Cascading Style Sheets (Part 2):

Fonts and Beyond

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- Jose Sermeno

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- He will answer questions during the webinar

- Type questions in the Question and Answer area of the GoToWebinar interface
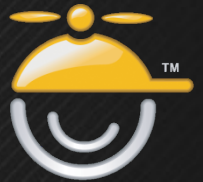
- # Mike Hamilton
  - ## MadCap V.P. of Product Evangelism

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.

- Short CSS review

- Fonts and Font Families

- Font Sizing

- The "Box" model

- Box model adjustments and controls
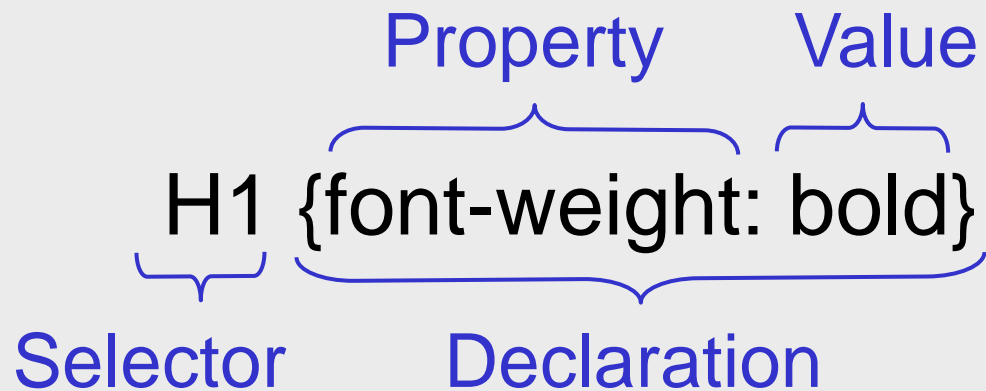
Short CSS Review

- A Cascading style sheet (CSS) document is a simple text file.

- A CSS file contains a collection of style rules used to control the look and feel of documents.

- A CSS style rule has two parts, a Selector and a Declaration

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)

- Style Rules

<div align="center">

Property   Value

H1 {font-weight: bold}

Selector   Declaration

</div>

H1 {font-weight: bold; color: black; }

- Class Syntax:

  - In a style sheet:

    P.myclass { color:blue; margin-left:3px; }

  - In a page:

    <P CLASS="myclass">Text</P>

Three CSS implementations

- External
  - Linked to an unlimited number of files
- Embedded
  - Affects only the elements in a specific file
- Inline
  - Affects only the element applied to

Fonts and Font Families

What is a Font Family?

A list of primary and alternate fonts for styles used in your document

Why are Font Families important?

• Many fonts on your authoring workstation may not be available on the end users'

• If you use a font in your document that does not exist on the users' workstation, then the browsers pick what font to use!

Font Family Guidelines

- Define primary font

- Define secondary fonts for other operating systems (UNIX, Macintosh, etc.)

