TUTORIAL



MADCAP FLARE DESKTOP 2025

Understanding the Basics of Styles

Copyright © 2025 MadCap Software. All rights reserved.

Information in this document is subject to change without notice. The software described in this document is furnished under a license agreement or nondisclosure agreement. The software may be used or copied only in accordance with the terms of those agreements. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or any means electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording for any purpose other than the purchaser's personal use without the written permission of MadCap Software.

MadCap Software 1660 17th Street, Suite 201 Denver, Colorado 80202 858-320-0387 www.madcapsoftware.com

THIS PDF WAS CREATED USING MADCAP FLARE.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1

Welcome	. 5
---------	-----

CHAPTER 2

Creating a Project From a Template	6
How to Create a New Project From a Template	.7

CHAPTER 3

Accessing Stylesheets	8
How to Locate Stylesheets in Flare Desktop	9

CHAPTER 4

Stylesheet Editor Interface	11
How to Use the Simplified View	
How to Use the Advanced View	

CHAPTER 5

Style Tags in Flare Desktop Editors	19
How to Identify Styles in the XML Editor	20
How to Identify Styles in the Text Editor	
How to Edit a CSS File in the Text Editor	27

Parts of a Style	31
Getting to Know the Parts of a Style	32

CHAPTER 7

Factory and Project Stylesheets	34
How to View Inherited Property Values	35
How to Set a Value in the Project Stylesheet	36

CHAPTER 8

Using Stylesheets vs. Local Formatting	
How to Apply Local Formatting	
How to Remove Local Formatting	40
How to Use a Stylesheet for Applying Styles	41

CHAPTER 9

Nested Tags44	ł
How to Edit Nested Style Elements)

APPENDIX

PDFs	
Tutorials	
Cheat Sheets	
User Guides	

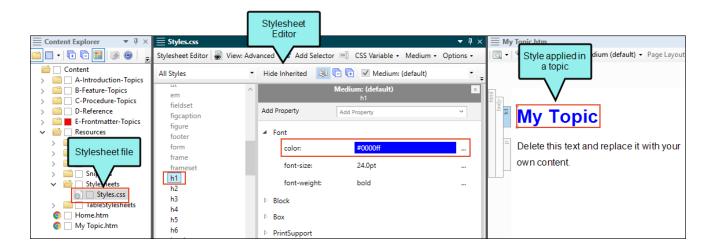
Welcome

Approximate Time: 35 minutes

Welcome to the Styles Tutorial–Understanding the Basics.

- Tutorial Goal Learning how to approach styles by using a stylesheet for designing and editing a project, and becoming comfortable with style components in Flare Desktop.
- Key Concepts Working with styles in Flare Desktop, getting to know the Stylesheet Editor, and using stylesheets vs. local formatting.

Styles are used to control the look and feel of your documentation, and keep the content separate from its presentation. The styling is based on cascading stylesheets (CSS), which is an international standard for formatting web content, developed by the World Wide Web Consortium (or <u>W3C</u>).

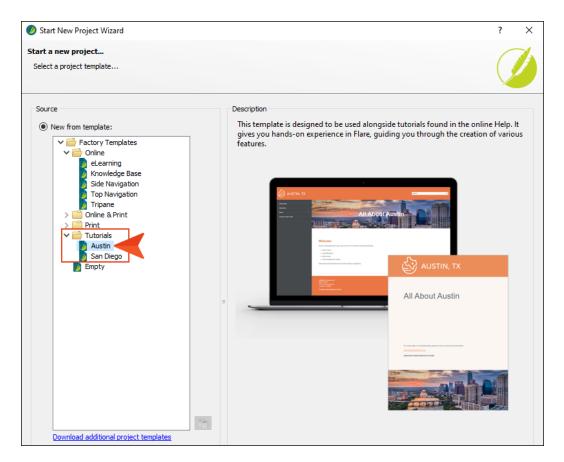


Creating a Project From a Template

To start, let's create a new project based on Flare's Austin template.

How to Create a New Project From a Template

- 1. Select File > New Project. The Start New Project Wizard opens.
- 2. In the Project name field, give your project any name you want.
- 3. (Optional) In the **Project folder** field, you can enter a location where you want to save your project. By default, projects are saved in your Documents > My Projects folder.
- 4. Click Next.
- 5. Under Factory Templates, expand the Tutorials folder. Select the Austin template.



