

# Dreamweaver CS6

Level 2

## Topics

- Creating and opening documents
- CSS Style Panel
- Apply, remove, or rename CSS class styles

## Dreamweaver file types

You can work with a variety of file types in Dreamweaver. The primary kind of file you will work with is the HTML file. HTML files—or Hypertext Markup Language files—contain the tag-based language responsible for displaying a web page in a browser. You can save HTML files with either the .html or .htm extension.

Following are some of the other common file types you might use when working in Dreamweaver:

### **CSS**

Cascading Style Sheet files have a .css extension. They are used to format HTML content and control the positioning of various page elements.

### **GIF**

Graphics Interchange Format files have a .gif extension. GIF format is a popular web graphic format for cartoons, logos, graphics with transparent areas, and animations. GIFs contain a maximum of 256 colors.

### **JPEG**

Joint Photographic Experts Group files (named after the organization that created the format) have a .jpg extension, and are usually photographs or high-color images. The JPEG format is best for digital or scanned photographs, images using textures, images with gradient color transitions, and any images that require more than 256 colors.

### **XML**

Extensible Markup Language files have a .xml extension. They contain data in a raw form that can be formatted using XSL (Extensible Stylesheet Language).

### **XSL**

Extensible Stylesheet Language files have a .xsl or .xslt extension. They are used to style XML data that you want to display on a web page.

## About creating Dreamweaver documents

Dreamweaver offers a flexible environment for working with a variety of web documents. In addition to HTML documents, you can create and open a variety of text-based documents, including ColdFusion Markup Language (CFML), ASP, JavaScript, and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Source code files, such as Visual Basic, .NET, C#, and Java, are also supported. Dreamweaver provides several options for creating a new document. You can create any of the following:

- A new blank document or template
- A document based on one of the predesigned page layouts that comes with Dreamweaver, including over 30 CSS-based page layouts
- A document based on one of your existing templates
- You can also set document preferences. For example, if you typically work with one type of document, you can set it as the default document type for new pages you create.
- You can easily define document properties, such as meta tags, document title, and background colors, and several other page properties in either Design view or Code view.

## Create a layout using a blank page

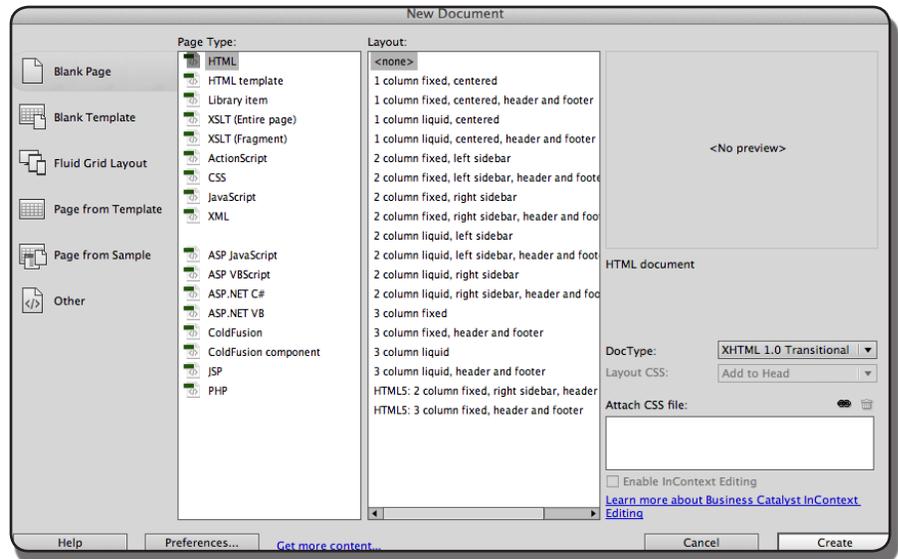
You can create a page that contains a predesigned CSS layout, or create a completely blank page and then create a layout of your own.

Select File > New.



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In the Blank Page category of the New Document dialog box, select the kind of page you want to create from the Page Type column. For example, select HTML to create a plain HTML page.



