

CSS3 Solutions

Essential Techniques for CSS3 Developers

**Marco Casario, Nathalie Wormser, Dan Saltzman,
Anselm Bradford, Jonathan Reid, Francesco Improta,
and Aaron Congleton**



CSS3 SOLUTIONS: ESSENTIAL TECHNIQUES FOR CSS3 DEVELOPERS

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—Marco Casario

To my parents.

—Nathalie Wormser

To my sister, who told me I could.

—Jonathan Reid

To Serena and Alessandro, my life.

—Francesco Improta

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About the Authors



Marco Casario has been passionate about informatics since he was little more than a child and used to program games in Basic for the Commodore 64. That was before dedicating himself, while still very young, to innovative projects for the Web using JavaScript and Flash.

In 2001, he began to collaborate with Macromedia. Since that year, he has produced and headed a long series of presentations, conferences, and articles, which you can find listed in detail on his blog (casario.blogs.com).

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He is also the founder and manager of the biggest worldwide Flash Lite user group, the Italian community of Adobe Flex users (www.augitaly.com/flexgala), and the Italian HTML5 Meetup.

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Marco is author of several books, including *HTML5 Solutions: Essential Techniques for HTML5 Developers* (Apress), *Flex 4 Cookbook* (O'Reilly), *Professional Flash Catalyst: Building User Experiences for Rich Internet Applications* (Wrox), *Adobe AIR 1.5 Cookbook: Solutions and Examples for Rich Internet Application Developers* (O'Reilly), *Flex 4 Solutions: Essential Techniques for Flex Developers* (friendsofED), *AdvancED AIR Applications* (friendsofED), *The Essential Guide to Flash CS4 AIR Development* (friendsofED), and *Flex Solutions: Essential Techniques for Flex 2 and 3 Developers* (friendsofED).

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He designs interfaces for all devices, from mobile touchscreen to desktop. He calls himself a “user interface craftsman” and is passionate about the Web, typography, and new technologies.

Francesco’s spare time is given to his family, sharing great moments with his wife and his little boy. He’s addicted to sports and is currently practicing swimming, windsurfing, and snowboarding.

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Andrew Zack is the CEO of ZTMC, Inc. (www.ztmc.com), which specializes in search engine optimization (SEO) and Internet marketing strategies. His project background includes almost 20 years of site development and project management experience and over 15 years as an SEO and Internet marketing expert.

Andrew has been very active in the publishing industry, having coauthored *Flash 5 Studio* (Apress, 2001) and served as a technical reviewer on more than 10 books and industry publications.

Having started working on the Internet close to its inception, Andrew continually focuses on the cutting edge and beyond, concentrating on new platforms and technology to stay at the forefront of the industry.

About the Cover Image Designer



Corné van Dooren designed the front cover image for this book. After taking a break from friends of ED to create a new design for the Foundation series, he worked at combining technological and organic forms, with the results now appearing on the cover of this and other books.

Corné spent his childhood drawing on everything at hand and then began exploring the infinite world of multimedia—and his journey of discovery hasn't stopped since. His mantra has always been “the only limit to multimedia is the imagination,” a saying that keeps him moving forward constantly.

Corné works for many international clients, writes features for multimedia magazines, reviews and tests software, authors multimedia studies, and works on many other friends of ED books. If you like Corné's work, be sure to check out his chapter in *New Masters of Photoshop: Volume 2* (friends of ED, 2004). You can see more of his work (and contact him) at his website, www.cornevandooren.com.

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Jonathan Reid

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Anselm Bradford

Introduction

CSS3 is the latest standard for CSS, the syntax to control the style and layout of web pages.

CSS3 is completely backward-compatible, so you will not have to change your existing designs. The CSS3 specification is still under development by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). However, many of the new CSS3 properties have been implemented in modern browsers and are available for you to experiment with today.

The CSS3 specification is made up of several “modules”, such as the following ones:

- Selectors
- Box Model
- Backgrounds and Borders
- Text Effects
- 2D/3D Transformations
- Animations
- Multiple Column Layout
- User Interface

In this pragmatic book, we have provided a series of solutions to common problems faced by developers approaching the new features in CSS3. You will therefore find a lot of ready-to-use code that you can build on in your own web applications.

Who is this book for?

This book is aimed at designers and developers who want to start using CSS3 right now.

CSS3 Solutions is, in fact, intended for readers who want to take their knowledge further with quick-fire solutions to common problems and best practice techniques to improve their CSS3 skills. The book is full of solutions with real-world examples and code to support you as you enter the world of CSS3 development.

What you need

To follow and create the examples shown in this book, you need a simple text editor. TextMate, UltraEdit, and Notepad++ are just some examples of powerful text editors with code support.

Conventions used in this book

This book uses several of conventions that are worth noting. The following terms are used throughout this book:

- CSS refers to the CSS 3 language.
- *Modern browsers* are considered to be the latest versions of Firefox, Safari, Chrome, and Opera, along with Internet Explorer 7 and newer (although Internet Explorer 10 is the most “modern” in terms of support for new features).

It is assumed that all the CSS examples in this book are contained in an external style sheet. Occasionally, HTML and CSS have been placed in the same code example for brevity.

Sometimes code won't fit on a single line in a book. Where this happens, we've used an arrow to break the line.

With these formalities out of the way, you're ready to get started.

Questions and Contacts

Please direct any technical questions or comments about the book to m.casario@comtaste.com.

For more information about other CSS Books, see our website: www.apress.com.