

A GUIDE TO DREAMWEAVER CS4

CSS BASICS

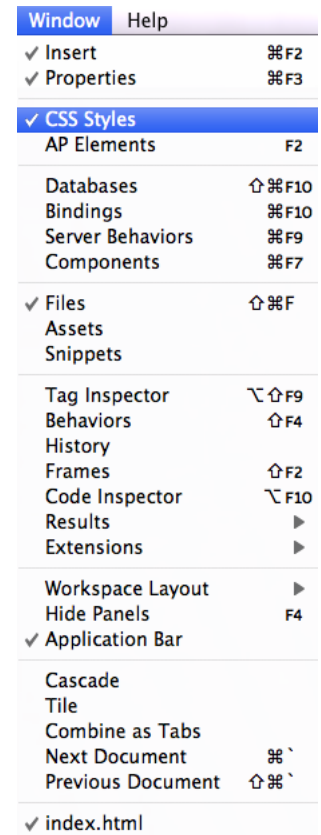
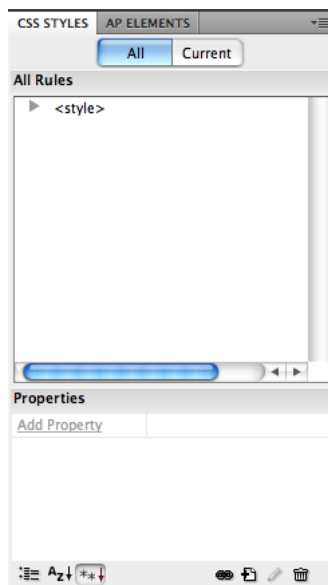
CSS, or Cascading Style Sheet, allows you to control the settings for all of the pages contained within your Web site in one location. If you set the background color of your Web pages in the CSS, you only have to change it in the CSS to change the background color of all your Web pages. Normally you would have to change the background color in the page properties of each individual page.

CSS also offers you formatting options that are not available in basic HTML.

CSS STYLES MENU

You can change the CSS settings (color, font, size, etc) using the CSS Styles.

The menu is located along the right hand side of your screen.