If you want your new page to contain a CSS layout, select a pre-designed CSS layout from the Layout column; otherwise, select None. Based on your selection, a preview and description of the selected layout appears on the right side of the dialog box. The pre-designed CSS layouts provide the following types of columns:

## Fixed

Column width is specified in pixels. The column does not resize based on the size of the browser or the site visitor's text settings.

## Liquid

Column width is specified as a percentage of the site visitor's browser width. The design adapts if the site visitor makes the browser wider or narrower, but does not change based on the site visitor's text settings.

Dreamweaver also offers two HTML5 CSS layouts: two- and three-column fixed.

## Note:

In Dreamweaver CC and later, only HTML5 CSS layouts are available.

Select a document type from the DocType pop-up menu. In most cases, you can use the default selection, XHTML 1.0 Transitional or HTML5 (Dreamweaver CC).

If you selected a CSS layout in the Layout column, select a location for the layout's CSS from the Layout CSS pop-up menu.

### **Add To Head**

Adds CSS for the layout to the head of the page you're creating.

### **Create New File**

Adds CSS for the layout to a new external CSS file and attaches the new style sheet to the page you're creating.

### **Link To Existing File**

Lets you specify an existing CSS file that already contains the CSS rules needed for the layout. To do this, click the Attach Style Sheet icon above the Attach CSS file pane and select an existing CSS style sheet. This option is particularly useful when you want to use the same CSS layout (the CSS rules for which are contained in a single file) across multiple documents.

(Optional) You can also attach CSS style sheets to your new page (unrelated to the CSS layout) when you create the page. To do this, click the Attach Style Sheet icon above the Attach CSS File pane and select a CSS style sheet.

Click the Create button.

Save the new document (File > Save).

In the dialog box that appears, navigate to the folder where you want to save the file.

It's a good idea to save your file in a Dreamweaver site.

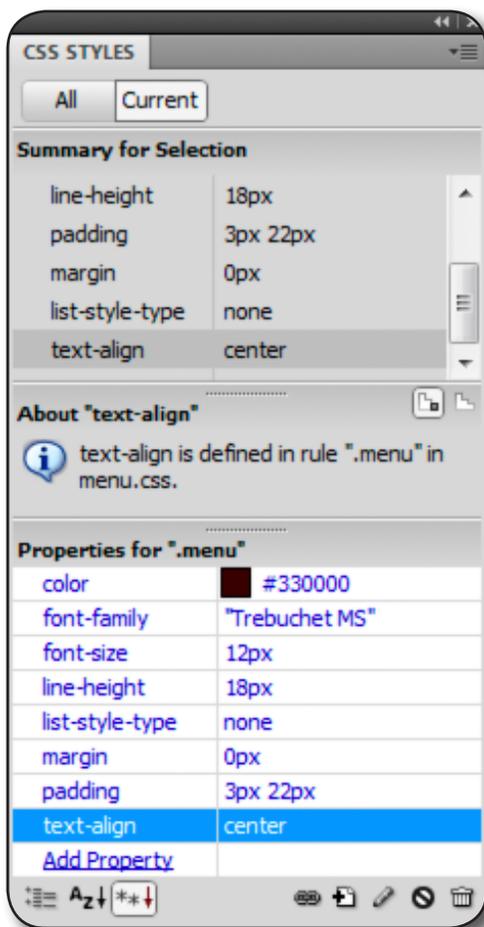
In the File Name box, type a name for the file.

## CSS Style Panel

Note: In Dreamweaver CC and later, CSS Styles panel is replaced with CSS Designer.

The CSS Styles panel lets you track the CSS rules and properties affecting a currently selected page element (Current mode), or all of the rules and properties that are available to the document (All mode). A toggle button at the top of panel lets you switch between the two modes. The CSS Styles panel also lets you modify CSS properties in both All and Current mode.

### CSS Styles panel in Current mode



### The CSS Styles panel in Current mode

In Current mode, the CSS Styles panel displays three panes: a Summary for Selection pane that displays the CSS properties for the current selection in the document, a Rules pane that displays the location of selected properties (or a cascade of rules for the selected tag, depending on your selection), and a Properties pane that lets you edit CSS properties for the rule applied to the selection.