- 6. Click Next.
- 7. For branding, keep the default settings. (This is where you could customize your project's look with branding, such as colors and logo.) Click **Next**.
- 8. Click **Finish**. The project is created and loaded into Flare Desktop.

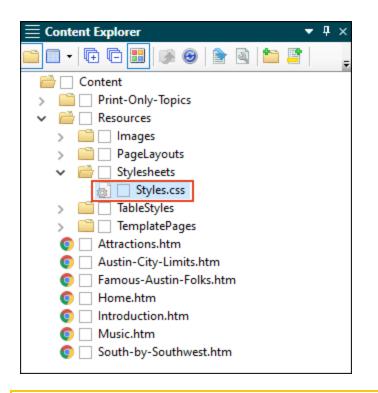
Accessing Stylesheets

In this tutorial, we are going to work with the stylesheet that comes with the Austin template project. The name of the file is Styles.css.

How to Locate Stylesheets in Flare Desktop

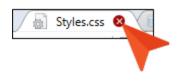
With a new project open, you can find stylesheets a couple of ways.

1. From the Content Explorer, expand **Resources > Stylesheets**. This is the default location for regular stylesheets, and you'll notice the Styles.css file.

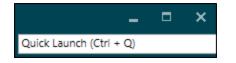


► NOTE It is recommended to keep the stylesheets in the Resources > Stylesheets location, but you can store them anywhere in the Content Explorer.

- 2. Double-click the **Styles.css** file. The stylesheet opens in a Stylesheet Editor, where you can make edits.
- 3. Close the Stylesheet Editor (in effect, closing the Styles.css file).



4. From Flare Desktop's Quick Launch at the top-right of the application, type Styles.



5. From the context menu that auto-populates with your search, under the **Files** section, select the **Styles.css** file. This is an alternative way to quickly locate and open a stylesheet.

			-	×
	styles			
Commands				
Tundefined Styles				
Add Stylesheet				
The style sheet Master Stylesheet				
Files				
Styles.css	;			

► NOTE Stylesheets exist separately from other content files. This means that topics are referencing an external stylesheet for styles. Because of this, you can maintain and reuse multiple style properties and behaviors from a single location.

Stylesheet Editor Interface

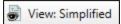
Let's take a closer look at the Stylesheet Editor and the two basic user interface views. The editor offers a Simplified view or an Advanced view for creating or editing styles within the regular stylesheet. Which one you decide to use in your workflow really depends on preference and what you want to do with styles. (You can also toggle between the views at any time.)

This chapter discusses the following:

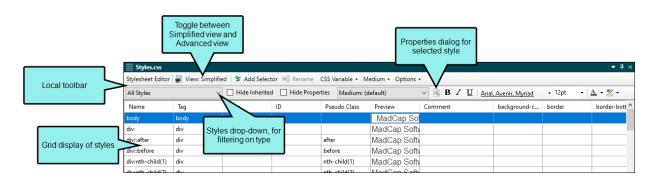
How to Use the Simplified View	
How to Use the Advanced View	

How to Use the Simplified View

- 1. Open the Styles.css file.
- 2. In the local toolbar of the Stylesheet Editor, make sure the first button is labeled **View: Simplified**.



If it says **View: Advanced**, click it so it changes to the Simplified view. The Simplified view displays styles in a grid. Take a moment to scroll through the styles in the stylesheet.

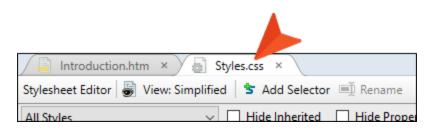


3. From the Content Explorer, double-click **Introduction.htm**. The topic opens in the XML Editor to the right. Notice the text has different styles applied.

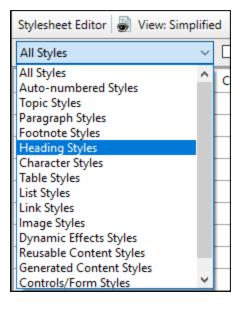
Introduction

History

In 1839, an area named "Waterloo" was selected as the capital of the Rep named "Austin," after Stephen F. Austin, known as the "Father of Texas." 4. Click the Styles.css tab.