- Define generic font family

- Order is critical – list is hierarchical

Fonts Common to an OS

Microsoft Windows

Arial

Comic Sans MS

Courier New

Marlette

Symbol

Times New Roman

Wingdings

Macintosh

Times

Courier

Helvetica

Symbol

Chicago

New York

Geneva

Monaco

Palatino

Recommended Font Families

- Arial, Helvetica, Sans-serif

- Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, Sans-serif

- Times New Roman, Times, Serif

- Courier New, Courier, Mono

Example Font Families

body { font-family: arial, helvetica, sans-serif }

p.code { font-family: "courier new", courier, mono}

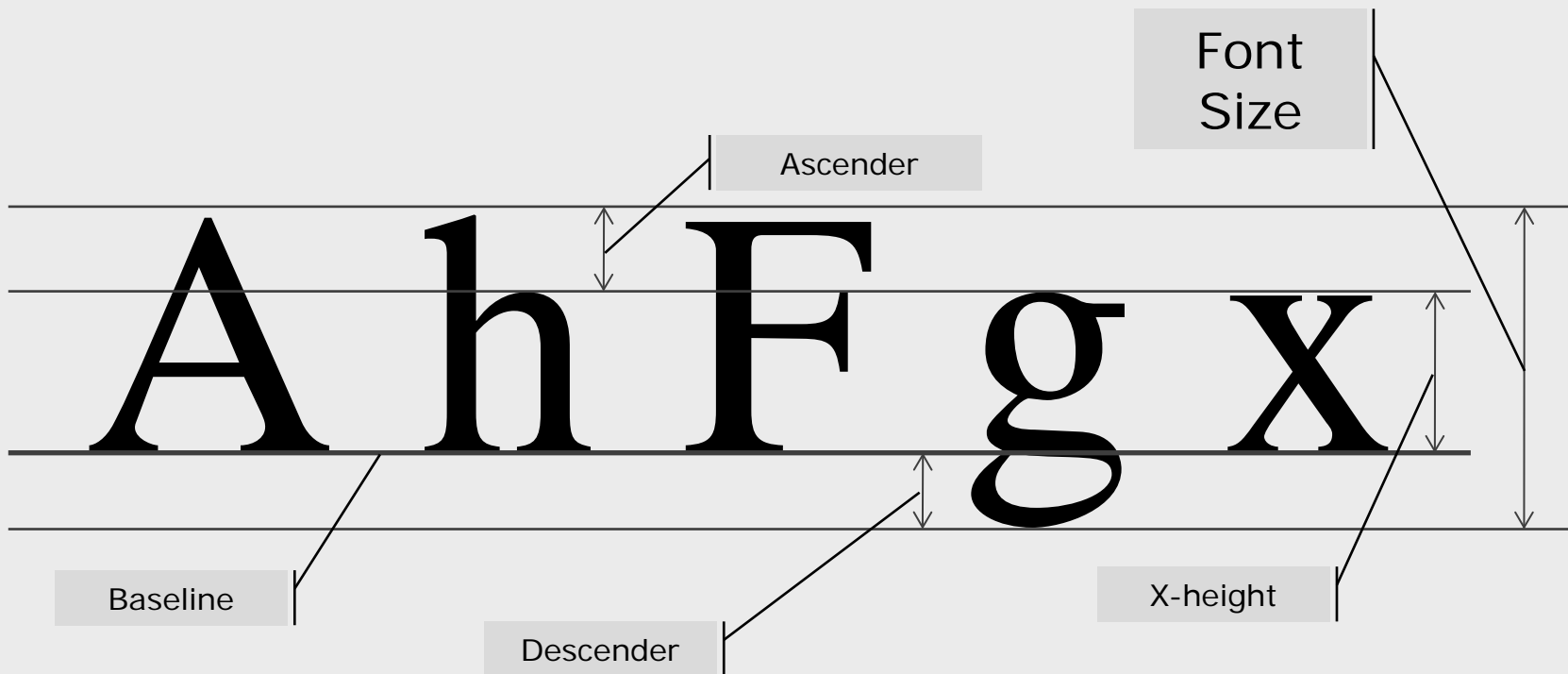Summary: Take control of the fonts used on your content and don't let browsers make uncontrolled substitutions

Font Metrics

The values determining font size:

Font Size

Ascender

A h F g x

Baseline

Descender

X-height

Times New Roman 32pt

"It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known."

Garamond 32pt

"It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known."

Times New Roman

Garamond

Result:

- Font size determines the physical space that text will require and does not directly correlate to readability or usability

- No one font size is "ideal" for body text or headings, but is completely dependant on the font in use

Font Sizing

There are two (and a half*) ways to define font sizes in CSS

- Fixed Font Sizing
- Physical Font Sizing (the half*)
- Relative Font Sizing

*Half because Mike made it up

Fixed Font Sizing

- Fixed Font Sizing defines the size of fonts using absolute units such as points (pt), picas (pc), inches (in), centimeters (cm), etc.

