**Formatting Text with CSS**

***Assessing Web Fonts***

* You specify the font family for the text of an element using the CSS font-family property
  + **Font families** – collections of single typefaces and their variants
  + Every operating system has some font families installed by default. Not every user has every font available
  + CSS enables you to use a font stack as the value for the font-family property
    - **Font stack** - a list of font families in order of preference, separated by commas
  + **Generic font families** – groupings of font families according to shared characteristics
    - **Serif** – small finishing strokes at the end of lines making up each character
      * Serif font stack: “times new roman”, georgia
    - **Sans-serif** – font without finishing strokes
      * **Sans**-serif font stack: verdana, tahoma, arial, helvetica
* When applying formatting to text, you often need a way to indicate the section you wish to format
  + **Block-level elements** – larger chunks that structure a Web page, such as headings and paragraphs
  + **Inline elements** = more fin-grained elements that appear within block-level elements; a word or phrase within a paragraph
  + In general: a block-level element starts on a new line, while an inline element continues on the same line as the previous element
    - Generic elements:
      * block-level: **<div>**
      * inline level: **<span>**

***Using Color***

* CSS3 supports 147 color names that all major browsers support
* The hexadecimal system allows you to provide values for the color you want to use, giving you many more color options
  + Starts with a pound sign (**#**) followed by six characters which may include the numbers 0-9 and the letters a-f
* Two ways to modify the color in your Web page are:
  + **Color** – modifies your font color
  + **Background** – modifies the background color of an element
    - To change the background color for the entire Web page, set the background property for the body element

Example:

body {

background: #ffcc00;

}

***Using Special Characters***

* There are a handful of common characters that run the risk of being misinterpreted by browsers
  + **Character references** – specially formatted codes that represent characters in the HTML document
    - **ALWAYS** begin with an ampersand (**&**) and end with a semicolon (**;**)

***CSS Properties and Values***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DESCRIPTOR** | **VALUE** |
| Font-family | *family-name* |
| Font-weight | normal, bold, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900 |
| Font-style | normal, italic or oblique |
|
|
| Font-stretch | normal, ultra-condensed, extra-condensed, condensed, semi-condensed, semi-expanded, expanded, extra-expanded, ultra-expanded |
| Font-size | value in % or em |