5. From the Styles drop-down, select Heading Styles.



- 6. In the grid, select the **h1** style element row.
- 7. From the local toolbar Font Family drop-down, select Georgia.



- 8. From the local toolbar, click
- 9. In the Properties dialog, select the **Paragraph** tab. In the **Indentation** section, type 20 for the left length. Click **OK**.

	Alignment	Indentation	
Advanced	(default) (as is)	Left: Length:	-
aragraph	Left Center	20 🗢 px 👻 indent: 0	≑ рх т
uto-number	Right Justify	Right: Length: - 0 - px -	
Borders			
ackground	Spacing:		
Breaks	Before:	ength: Line height: (default)	
eader	0.	.67 🚖 em 👻	
	After:		
Position		ength: ▼ .67 � em ▼	
Hyphenation		em •	
Short Line	Preview		
			^
	The quick b	prown fox jumps over the lazy dog. The quick b	rown
		over the lazy dog. The quick brown fox jumps o	ver
	fox jumps o	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
		a. The quick brown fox iumps over the lazy do	The Y

- 10. Click 🔲 to save your work.
- 11. Click off the **h1** row. The **Preview** column updates to show the new property value.

12. In the h1 row **Comment** column, double-click in the cell. At the cursor prompt, type Use for first heading style. Press **ENTER**.



▶ NOTE Making comments in the stylesheet is a simple way to keep track of information related to the style. Comments can be viewed and edited in all the various places where one might interact with styles.

- 13. Click 🔙 to save your work.
- 14. Open **Introduction.htm**. Notice the new design for the heading style. In fact, open any of the topics in the Austin project, and notice all the h1 elements were affected by the modification in the stylesheet.

Introduction	
History	
In 1839, an area named "Waterloo" was sel	ected as
replacing Houston. It was then named "Aust	tin," after

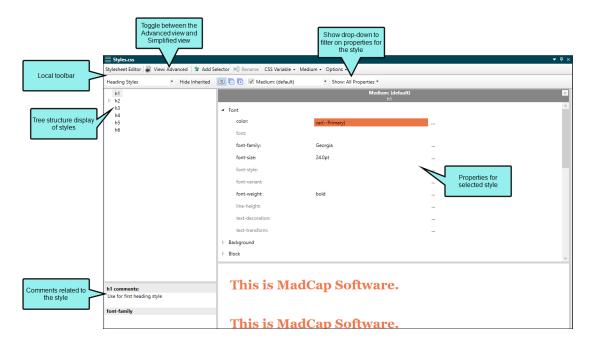
NOTE An advantage of using the Simplified view is that you can apply a property to multiple styles at a time.

How to Use the Advanced View

1. In the Stylesheet Editor, toggle to View: Advanced.

👼 View: Advanced

The Advanced view displays styles in a tree structure. More styles settings are available in the Advanced view compared to the Simplified view. The Advanced view retains the filtered heading styles with the font change, and the style comment. Let's do the same type of change, to get a feel for the different views.



- 2. In the left pane tree structure, select the **h2** style element.
- 3. In the right pane, the style properties display. Let's filter the properties that display for the h2 element. From the local toolbar, **Show** drop-down, select **Show**: **Assorted Relevant Properties**.

🗐 🕞 👫 🗹 Medium: (default) 🔹	Show: All Properties
N	Show: Set (Locally) Properties - properties set in this stylesheet
	Show: Set Properties - properties set in this or imported stylesheet
▷ Font	Show: Assorted Relevant Properties
ν Font	Show: All Properties
Background	

- 4. Style properties can be listed in alphabetical order or grouped together in categories. Let's ensure the properties are grouped, so we can find what we want faster. In the local toolbar, click in (Alphabetical view) to switch to (Grouped view). (Your view might already be set to the Grouped view.)
- 5. Let's assign the same font as before. Expand the **Font** group.
- 6. Locate the **font-family** property, and click 🖃 to the right to select a value.
- 7. From the context menu, select Georgia.