- Because of the differences in how various types of computers display content, Fixed Font Sizing will ALWAYS cause fonts to display smaller on some systems (like the Macintosh)

Physical Font Sizing

- Physical Font Sizing defines the size of fonts using pixels (px)

- The size of pixels (or "picture elements") is hardware dependent on your monitor, its size, and its resolution

- The size of pixels on a 17" laptop at 1920x1200 resolution is very small while the pixels on a 14" monitor at 1024x768 would be quite large

Relative Font Sizing

- Relative Font Sizing defines the size of fonts using relative units such as percentages (%), the em unit (em), numerical values (1-7), and descriptive values (xx-small - xx-large), etc.

- Relative sizes refer to the font size of the parent element. This allows fonts to scale appropriately to different resolutions, browsers or platforms

Relative Font Size Guidelines

- Define the size for the body style as 100% to provide consistent looking, legible text on any platform

- Define heading styles as a percentage of the body text – e.g. Heading 1=120%, Heading 2=115%, etc.

Relative Font Sizing - CAUTION

- Watch out for the "fun-house mirror" factor that can occur when relative font sizes inherit from other relative font sizes

- This can cause text to shrink or expand very quickly

Fixed Font Sizing

```
body {font-size: 8pt;
      font-family: Verdana,
      Arial,Helvetica, Sans-Serif; }
h1   {font-size: 12pt; }
div  {margin-left: 10pt;
      font-size: 10pt; }
li   {font-size: 10pt; }
p    {font-size: 10pt; }
```

```
<html >
  <head>
    <link href="test.css" rel="stylesheet" />
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Heading 1 Text</h1>
    <p>A normal paragraph</p>
    <div>
      <ul>
        <li>List item 1</li>
        <li>
          <p>List item 2</p>
          <p>Supporting paragraph</p>
        </li>
        <li>List item 3</li>
      </ul>
      <p>Closing paragraph</p>
    </div>
</body></html>
```

Heading 1 Text

A normal paragraph

- List item 1
- List item 2

  Supporting paragraph

- List item 3

Closing paragraph

Relative Font Sizing

```css
body {font-size: .8em;
      font-family: Verdana,
      Arial,Helvetica, Sans-Serif; }
h1   {font-size: 1.2em; }
div  {margin-left: 10pt;
      font-size: .8em; }
li   {font-size: .8em; }
p    {font-size: .8em; }
```

```html
<html >
   <head>
      <link href="test.css" rel="stylesheet" />
   </head>
   <body>
      <h1>Heading 1 Text</h1>
      <p>A normal paragraph</p>
      <div>
         <ul>
            <li>List item 1</li>
            <li>
               <p>List item 2</p>
               <p>Supporting paragraph</p>
            </li>
            <li>List item 3</li>
         </ul>
         <p>Closing paragraph</p>
      </div>
   </body></html>
```

