

WEBSITE AUTHORIZING – Lesson #6: Fonts, styles and colours

Objectives:

When you have completed this lesson you will:

- be able to change the font, colour and size of text
- be able to add colour to a cell

1 About fonts

You will have used many different types of font before. In Microsoft Word you may have access to more than 50 of them. Quite simply a font is a design for a set of characters. This worksheet is written in Arial for example. Others are: Times New Roman, **ALGERIAN**, Courier New.

We may want to apply a number of styles to the fonts as well: colour and size.

Whenever we are working in a word processor we can use the formatting toolbar to make these changes. Whatever we choose happens immediately and is visible. In a HTML document this does not happen. As mentioned in *Lesson1*, a HTML document is a text document and tags are needed to let the browser know how the text is to be displayed.

2 Tags for fonts

The tags dealing with fonts are:

`` where xxx is the name of the font
`` where xxx is the name of the colour [there is another way of describing colour but we'll get this idea sorted first]
`` where x is a number between 1 and 7. 1 is the smallest and 7 the biggest size. If you do not state a size then 3 is the default.

From the website open the page **Fonts.html** – you will find it in the same place as you picked up this worksheet.

Open the source code and save it in your own folder with the same file name.

Look carefully at the source HTML. Find the `<table>` tags and identify where the rows start `<tr>` and stop `</tr>`. Have a look for the cell tags (`<td>`, `</td>`). Get used to reading the HTML and finding these things.

The first list (ordered - ``) has the tags ``.

Basically this is saying to the browser: display the text as red, size 3 using the font called 'Comic Sans MS'.

[note the American spelling for colour]

What is happening with the second list?

font= colour= size=

Is the font for this list bigger or smaller than for the first list?

In terms of specifying a colour, the easiest way is to use the colour's name. However, there is a fixed number of colours that all browsers will recognise:



These are what we can easily work with. It would not be any use typing *rose* or *sky blue*. The browser will not recognise what you have asked for.

Write the tags to make the third list look different to the other two. Write here first of all what you plan to do:

`<font` `><font` `><font` `>`

Save the HTML and refresh the browser.

Look at the opening <td> tag for the fourth list. Notice that there is an additional tag in there: *bgcolor="yellow"*

It should be obvious to you what this is asking?

Alter the <td> tags for each of the other cells and add a background colour. Save and refresh.

Look carefully at the way the heading has been written in the cell:

```
<center><h1><b><i>Changing fonts and formatting</i></b></h1></center>
```

First of all recognise that the cell itself is going to cross over 2 columns. How do we know this?

This heading is going to be centred, and made bold and italic. That is clear from the <i> and <center> tags. What about the <h1>,</h1> tags?

These are special tags that are used to define a heading. There are 6 levels of heading – 1 being the biggest.

Now copy the line and paste it onto new lines another 5 times so that it looks like this:

```
<center><h1><b><i>Changing fonts and formatting</i></b></h1></center>
<center><h1><b><i>Changing fonts and formatting</i></b></h1></center>
<center><h1><b><i>Changing fonts and formatting</i></b></h1></center>
<center><h1><b><i>Changing fonts and formatting</i></b></h1></center>
<center><h1><b><i>Changing fonts and formatting</i></b></h1></center>
<center><h1><b><i>Changing fonts and formatting</i></b></h1></center>
```

Now change the <h1>,</h1> in the second row to <h2>,</h2> and the third ones to <h3>,</h3> and so on until the last one is heading 6.

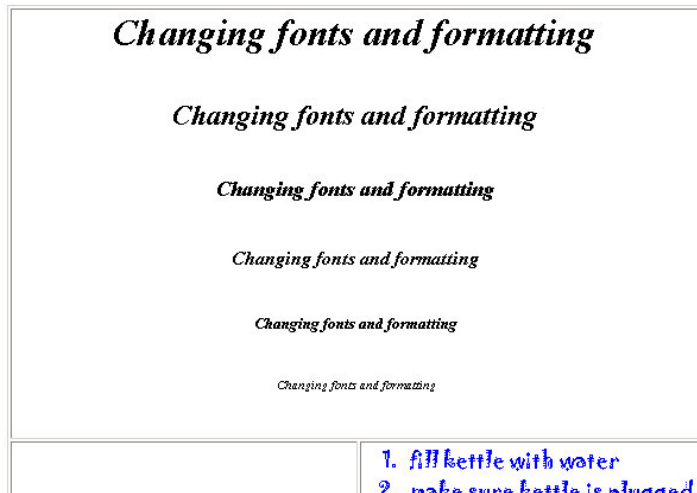
Save and refresh the browser.

You should get this:

What you must try and remember is that numbers 1 – 7 for font size does not correspond in any way to the heading sizes 1 – 6.

What do you think you would need to do to get the headings in different colours?

Try it and get all 6 headings in different colours and different fonts. Remember you do not need to specify size because that is already a part of the heading tag.



By now you should feel pretty pleased with yourself because you have a rather colourful multi-fonted table in front of you!!

Save the HTML.