			Medium: (default) h2			×
.⊿ Fo	ont					^
	color:					
	font:					
	font-family:					
	font-size:	18.0pt		Gentium Book Basic	Gentium Book Basic	^
				Georgia	Georgia	-
	font-style:			Gigi	Gizi	
	font-variant:			Gill Sans MT	Gill Sans MT	
				Gill Sans MT Condensed	Gill Sans MT Condensed	
	font-weight:	bold		Gill Sans MT Ext Condensed Bol	Gill Saus AT Ext Condensed Bold	
	line-height:			Gill Sans Ultra Bold	Gill Sans Vitra B	Bold
	text-decoration:			Gill Sans Ultra Bold Condensed	Gill Sans Vitra Bold C	onde
	text-decoration:			Gloucester MT Extra Condensed	Gloucester NT Extra Condense	d
	text-transform:			Goudy Old Style	Goudy Old Style	
⊳ Bl	ock			Goudy Stout	GOUDY STO	UT
				Haettenschweiler	bettenschweiler	
⊳ Bo	order			Harlow Solid Italic	Harlow Solid Italie	

▶ NOTE You might notice the font-family label is initially gray instead of a darker text. The gray text indicates there is an inherited style. An inherited style means it has no specific settings yet, and the style is inheriting default values from somewhere else. When you selected Georgia, the label changed from gray to the darker text. That means it is no longer inheriting its style. You have explicitly set a new value for the style.

8. In the **h2 comments** field, type Use for second heading style. This relates information about the style to other authors.

Heading Styles Hide Inherited
h1 ▶ h2 h3 h4 h5 h6
h2 comments:
Use for second heading style
(no property selected)

- 9. Click 🔙 to save your work.
- 10. Open **Introduction.htm**. The heading style has changed (as can be seen in all the topics containing the h2 element).

NOTE An advantage of using the Advanced view is that you can see and apply settings to multiple mediums and media queries at the same time.

Style Tags in Flare Desktop Editors

In addition to the Stylesheet Editor, the XML Editor and Internal Text Editor are Flare Desktop's primary editors when working with style elements. Once style properties are defined in the stylesheet, they can be applied to the content.

This chapter discusses the following:

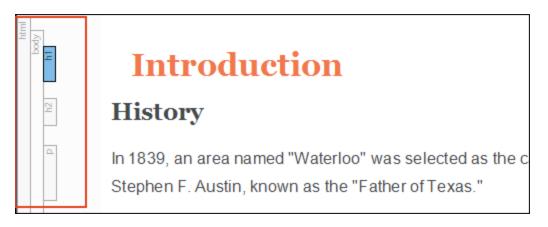
How to Identify Styles in the XML Editor	.20
How to Identify Styles in the Text Editor	. 26
How to Edit a CSS File in the Text Editor	.27

How to Identify Styles in the XML Editor

Flare Desktop's structure bars are a great visual tool for identifying topic tags and page architecture. The bars provide information about content and the styles that are applied to that content.

Tag Bars

1. Open **Introduction.htm**. Let's look at styles from within the content file. The structure bars to the left of the content are "tag bars" that show blocks of content.



2. With the cursor in the XML Editor, hover your cursor over the **h1** structure bar. Notice it shows an <h1> tag which corresponds to the h1 heading to the right.

▶ NOTE To show or hide tag bars, click ➡ at the bottom of the XML Editor.

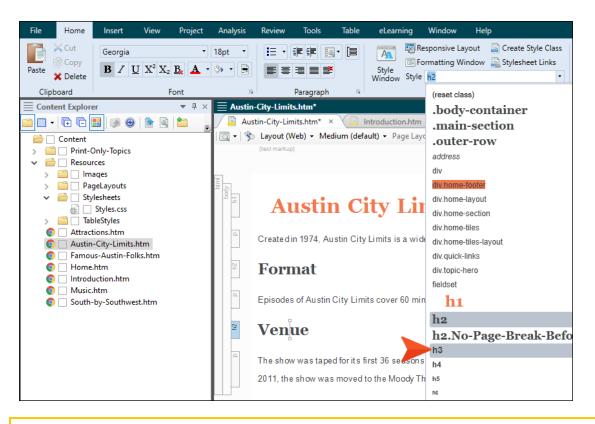
3. Let's edit the h1 heading. It might look better without the 20px indentation. We can take action from the structure bars directly. Right-click the **h1** tag bar.