Heading 1 Text

A normal paragraph

- List item 1
- List item 2

   Supporting paragraph

- List item 3

Closing paragraph

Heading 1 Text

A normal paragraph

- List Item 1
- List Item 2

   Supporting paragraph

- List Item 3

Closing paragraph

The Box Model

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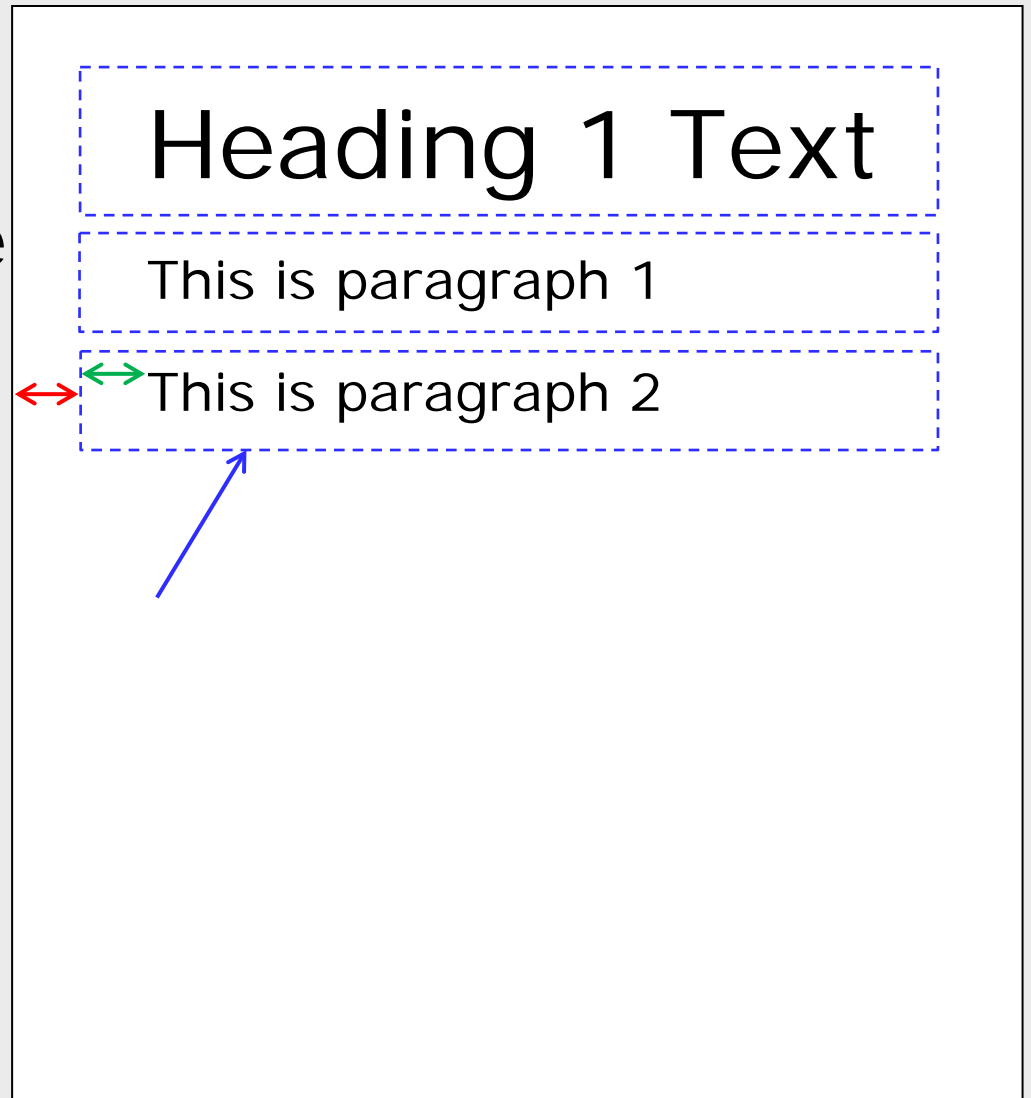
- Each element has in invisible box around it

