

USEFUL CSS

Let's assume you're referring to this HTML:

```
<div class="usefulcss">Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,</div>
```

CHANGE FONT SIZE

```
.usefulcss {                                Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
    font-size: 10px;  
}
```

You can use px (pixels), % (percentage of inherited size), or em (1em is the same as the inherited size; 2em is twice the size).

CHANGE FONT

```
.usefulcss {                                Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
    font-family: helvetica, sans-serif;  
}
```

List the fonts you like in order of preference. If the user has the first font installed, the text will display in that font; otherwise, the text will display in the first font the user has.

CHANGE FONT COLOR

```
.usefulcss {                                Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
    color: red;  
}
```

You can use some color names or you can use special codes ("hexadecimal codes") that refer to specific colors. See W3C Schools for a list.

ADD A BORDER

```
.usefulcss {                                Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
    border: black 1px solid;  
}
```

You can use any color and any width (the width refers to the weight of the line). You can make your border dotted or dashed, too.

ADD A BACKGROUND COLOR

```
.usefulcss {                                Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,  
    background-color: yellow;  
}
```

You can use any color you want!

ADD SOME SPACE BETWEEN YOUR TEXT AND YOUR BORDER

```
.usefulcss {  
    padding: 5px;  
}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet.

The padding is the space between the text and the border.

ADD SOME SPACE BETWEEN YOUR TEXT AND THE NEXT PIECE OF CONTENT

```
.usefulcss {  
    margin: 10px  
}
```

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet.

This creates a 10-pixel margin around your content. You can also put margins only on one or a few sides. See [W3C Schools](#) to find out how.

NEED MORE CSS?

www.w3schools.com

The go-to place for figuring out what does what.

Ian Lloyd, *Build Your Own Website the Right Way Using HTML & CSS*, 3rd edition (SitePoint, 2006).

My favorite guide to HTML & CSS.

www.html5dog.com

Good tutorials on HTML and CSS.

<http://lifehacker.com/5788442/how-to-make-a-web-site-part-i-understanding-and-writing-html>

I find that Lifehacker tutorials are usually well-written and easy to understand.



MIRIAM POSNER | VERY BASIC HTML & CSS