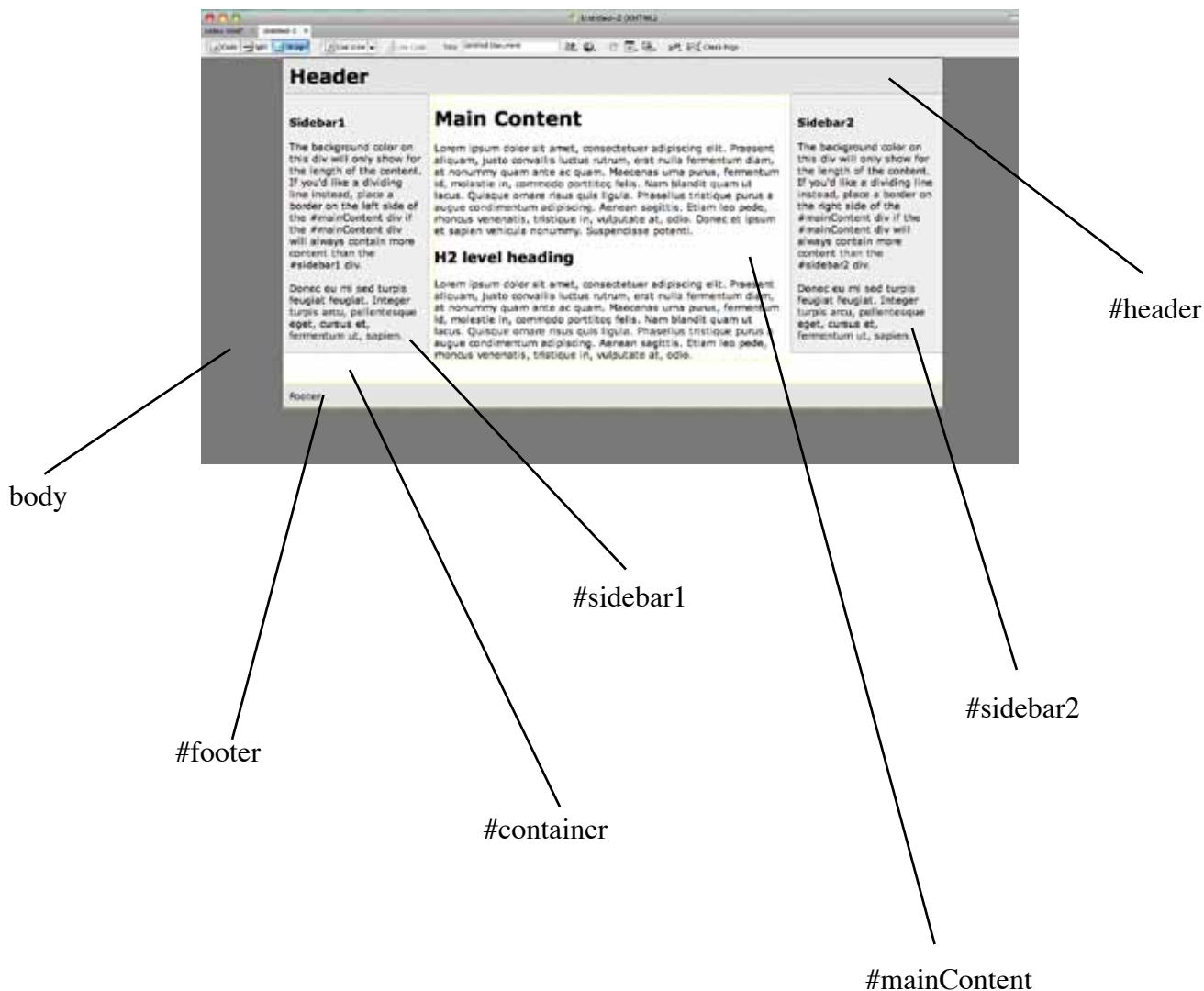
If it is not visible, select “CSS Styles” from the “window” menu.

MODIFYING CSS STYLES

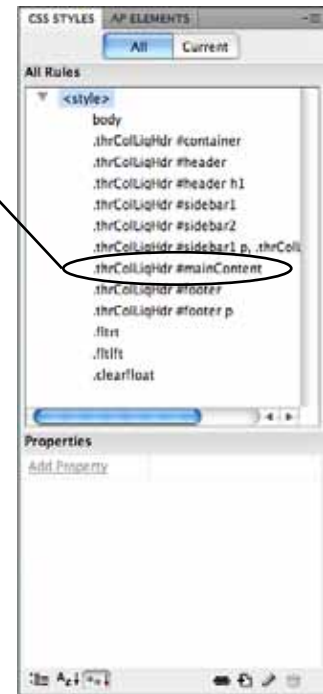
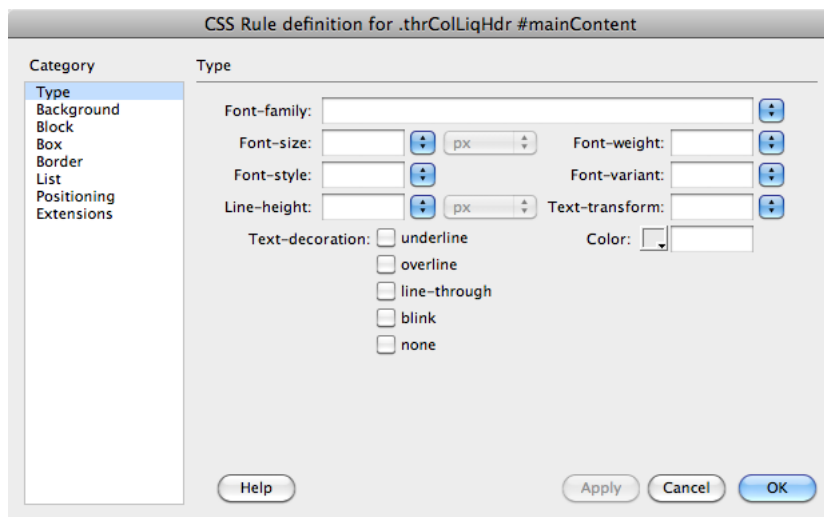
To make changes to areas of your Web page you need to select the related CSS rule in the CSS menu.