Heading 1 Text
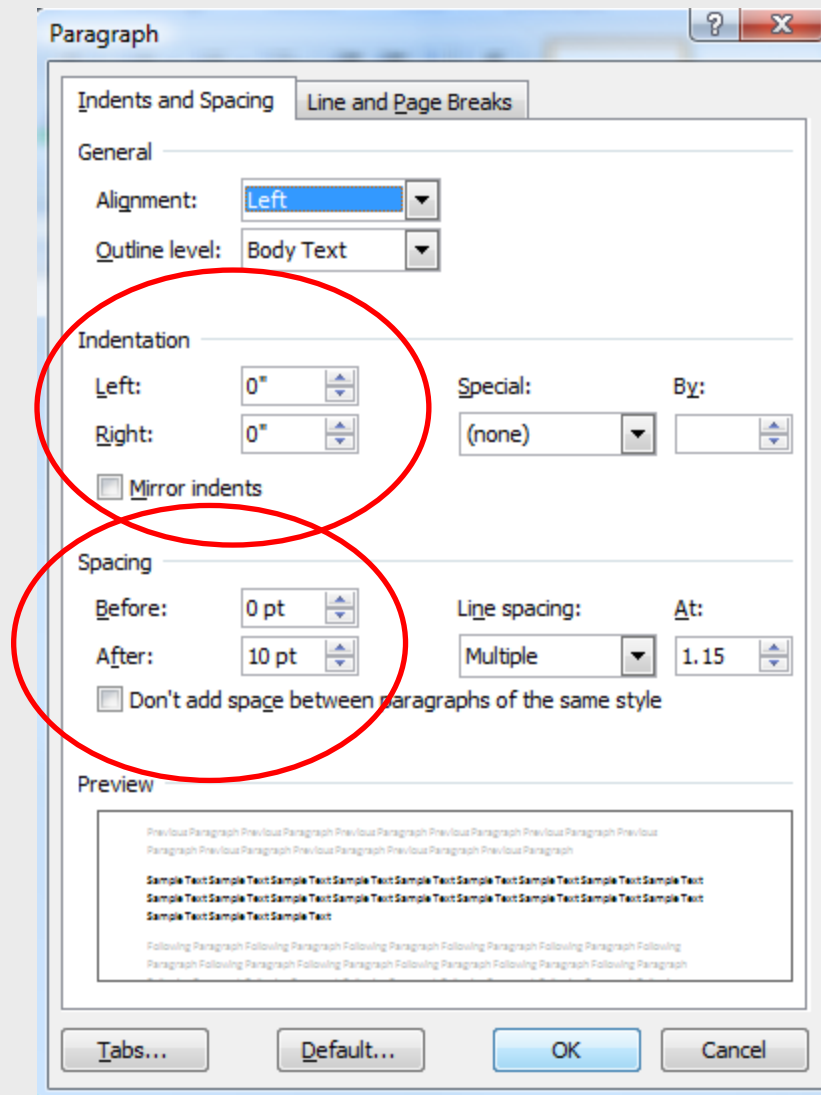
This is paragraph 1

This is paragraph 2

- 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

Heading 1 Text

This is paragraph 1

This is paragraph 2

Common Box Model Adjustments

Common Box Model Adjustments

To add an indent add or increase **margin-left**

To increase the space above paragraphs or elements add or increase **margin-top**

To increase the space below paragraphs or elements add or increase **margin-bottom**

Example:

