

CS Masters' Thesis Defense

Title: *Cascading Style Sheet Generator*
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Abstract:

Cascading Style Sheets, better known as CSS, have become a staple tool in web design. CSS is the way in which web designers separate the presentation or design of a web site from the structure or the markup. By using CSS, a modification on the web style or presentation of a website can be handled in one place.

CSS the idea is to generate very clean HTML markup that has absolutely no built-in styling. That means a separate file with a .css extension is created to define tag styles. This CSS file can be easily linked to the HTML and it tells the browser how the header tag should look. Any changes you make on that CSS file in the future will instantly be reflected on the site without having to change any of the site's HTML.

The salient feature of using a separate CSS file is in bandwidth and load times. Most modern browsers will cache any files with a .css extension. It means the visitors to the site will have less to download and make the site appear faster. Any change made to the CSS file, will ensure that the browser will be able to recognize the difference and reload the cached copy it has on file. This way people can see the current version of the CSS used site's design instantly.

CSS can even be used to style other sites (the ones you don't control) as well. Some browsers have extensions that have been developed to allow us to overwrite a websites style with a CSS file on our local machine. This is especially common with some of the more popular web applications like free email services from the major providers.

So creating a Cascading Style Sheets is a must for any web design professional. So my work "CASCADING STYLE SHEET GENERATOR" simplifies the process of creating a CSS file. This CSS generator has the:

1. Flexibility to choose header styles
2. Applying any format to the sheet
3. Can be linked to any of the HTML
4. Support most of the popular browsers
5. Easily downloadable
6. Uses advanced technology such as PHP and Java Script

This tool is intended for users who already have basic understanding of HTML tags and CSS attributes.