HTML or XHTML

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## Course Topics:

### Getting Started with CSS

Introduction to this CSS course  
Course Organisation  
HTML Structure and Content, CSS Presentation  
Advantages of CSS  
Creating and Using Style-Sheets  
CSS Rules: The Basic Syntax  
Case, Whitespace and Comments in CSS  
The CSS Standards  
The Scope Of CSS  
Browser Support for CSS  
Hands-on Exercises

### CSS Boxes and CSS Selectors

The CSS Box Model  
CSS and Logical HTML Structure  
Styling Boxes: Borders, Margins and Padding  
The IE Box Model and Quirks Mode  
IE Box Model Workarounds  
Using IE6 Standards Mode  
Specifying CSS Distances  
    Problems with Absolute Units: pixels and point sizes  
    Using Proportional Units: em, ex and percentages  
Formatting Box Edges Differently  
Shorthand Syntax for Sets of Edges  
Using Margins and Padding Effectively  
Collapsing Vertical Margins on Paragraphs  
Using Negative Margins on Boxes  
Background Images on CSS Boxes  
Grouping Elements with HTML Classes  
Styling Multiple Elements Similarly (Selector Grouping)  
Block Boxes and Inline Boxes  
Block Box Behaviour  
Inline Box Behaviour  
Using the Generic Block Level Element: <div>  
Hands-on Exercises

### Text Formatting in CSS

Text Formatting  
Typefaces, Alternatives and Defaults  
Text Size — a Serious Usability Issue  
Font Characteristics  
Setting and Using Space Within Text  
Formatting Blocks of Text  
Using Arbitrary Inline Tags: <span>  
Hands-on Exercises

### More CSS Selectors and Selection

Using HTML Element IDs in CSS  
Using CSS Descendant Selectors  
Descendant Selector Examples  
Child, Sibling and Pseudo-Class Selectors  
    Why You Need To Know Them  
    Browser Support and CSS Hacks  
Distinguishing and Setting Link States  
    Link, Visited, Hover, Active, Focus  
Modularising CSS Style-Sheets  
    Simpler Management, Less Effort, More Control  
Embedded CSS Styles in HTML Documents  
    How and When to Use Them (Rarely).  
Distinguishing Print, Screen and other Output Formats  
    Special Issues in CSS for Print  
Hands-on Exercises

### CSS Positioning

Choosing the Right CSS Technique for Positioning Blocks  
    The Position Property, Floats, Margins (inc. Negative and Auto), etc  
Static Positioning and Normal Flow  
Absolute Positioning Outside Normal Flow  
Relative Positioning — Not What You May Expect!  
Fixed Positioning Outside Normal Flow  
Relative Absolute Positioning  
    Absolutely Positioned Blocks in Relatively Positioned Containers  
Floating Boxes with the CSS float property  
Page Layout Using Absolutely Positioned Blocks  
Page Layout Using Floated Blocks  
Hands-on Exercises

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#### **More on CSS Page Layout**

- Alternative Methods of CSS Positioning
- Centring Blocks
- Styling Lists
- Redefining the Behaviour of Inline and Block Elements
- Hiding and Revealing Blocks
- Table Formatting in CSS
- Styling Table Cell Borders
- Page Layout with Table Display Properties
- Hands-on Exercises

#### **Cascade, Precedence, Specificity and Inheritance in CSS**

- Taking Control: Ensuring that CSS Rules Interact in the Way You Want
- Combining Styles: Different Types, Origins, Importance, Specificity and Order
- Examples: Combining Rules
- Cascading and Cascade Order
- Resolving Style Conflicts By Origin
- Resolving Style Conflicts By Importance
- Resolving Conflict By Selector Specificity
- Resolving Conflict By Order
- Non-CSS Presentational Hints
- Property Inheritance
- Hands-on Exercises

#### **CSS Layers and Translucency**

- Different Forms of Layered Presentation in CSS
- Layering with the z-index Property
- Different Methods for Creating Translucency Effects
- The CSS3 opacity Property
- opacity Example
- Fixed Attachment Backgrounds in Layers
- background-attachment Example
- Transparency and Semi-transpaency with Alpha-Blended PNG
- PNG Translucency Example and Sample Code
- Pseudo-Transparency with JPG Positioned Backgrounds
- JPG Pseudo Transparency Example
- Hands-on Exercises

#### **Using CSS in the Real World**

- Deploying CSS
- CSS Formatting Versus HTML Formatting
  - Achieving a Balance
- Standard Tags and Semantic Markup
- Usability
  - Readable Pages
  - Screen Size and Fluid Design
  - Text Size, Including Internet Explorer Quirks
- Table Layout and CSS Positioning
  - Table Layout and CSS Positioning as Alternatives
  - Combining Table Layout **with** CSS Positioning
- CSS Browser Support
- Testing Websites
  - Using Test Suites and Multiple Browsers
  - Cross-platform Testing in Single-platform Environments