



Mushroom Makers - CSS Quick Reference Dictionary

Use this cheat sheet to style your text, colors, borders, and layouts!

1. HOW TO WRITE CSS (SYNTAX & USAGE)

CSS code follows a strict pattern to style your HTML elements:

```
selector { property: value; }
```

- **Selector:** Tells the browser which element to style.
 - Use *#id-name* to style a specific element with an ID (e.g., *#main-title*).
 - Use *.class-name* to style all elements with a Class (e.g., *.story-box*).
 - Use the tag name directly to style all tags (e.g., *body*, *p*, *button*).
- **Curly Braces { }:** All styling rules for a selector must go inside these open { and close } braces.
- **Property:** The specific feature you want to change (e.g., color, font-size).
- **Colon:** Notice that there is a : that separates the property name from its value.
- **Value:** The setting you want to apply (e.g., *blue*, *20px*).
- **Semicolon:** Notice that there is a ; at the end of every rule! It acts like a full-stop (or period) at the end of a sentence.

EXAMPLE:

```
.story-box {  
  background-color: #16213e;  
  border: 2px solid #00d2d3;  
  padding: 20px;  
}
```

2. COLORS & BACKGROUNDS

background-color

- **What it does:** Changes the background color of an element or the whole page.
- **Common Values:**
 - **Color Names:** *red*, *black*, *lightblue*, *purple*, *darkgreen*
 - **Hex Codes:** *#1a1a2e* (dark blue), *ffffff* (white), *ff9f43* (orange)

color

- **What it does:** Changes the color of text.
- **Common Values:**
 - **Color Names:** *white, yellow, black*
 - **Hex Codes:** *#e0e0e0* (light gray), *#00d2d3* (cyan)

3. TEXT & FONTS

font-family

- **What it does:** Changes the font style of your text.
- **Common Values:**
 - *'Courier New', monospace* (retro arcade / code style)
 - *'Arial', sans-serif* (clean and modern)
 - *'Georgia', serif* (classic book / storybook style)

font-size

- **What it does:** Makes text bigger or smaller.
- **Common Values:** *14px* (small), *18px* (medium story text), *24px* (subtitles), *36px* (large title)

font-weight

- **What it does:** Controls how thick or thin text looks.
- **Common Values:** *normal, bold*

line-height

- **What it does:** Controls the spacing between lines of text in a paragraph.
- **Common Values:** *1.2* (tight), *1.5* (easy to read), *2.0* (double-spaced)

4. BORDERS, SHADOWS & SPACING

border

- **What it does:** Adds a line around an element (like a box or button).
- **Format:** Put values in this sequence: [thickness] [style] [color]
- **Common Values:**

- *2px solid #00d2d3* (thin solid cyan line)
- *4px dashed red* (thick dashed red line)
- *none* (removes border)

border-radius

- **What it does:** Rounds the corners of boxes and buttons.
- **Common Values:** *0px* (sharp square), *8px* (slightly rounded), *20px* (pill shape)

box-shadow

- **What it does:** Adds a 3D drop shadow behind a box or button.
- **Format:** Put values in this sequence: [right-shift] [down-shift] [blur-amount] [color]
- **Common Values:**
 - *0 4px 10px rgba(0, 0, 0, 0.5)* (soft dark shadow)
 - *3px 3px 0px #ff4757* (retro hard-edge shadow)

padding

- **What it does:** Creates empty space **INSIDE** the box (between the content and the border).
- **Common Values:** *10px*, *20px*

margin / margin-bottom / margin-right / margin-top / margin-left

- **What it does:** Creates empty space **OUTSIDE** the box (pushing other elements away).
- **Common Values:** *10px*, *20px*

5. INTERACTIVE & DISPLAY PROPERTIES

cursor

- **What it does:** Changes how the mouse pointer looks when hovering over an element.
- **Common Values:** *pointer* (shows a clickable hand icon), *default* (standard arrow)

display: none;

- **What it does:** Completely hides an element from the web page.
- **Usage:** We use this in our *.hidden* class so JavaScript can show and hide scenes!