- 4. From the context menu, select **Style Class > Edit Style Class**. The Styles.css file opens in the Advanced view.
- 5. In the left pane tree structure, ensure the **h1** style has focus (if not, select it).
- 6. From the local toolbar Show drop-down, select Show: Set (Locally) Properties properties set in this stylesheet.
- 7. Expand the **Box** group. In the **margin-left** field, change the value to Opx, and press **ENTER**.

		Medium: (default) h1	x
Add Property	Add Property	v	
▶ Font			
⊿ Box			
margin-left:	Орх		

- 8. Click 🔙 to save your work.
- 9. Go back to the Introduction.htm topic, and view the heading update.
- 10. Open Austin-City-Limits.htm. Let's apply a different style to the last heading.
- 11. Place your cursor anywhere in the "Venue" heading.

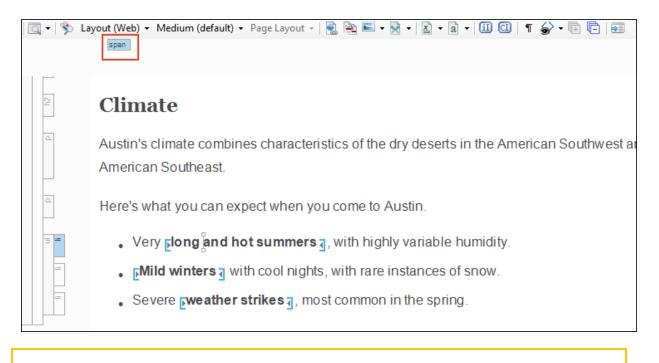
12. From the **Home** ribbon, select the **Style** drop-down, and choose **h3**. This is a quick way to apply a style to content.



- NOTE Notice the styles available in the Style drop-down are valid for block-level (e.g., h3, p, div) content only. If we were looking to apply a style to character-level (e.g., span, b) content, we would have to select the appropriate text within the block (e.g., heading, paragraph) first, and the styles in the drop-down would correspond to its type.
- 13. Click 🔙 to save your work.

Span Bars

- 1. Open Introduction.htm.
- 2. Under the "Climate" heading, place your cursor within the bold phrase "long and hot summers." Notice the tag at the top part of the topic. This is a "span bar." These bars show formatting tags at the character level.



 \bigcirc NOTE To show or hide span bars, click \blacksquare at the bottom of the XML Editor.

3. Hover your cursor over the span bar at the top. The phrase's style is class: Emphasis.

4. Right-click the span tag, and select **Unbind**. The style is removed from the text.

span.]	<spa< th=""><th>an></th><th></th></spa<>	an>	
		Select Node		
Cli		Сору		
		Unbind	Ctrl+Shift+U	
Aust		Delete		Re
Ame	۱	Conditions	Ctrl+Shift+C	1
Ame	Ð	Name		
llore	E	Paragraph	Ctrl+Alt+B	
Here	A	Font	Ctrl+Shift+B	
		Style Class		•
		Style ID		•

- 5. Re-select the text "long and hot summers."
- 6. From the **Home** ribbon, select **Style Window**. The Styles window pane opens to show you styles that are valid for character-level content.



NOTE In the previous steps we selected styles from the Home > Style drop-down.
 You can also apply styles from the Floating Style Picker by pressing CTRL+SHIFT+H.
 As you can see, there are multiple ways to apply a style.

7. From the **Available Styles** section, select **span.Emphasis**. The content changes back to its original state.

Create Style	
Ш	
s	÷

8. Click 🖬 to save your work.

How to Identify Styles in the Text Editor

An alternative way to view topic content or tags is through the Internal Text Editor. The editor displays the same information—just presented in a different way. Users who know their way around XHTML and CSS code might use the Text Editor more frequently.

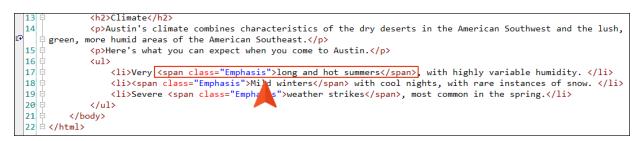
- 1. Open Introduction.htm.
- 2. At the bottom of the topic, select the Text Editor tab.