For example, to change the background color of the background of the full page, or to set the default font style for all text on the Web page, you need to select the “body” style.

Check out the image below to match CSS styles with areas on your Web page.

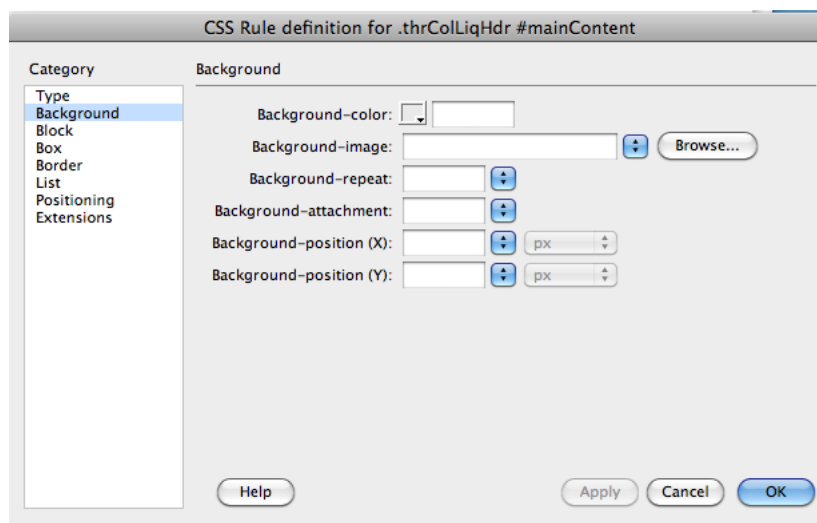


To change the properties of an area, double click on the area in the CSS menu. A pop-up window will open. Use this window to change the properties of the CSS style associated with your Web page.

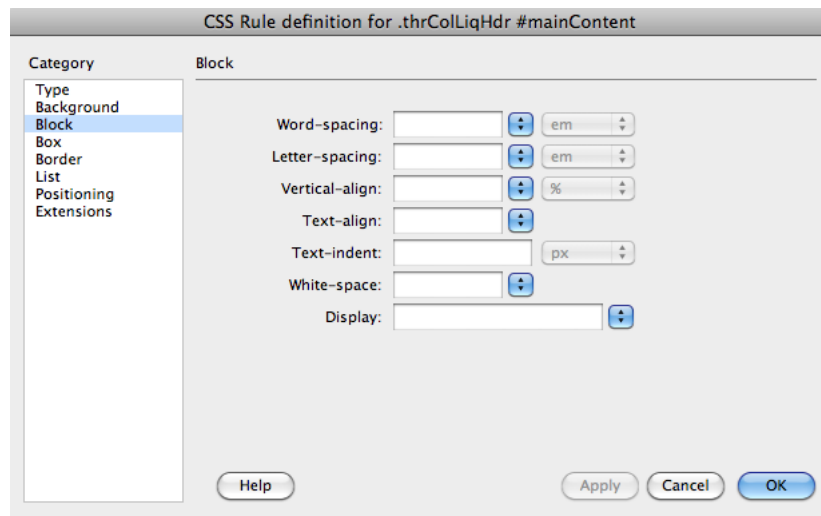


Using the left hand menu, you can select different “categories” to change. In the type menu you can set the style of the text in the chose area (mainContent in this case).

