

CSS: Classes, IDs and Divs

Containers that give you control

What is a class?

- ▶ A class is an attribute by which you can select items to have a determined behavior.
 - ▶ Example question: What if I wanted one H2 tag to be green but another H2 tag on the same page to be blue?
 - ▶ I'm blue
 - ▶ I'm green
 - ▶ But we're both H2s!
 - ▶ The answer is classes!

Code that creates a class

- ▶ The initial code may look like this in HTML:

```
<h2>Types of Dogs</h2>
```

```
<h2>Types of Cats</h2>
```

- ▶ And my CSS may look like this:

```
H2 {
```

```
Color: blue;
```

```
}
```

- ▶ We can create an exception, as it were, by creating a class



Code that creates a class

- ▶ Add this code to your HTML:

```
<h2>Types of Dogs</h2
```

```
<h2 class="redCat">Types of Cats</h2>
```

- ▶ Then in the CSS file add this:

```
.redCat {  
    color: red;  
}
```

Types of Dogs

Types of Cats |

An ID tag is just the same but....

- ▶ You can only use an ID tag once per page. If you will be using a exception more than once, use a class instead.
- ▶ While a class is preceded with a period in CSS, like this:

`.redCat`

An ID is preceded with a hashtag, like this:

`#redCat`

What is a DIV tag?

- ▶ A DIV tag allows you to create a container around a group of items so that all of them can be made into exceptions.
- ▶ For instance, your navigation menu will be made with LI tags like this:

```
<ul>  
  <li><a href="index.html">Home</a></li>  
  <li><a href="about.html">About Us</a></li>  
  <li><a href="contact.html">Contact</a></li>  
</ul>
```

A DIV tag can surround the list with a class for all of the LI tags at once.

What is a DIV tag?

- ▶ You can wrap the existing list in a DIV like this:

```
<div class="nav">
```

```
  <ul>
```

```
    <li><a href="index.html">Home</a></li>
```

```
    <li><a href="about.html">About Us</a></li>
```

```
    <li><a href="contact.html">Contact</a></li>
```

```
  </ul>
```

```
</div>
```

What is a DIV tag?

- ▶ The CSS code for that class of NAV controlling the list links would be:

```
.nav a {  
Color: purple;  
}
```

Note the important relationship called parents and children. In this case, the A tag is a child of the class NAV.