3. From the local toolbar, click 🗐. By toggling the syntax colors off and on, it is easier to pinpoint how HTML and XHTML elements work hand in hand with CSS elements.



4. Notice how the class: Emphasis style is written in true code.



5. Select the XML Editor tab at the bottom to go back to the other view.

How to Edit a CSS File in the Text Editor

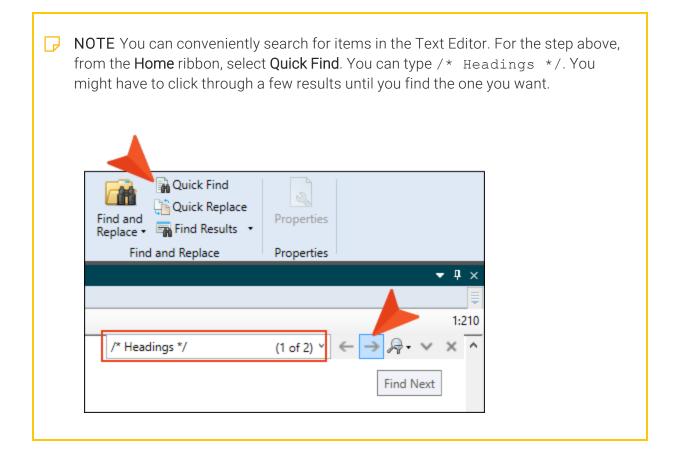
The following steps introduce you to editing styles using the Text Editor. A full understanding of CSS code is in no way a requirement for using Flare Desktop, but it is helpful to know styles can be edited this way. More advanced users may find this editor useful.

- 1. From the Content Explorer, right-click the **Styles.css** file.
- 2. From the context menu, select **Open with**, and then select **Internal Text Editor**.

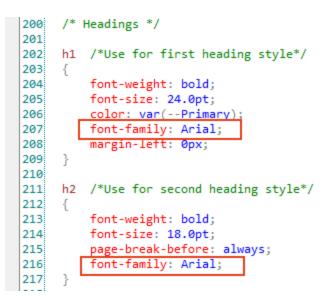
✓ <a> ✓ <a> Resources					
> 📄 🗌 Images			н	0.0	
> 🧰 🗌 PageLayouts			н	d bi	
 Stylesheets 					
Styles	Preview		1		
💿 🗌 Attractions.h 🍙	Open	Enter			
Austin-City-I Famous-Aus	Open with		•		Internal Text Editor
0 Home.htm	Cut	Ctrl+X		6	Internal Browser Ctrl+Shift+Enter
💿 🗌 Introduction 👔	Сору	Ctrl+C			Open in the internal text editor
💿 🗌 Music.htm 🛛 🔤	Dacto	Ctoly V		1.1.1	

All the styles and properties from the Stylesheet Editor are displayed to the right in the Text Editor.

```
Text Editor 🛛 🗛 🖉 🖾 🖓 🔚 🖏
                                     A:
                                  /*<meta />*/
  1
  2
  3
        body
  4
        {
  5
            color: var(--Dark);
  6
            font-family: var(--FontFamily);
  7
            background-color: var(--Lightest);
  8
       }
  9
  10
        .body-container
  11
       {
  12
            padding-left: 2%;
  13
           padding-top: 2%;
  14
       }
  15
       /* Backmatter */
  16
  17
       div.GlossaryPageDefinition
  18
  19
       {
  20
            font-size: 10pt;
  21
       }
  22
  23
        div.GlossaryPageHeading
  24
        {
  25
            font-size: 21pt;
```



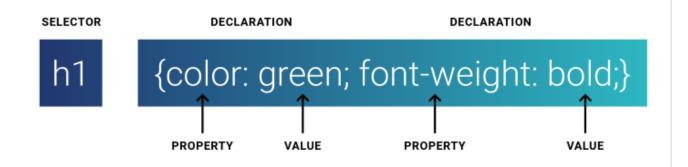
- 4. Let's change the font-family property for the h1 and h2 elements.
 - a. Under **h1**, locate the font-family property, and type Arial.
 - b. Under **h2**, locate the font-family property, and type Arial.



