Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) Webinar Epilogue: Attendee Questions & Challenges

PRESENTED BY
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Mike Hamilton is the Vice President of Product Evangelism at MadCap Software where he is working on the next generation authoring tool, Flare. Before joining MadCap Software, he was the Product Manager for the RoboHelp product line since the days of Blue Sky Software, eHelp, and Macromedia.

Mike has over 20 years of experience in training, technical communication, multimedia development, and software development.
AGENDA

• Light review of CSS
• “Note” style creation – Single element
• “Note” style creation – Multi-element
• Simplifying margin/indent control
• List indent control (and why it drives people crazy)
QUICK REVIEW OF THE DIV ELEMENT
THE DIV ELEMENT

- The DIV element is simply a container for containers
- A DIV can have styles
- A DIV group can be treated as a unit

Heading 1 Text

This is paragraph 1

This is paragraph 2
QUICK REVIEW OF THE BOX MODEL
THE BOX MODEL

- This page contains three elements
- Each element has an invisible box around it

Heading 1 Text

This is paragraph 1

This is paragraph 2
THE BOX MODEL

• There are three primary attributes to the box model
  » Border
  » Margin
  » Padding

• Each can be set in total, or by top, bottom, right, or left
• If I have the text

**CAUTION!**: Don’t do something.

background-image: /caution.png;
Background-position: 0% 50%;
Background-repeat: no-repeat;
Line-height: 40px;
Padding-left: 60px

⚠️ **CAUTION!**: Don’t do something.
TWO NEW EXAMPLES

**Interior sub heading - Heading 3**
Neque euismod sed dolores at ornare, id justo egestas, venenatis et erat tellus leo magna nisl. Eget velit consectetur vitae vitae sit lectus, elit sem at wisi, magnis vestibulum integer quis parturient tortor sem. Tempus lacus tincidunt vestibulum amet pharetra, molestie ante convallis sit massa. Wisi accumsan suspendisse, velit aliquam et, ullamcorper sagittis, accumsan velit amet wisi id, suscipit diam posuere nascetur elementum convallis et.

**DANGER:** Do not touch rotating machinery.

**Caution:**
Oven surfaces can be hot.
TWO NEW EXAMPLES

Interior sub heading - Heading 3
Neque euismod sed dolores at ornare, id justo egestas, venenatis et erat tellus leo magna nisl. Eget velit consectetur vitae vitae sit lectus, elit sem at wisi, magnis vestibulum integer quis parturient tortor sem. Tempus lacus tincidunt vestibulum amet pharetra, molestie ante convallis sit massa. Wisi accumsan suspendisse, velit aliquam et, ullamcorper sagittis, accumsan velit amet wisi id, suscipit diam posuere nascetur elementum convallis et.

DANGER: Do not touch rotating machinery.

Caution:
Oven surfaces can be hot.
EXAMPLE 1 – STARTING POINT

This is our goal...

DANGER: Do not touch rotating machinery.

...but this is our starting point.

Do not touch rotating machinery.

First – Create a style class

p.danger
EXAMPLE 1 – ADD IMAGE

background-image: url('..//Images/caution.png');
background-position-x: 0;
background-position-y: center;
background-repeat: no-repeat;

Do not touch rotating machinery.
EXAMPLE 1– MAKE ROOM FOR IMAGE

background-image: url('..//Images/caution.png');
background-position-x: 0;
background-position-y: center;
background-repeat: no-repeat;

line-height: 40px;
padding-left: 70px;
font-size: 1.3em;

Do not touch rotating machinery.
EXAMPLE 1–ADD BORDER

```css
background-image: url('../Images/caution.png');
background-position-x: 0;
background-position-y: center;
background-repeat: no-repeat;
line-height: 40px;
padding-left: 70px;
font-size: 1.3em;
border-left-style: solid;
border-left-width: 1px;
border-left-color: #000000;
border-right-style: solid;
border-right-width: 1px;
border-right-color: #000000;
border-top-style: solid;
border-top-width: 1px;
border-top-color: #000000;
border-bottom-style: solid;
border-bottom-width: 1px;
border-bottom-color: #000000;
```

⚠️ Do not touch rotating machinery.
EXAMPLE 1– DANGER TEXT / RADIUS

DANGER: Do not touch rotating machinery.
EXAMPLE 1– PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

DANGER: Do not touch rotating machinery.
EXAMPLE 1–PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Do not touch rotating machinery.