You can select a font-family; set the font-size, font-style, font-weight, and font-varient for your chosen font; add a color to your text; and add text-decorations (but be careful, most of the decorations will negatively impact the readability of your text).

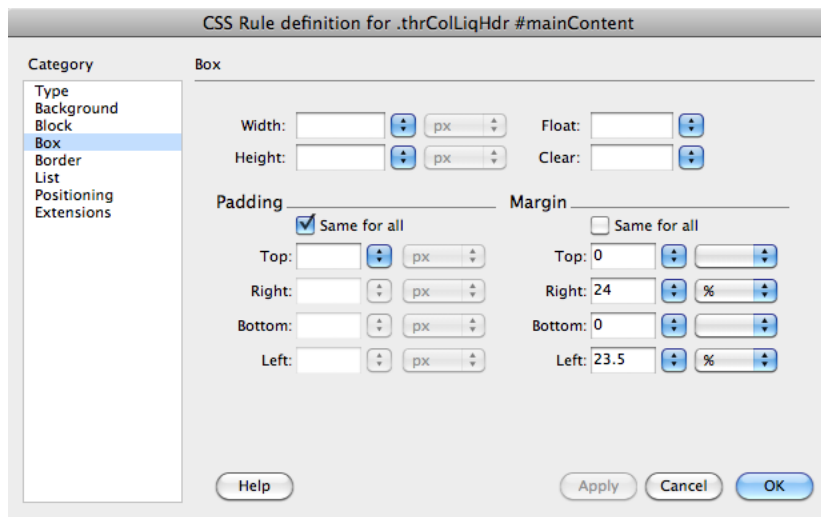


The background category allows you to set a background color for the chosen area and to add a image to the background. If adding a image to the background, be sure the picture does not conflict with the page’s text - the text needs to be readable.

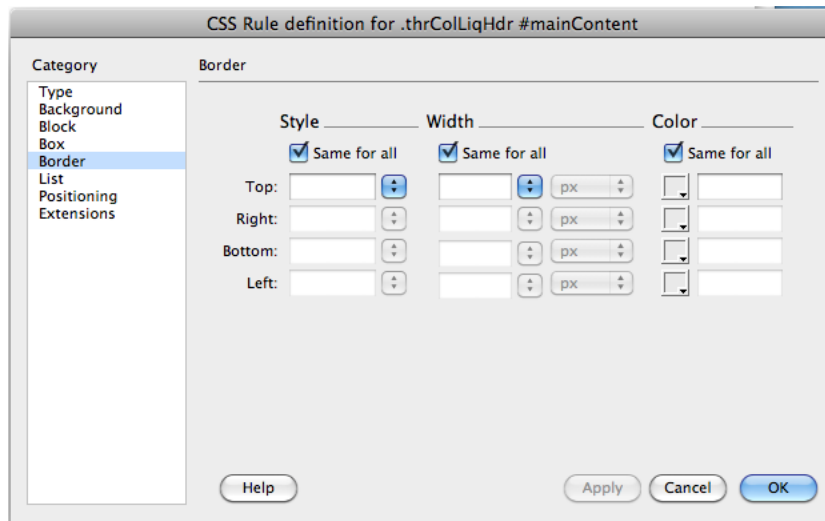


The block category allows you to change word-spacing (space between words), letter-spacing (space between letters), vertical-align (how the content in the area is aligned vertically), text-align (how all of the text in the area is align), and text-indent (how all the text in the area is indented).

When making these changes, be cautious - going over board can negatively impact the readability of your Web site.



The box category impacts the location of the area/box on your Web page. Dreamweaver has already filled in the important information. I would suggest you **do not change** the information in this category. If you make changes it will affect the layout of your page.



The border category refers to the border you can add to the “box” area the content area. You can add borders to the top, right, bottom, and/or left sides of the box. You can select the style, width, and color of these borders.