- 5. Click 🛃 to save all files.
- 6. Open the Introduction.htm topic (or any topic) to view the updated headings.
- 7. From the Window ribbon, select Close All Documents.

Parts of a Style

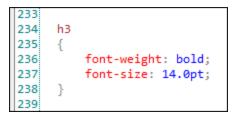
A selector (e.g., h1, p) in a stylesheet includes a declaration made of two parts: properties and values. Examples of properties might be color, font-weight, or font-size. The values for those properties might be red, bold, and 14.0pt.

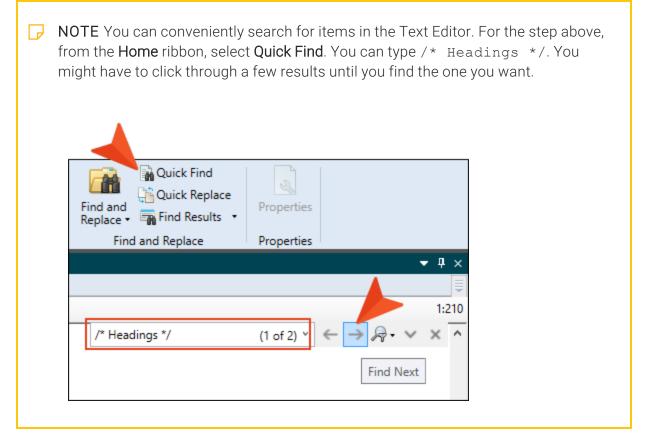


Getting to Know the Parts of a Style

Let's look at a style in true CSS code, and then how it looks in the stylesheet.

- 1. From the Content Explorer, expand **Resources > Stylesheets**, and right-click the **Styles.css** file.
- 2. From the context menu, select **Open with**, and then select **Internal Text Editor**. All the styles and properties from the Stylesheet Editor are displayed to the right in the Text Editor.
- 3. Scroll down to roughly line 234 to view the h3 heading settings.





4. From the Content Explorer, double-click Styles.css.

5. From the Stylesheet Editor's local toolbar, make sure the first button is labeled **View:** Advanced.

😸 View: Advanced

- 6. Filter to see heading styles, and select the **h3** style element.
- 7. From the local toolbar Show drop-down, select Show: All Properties.
- 8. Expand the **Font** group. Notice how the style elements correlate between the Text Editor and the Stylesheet Editor. The h3 style (or selector) is paired with its own properties and values.

Stylesheet Editor 😽 Vie	ew: Advanced 🛛 ち Add Selecto	or ≡Ĩ Rename CSS Variable + Medium + Options +	
All Styles	▼ Hide Inherited	Image: Image	
figure footer	^	Medium: (default) h3	
form frame	4	Font color:	
frameset h1 ▷ h2		font:	
h3 h4		font-family:	
h5 h6		font-size: 14.0pt font-style:	
head header		font-variant:	
▷ hr ▷ html		font-weight: bold	
i		line-height:	

9. From the Window ribbon, select Close All Documents.

Factory and Project Stylesheets

The following explains the difference between factory and project stylesheets.

- Factory When installing Flare Desktop, all of its program files, including factory stylesheets, are located in the Windows folder where you installed the product. These stylesheets contain style settings that might be used in your project, even though those stylesheets are not located in the project.
- Project You can add stylesheets to a project, but most project templates typically come with a stylesheet. For example, the Austin template project comes with a stylesheet file (Styles.css). This is a project stylesheet because it is located within the project. In many cases, your content might use style values from a factory stylesheet automatically. If you provide specific settings in a project stylesheet, and they conflict with settings from a factory stylesheet, the values from the project stylesheet have precedence.

This chapter discusses the following:

How to View Inherited Property Values)
How to Set a Value in the Project Stylesheet)

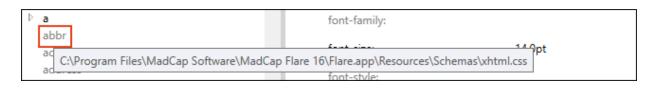
How to View Inherited Property Values

The steps below show how a style property value is inherited from a factory stylesheet.