Original text, create style

Do not touch rotating machinery.

Add image, set repeat / position

Do not touch rotating machinery.

Set padding and line height

Do not touch rotating machinery.

Turn on borders

Do not touch rotating machinery.

Round corners and add AutoNumber text

DANGER: Do not touch rotating machinery.
This is our goal...

Caution:
Oven surfaces can be hot.

...but this is our starting point.

Caution:
Oven surfaces can be hot.

First – Create three style classes
p.CautionInside
p.CautionTextInside
div.Caution
EXAMPLE 2 – FIRST STYLE

p.CautionInside
font-weight: bold;
font-family: 'Courier New';
font-size: 2em;

Caution:

Oven surfaces can be hot.
EXAMPLE 2 – SECOND STYLE

Caution: Oven surfaces can be hot.
EXAMPLE 2– DIV STYLE

div.caution
background-image: url('..../Images/caution.png');
background-position-y: center;
background-position-x: 25px;
background-repeat: no-repeat;
border-radius: 40px 40px;
padding-left: 75px;
border-style: solid;
border-width: 1px;
border-color: #000000;
background-color: #d3d3d3;

Caution:
Oven surfaces can be hot.
EXAMPLE 2– PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Original text, create three styles

Caution:
Oven surfaces can be hot.

Apply the p.CautionInside style

Caution:
Oven surfaces can be hot.

Apply the p.CautionTextInside style

Group both paragraphs with the div.Caution style
SUPER-SECRET TECHNIQUE!!!!!!!!
HOW TO TEMPLATE (UNOFFICIALLY)

• Convert div.Caution to a Flare Snippet
• Whenever you need a new caution statement insert the Snippet
• Right-click on the Snippet and “Convert to text”
• You can now edit the text of the new caution statement without having to build all three elements
INDENT CONTROL
INDENT CONTROL

• In a CSS world there is no support for “Tab”
• To compensate, indents must be handled with style settings
• HOWEVER: Don’t go style crazy!
• It is possible to have multiple levels of indent using 1 style
INTRODUCING THE DIV ELEMENT

• DIV is one of the most important elements for CSS control
• A DIV element is a container element which can wrap or contain other elements
• A DIV can be styled
• Can drastically reduce the number of styles needed
<body>

<h1>DivDemo</h1>

<p>Paragraph 1</p>

<p>Paragraph 2</p>

<p>Paragraph 2a</p>

<p>Paragraph 2b</p>

<p>Paragraph 3</p>

<p>Paragraph 4</p>

</body>
INDENT CONTROL

DivDemo

Paragraph 1
Paragraph 2
Paragraph 2a
Paragraph 2b
Paragraph 3
Paragraph 4
INDENT CONTROL

In Style Sheet:

div.myindent
{
    margin-left: 18pt;
}

<body>
  <h1>DivDemo</h1>
  <p>Paragraph 1</p>
  <p>Paragraph 2</p>
  <div class="myindent">
    <p>Paragraph 2a</p>
    <p>Paragraph 2b</p>
  </div>
  <p>Paragraph 3</p>
  <p>Paragraph 4</p>
</body>
DivDemo
Paragraph 1
Paragraph 2
  Paragraph 2a
  Paragraph 2b
Paragraph 3
Paragraph 4
LIST INDENTS
THE BOX MODEL

• This page contains three elements
• Each element has an invisible box around it

Heading 1 Text

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THE BOX MODEL

- There are three primary attributes to the box model:
  - Border
  - Margin
  - Padding
- Each can be set in total, or by top, bottom, right, or left.
• Lists have a complex box model
• The UL element is a big box
• The LI elements are the small boxes
• All are subject to Box Model rules
LISTS

TIP: Make the borders visible before adjusting margins or padding!
SUMMARY

• Light review of CSS
• “Note” style creation – Single element
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• Simplifying margin/indent control
• List indent control
QUESTIONS

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