To create a paragraph with lines applied above and below.

```
p.lines
{
    border-bottom-color: #000000;
    border-bottom-style: Solid;
    border-bottom-width: 1px;
    border-top-color: #000000;
    border-top-style: Solid;
    border-top-width: 1px;
}
```
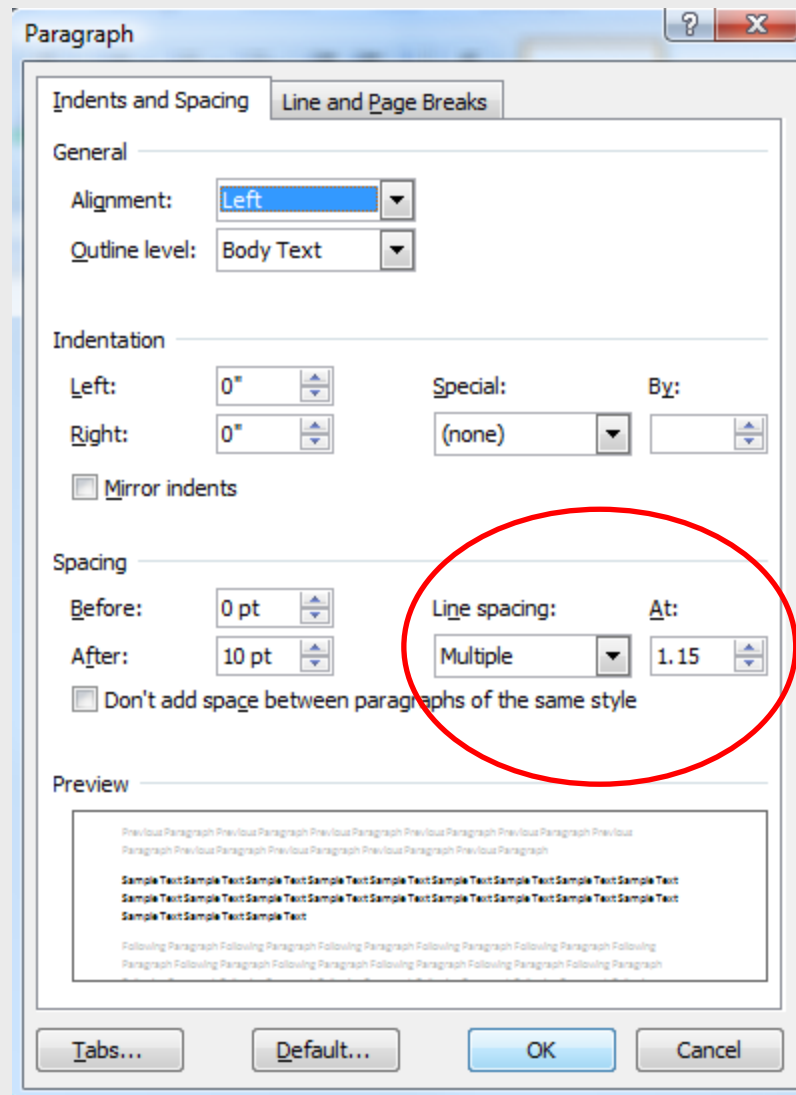
"It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known."

Common Box Model Adjustments

```
p.lines
{

    margin-bottom: 0.8em;
    margin-left: .1em;
    margin-top: 1.7em;
    padding-left: 0.8em;
    padding-right: 0.8em;
    padding-bottom: 0.5em;
    padding-top: 0.5em;
    border-bottom-color: #000000;
    border-bottom-style: Solid;
    border-bottom-width: 1px;
    border-top-color: #000000;
    border-top-style: Solid;
    border-top-width: 1px;
}
```
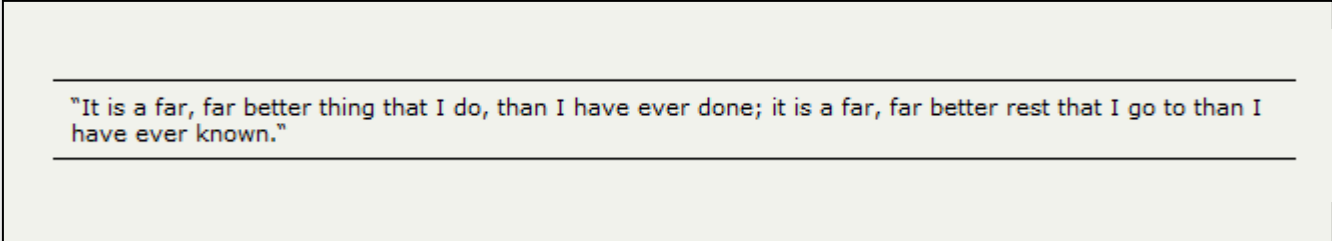
"It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known."
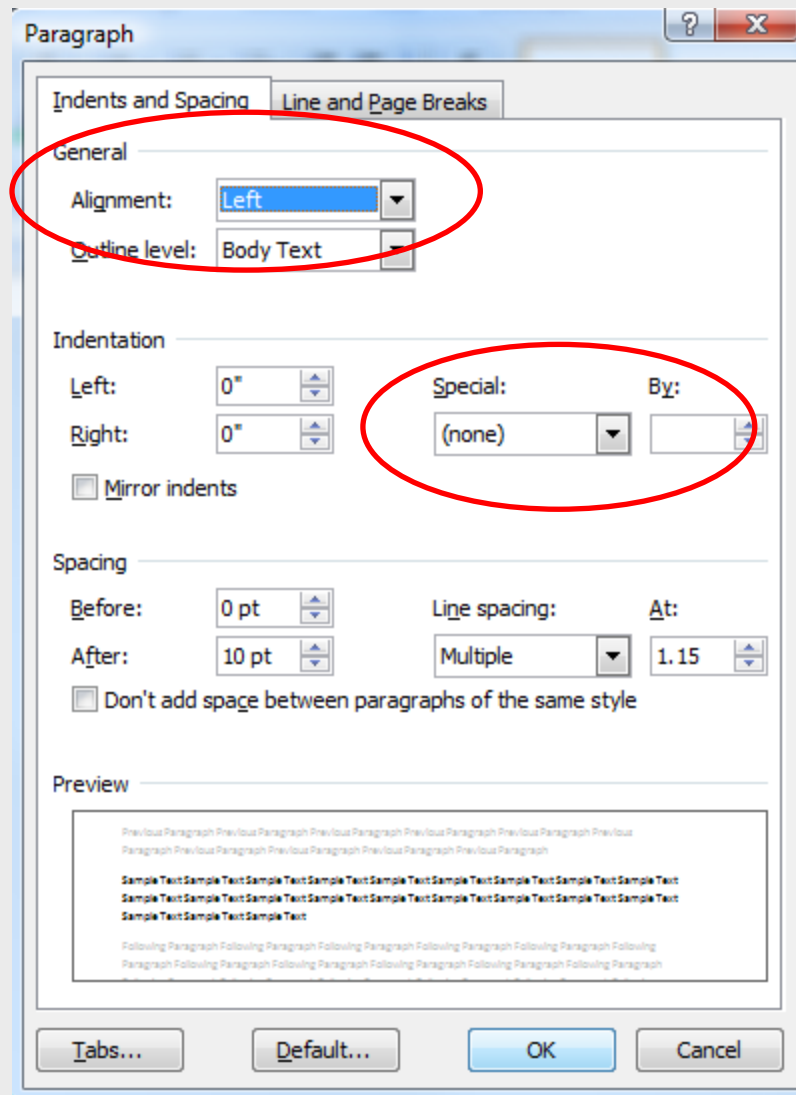
Common Box Model Adjustments