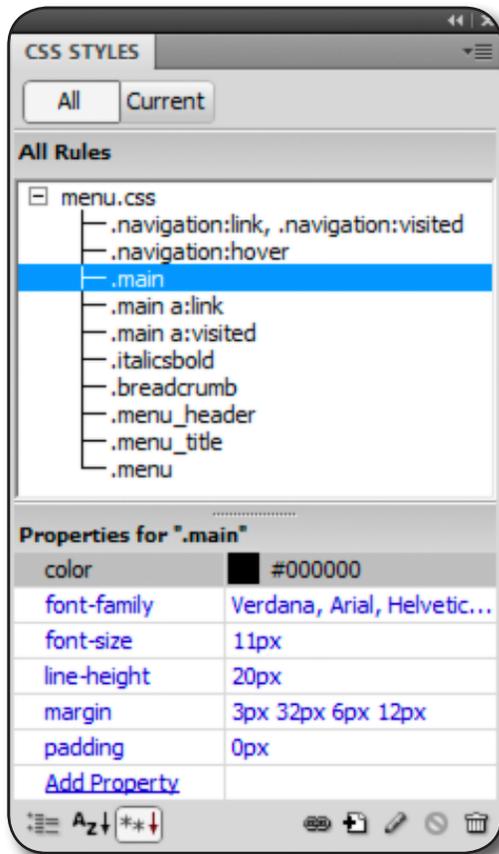
The CSS panel in Current mode, displays three panes: the CSS properties for the current selection, the location of selected properties and a place to edit the CSS properties for that rule.

You can resize any of the panes by dragging the borders between the panes, and can resize columns by dragging dividers.

The Summary for Selection pane displays a summary of CSS properties and their values for the item currently selected in the active document. The summary shows the properties for all rules that directly apply to the selection. Only set properties are shown.

The Rules pane displays two different views—About view or Rules view—depending on your selection. In About view (the default view), the pane displays the name of the rule that defines the selected CSS property, and the name of the file containing the rule. In Rules view, the pane displays a cascade, or hierarchy, of all rules that apply directly or indirectly to the current selection. (The tag to which the rule directly applies appears in the right column.) You can toggle between the two views by clicking the Show Information and Show Cascade buttons in the upper-right corner of the Rules pane.

CSS Styles panel in All mode



In all views, set properties are displayed in blue; properties irrelevant to a selection are displayed with a red strike-through line. Holding the mouse over a rule that is irrelevant displays a message explaining why the property is irrelevant. Typically a property is irrelevant because it's overridden or not an inherited property. Any changes you make in the Properties pane are applied immediately, letting you preview your work as you go.

## The CSS Styles panel in All mode

In All mode, the CSS Styles panel displays two panes: an All Rules pane (on top), and a Properties pane (on bottom). The All Rules pane displays a list of rules defined in the current document as well as all rules defined in style sheets attached to the current document. The Properties pane lets you edit CSS properties for any selected rule in the All Rules pane.

The CSS Styles panel in All mode, showing two panes: All Rules and Properties for any selected rule.

You can resize either pane by dragging the border between the panes, and can resize the Properties columns by dragging their divider.

When you select a rule in the All Rules pane, all of the properties that are defined in that rule appear in the Properties pane. You can then use the Properties pane to quickly modify your CSS, whether it is embedded in the current document or linked in an attached style sheet. By default, the Properties pane shows only those properties that have been previously set, and arranges them in alphabetical order.

You can choose to display properties in two other views. Category view displays properties grouped into categories, such as Font, Background, Block, Border, and so on, with set properties at the top of each category. List view displays an alphabetical list of all available properties, and likewise sorts set properties to the top. To switch between views, click the Show Category View, Show List View, or Show Only Set Properties button, located at the lower-left corner of the Properties pane. In all views, set properties are displayed in blue.

Any changes you make in the Properties pane are applied immediately, letting you preview your work as you go.

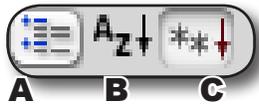
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## Open the CSS Styles panel

- You use the CSS Styles panel to view, create, edit, and remove CSS styles, as well as to attach external style sheets to documents.
- Do one of the following:
  - Select Window > CSS Styles.
  - Press Shift+F11.
- Click the CSS button in the Property inspector.

## CSS Styles panel buttons and views

In both All and Current modes, the CSS Styles panel contains three buttons that let you alter the view in the Properties pane (the bottom pane):



- A. Category View
- B. List View
- C. Set Properties View

### Category View

Divides the Dreamweaver-supported CSS properties into eight categories: font, background, block, border, box, list, positioning, and extensions.

Each category's properties are contained in a list that you expand or collapse by clicking the Plus (+) button next to the category name.

### List View

Displays all of the Dreamweaver-supported CSS properties in alphabetical order.

### Set Properties View

Displays only those properties that have been set. Set Properties view is the default view.

**Note:** In Dreamweaver CC and later, CSS Styles panel is replaced with CSS Designer.

Class styles are the only type of CSS style that can be applied to any text in a document, regardless of which tags control the text. All class styles associated with the current document are displayed in the CSS Styles panel (with a period [.] preceding their name) and in the Style pop-up menu of the text Property inspector.

You'll see most styles updated immediately, however, you should preview your page in a browser to verify a style was applied as expected. When you apply two or more styles to the same text, the styles may conflict and produce unexpected results.

When previewing styles defined in an external CSS style sheet, be sure to save the style sheet to ensure that your changes are reflected when you preview the page in a browser.

## Apply a CSS class style

1. In the document, select the text to which you want to apply a CSS style.
  - Place the insertion point in a paragraph to apply the style to the entire paragraph.
  - If you select a range of text within a single paragraph, the CSS style affects only the selected range.
  - To specify the exact tag to which the CSS style should be applied, select the tag in the tag selector located at the lower left of the Document window.
2. To apply a class style, do one of the following:
  - In the CSS Styles panel (Window > CSS Styles), select All mode, right-click the name of the style you want to apply, and select
    - Apply from the context menu.
    - In the HTML Property inspector, select the class style you want to apply from the Class pop-up menu.
    - In the Document window, right-click (Win) or Control-click (Mac) the selected text, and in the context menu, select CSS Styles and then select the style you want to apply.
    - Select Format > CSS Styles, and in the submenu select the style you want to apply.

## CSS Styles panel buttons and views *CONT.*

In both All and Current modes, the CSS Styles panel also contains the following buttons:



- A. Attach Style Sheet
- B. New CSS Rule
- C. Edit Style
- D. Disable/enable CSS property
- E. Delete CSS rule

### Attach Style Sheet

Opens the Link External Style Sheet dialog box. Select an external style sheet to link to or import into your current document.

### New CSS Rule

Opens a dialog box in which you can select the type of style you're creating—for example, to create a class style, redefine an HTML tag, or to define a CSS selector.

### Edit Style

Opens a dialog box in which you can edit the styles in the current document or in an external style sheet.

**Delete CSS Rule** Removes the selected rule or property from the CSS Styles panel, and removes the formatting from any element to which it was applied. (It does not, however, remove class or ID properties referenced by that style).

### The Delete CSS Rule

button can also detach (or “unlink”) an attached CSS style sheet.

## Remove a class style from a selection

Select the object or text you want to remove the style from.

In the HTML Property inspector (Window > Properties), select None from the Class pop-up menu.

## Rename a class style

In the CSS styles panel, right-click the CSS class style you want to rename and select Rename Class.

You can also rename a class by selecting Rename Class from the CSS Styles panel options menu.

In the Rename Class dialog box, make sure that the class you want to rename is selected in the Rename Class pop-up menu.

In the New Name text box, enter the new name for the new class and click OK.

If the class you're renaming is internal to the head of the current document, Dreamweaver changes the class name as well as all instances of the class name in the current document. If the class you're renaming is in an external CSS file, Dreamweaver opens and changes the class name in the file. Dreamweaver also launches a site-wide Find and Replace dialog box so that you can search for all instances of the old class name in your site.

## Wrap-up

Upon completing this workshop, you should be able to do the following:

- Open and Close Layouts
- Manage CSS rules using the CSS Styles panel
- Move CSS rules to an external style sheet