Common Box Model Adjustments

```css
p.lines
{
    margin-bottom: 0.8em;
    margin-left: .1em;
    margin-top: 1.7em;
    padding-left: 0.8em;
    padding-right: 0.8em;
    padding-bottom: 0.5em;
    padding-top: 0.5em;
    border-bottom-color: #000000;
    border-bottom-style: Solid;
    border-bottom-width: 1px;
    border-top-color: #000000;
    border-top-style: Solid;
    border-top-width: 1px;
    line-height: 1.2em;
}
```

"It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known."

Common Box Model Adjustments

To justify text right, left, or center use the **text-align** attribute

If you want to indent just the first line of a paragraph then use **text-indent**

Summary

- Use **Font Families** to control any font substitutions the browser may perform

- There is no magic **font size** that should be used in all cases

- **Relative font sizing** is preferable but takes practice

- Remember the **Box Model** when you need to adjust text/element spacing

- **Margin** and **Padding** will be used a lot!

Suggested Reading List

HTML, XHTML, and CSS, Sixth Edition (Visual Quickstart Guide)
by **Elizabeth Castro**
ISBN-13: 978-0-321-43084-7

CSS To The Point
by **Scott DeLoach**
ISBN-13: 978-0-615-21213-5

Cascading Style Sheets: Designing for the Web (3rd Edition) (Paperback)
by **Hakon Wium Lie** and **Bert Bos**
ISBN-13: 978-0321193124

CSS: The Definitive Guide, Third Edition
by **Eric Meyer**
ISBN-13: 978-0596527334

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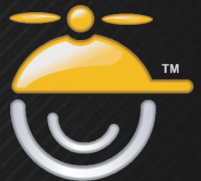and Content Strategists

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Questions?

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Thank You!

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