- 1. From the Content Explorer, expand **Resources > Stylesheets**, and double-click the **Styles.css** file.
- 2. From the Styles drop-down, select All Styles (if not already shown).
- 3. In the left pane tree structure, notice the styles listed. Some display as a light gray, and some are shown in a darker font. (If the tree structure displays only darker items, click **Hide Inherited** in the local toolbar.)

Style elements that display in gray indicate that the style is inheriting its default values from somewhere else (e.g., factory stylesheet). An inherited style means it has no specific settings yet in the project's stylesheet. When you explicitly set a new value for the style, the label changes from gray to the darker text (meaning it is no longer inheriting its style).

4. Hover your cursor over the **abbr** gray style element. A Windows path displays, showing where the inherited information is coming from. The stylesheet is located outside of the project.



▶ NOTE The abbr tag defines an abbreviation or acronym. The acronym tag is not supported in HTML5, so we will edit the abbr element.

How to Set a Value in the Project Stylesheet

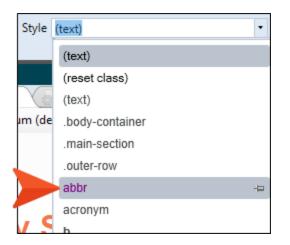
The steps below change a property value in the project stylesheet, so it is no longer inherited from the factory stylesheet.

- 1. Select abbr.
- 2. From the local toolbar, Show drop-down, select Show: Set (Locally) Properties properties set in this stylesheet.
- 3. In the Add Properties drop-down, select color.

Add Property	v

- 4. In the **Color Property** field, replace the default property "inherit," by typing a new value of Purple, and press **ENTER**. Notice the abbr item has changed to the darker font.
 - ► NOTE The value of a color can be set by typing the name of the color, a color hex code, or selecting a color from the color palette. Additionally, you can interact with the Color Picker dialog to set a color, or engage the cursor to pick a screen color.
- 5. Click 🔙 to save your work.
- 6. Open the **South-by-Southwest.htm** topic.
- 7. Select the "SXSW" text.

8. From the Home ribbon, Style drop-down, select the abbr style element.



9. Click off the selected text to see that it turned purple in the XML Editor.

► NOTE If you do not see the style preview (purple) in the Style drop-down, the option to do so is probably not set. To set it, go to File > Options. In the Options dialog, select the XML Editor tab, and then select Show style previews in UI.

10. Click 🔙 to save your work.

CHAPTER 8

Using Stylesheets vs. Local Formatting

Local formatting can be very attractive because it is quick and easy. However, it is recommended that you use styles instead of local formatting whenever possible. Although local formatting is very convenient in the short-term, using styles is much more efficient and can save you a great deal of time in the long-term.

This chapter discusses the following:

How to Apply Local Formatting	.39
How to Remove Local Formatting	.40
How to Use a Stylesheet for Applying Styles	.41

How to Apply Local Formatting

- 1. From the Content Explorer, open **Music.htm**. We decide the paragraph text looks too small, and we want to make it bigger in all topics. Let's start changing it.
- 2. Select (left-click) the **p** structure bar so that the entire paragraph is highlighted.
- 3. From the Home ribbon, click the Font Size drop-down, and choose 14pt.

File	Home	Insert	View	Project	Analysis	Review	Tools
Paste	Cut Copy Delete	Arial B Z 1	$\underline{U} X^2 X_2$	• <u>B</u> * <u>A</u> • Font	14pt • (default) 6pt 7pt		ragraph
	ent Explore	er		▼ ₽ ×	8pt	m*	
- 🗋	Ē	:: 🕞 😁) 🖹 🗟		9pt	.htm* ×	Style
	Content				10pt	Layout (We	b) - Medi
	Print-0	Only-Topics			11pt	MadCap:x	ref MadCa
> 📫	Resou	rces			12pt		
0	Attrac	tions.htm			14pt		
0	Austin	-City-Limits	.htm		16pt		

- 4. Click 🖬 to save your work.
- 5. Open South-by-Southwest.htm.
- 6. Select the two paragraphs. (You can click and drag to select the text. Or you can press and hold **SHIFT**, and then click the **p** structure bars to select the text.)
- 7. From the Home ribbon, click the Font Size drop-down, and choose 14pt.
- 8. Click 🖬 to save your work.

How to Remove Local Formatting

Since we added local formatting to a couple files in our project, let's remove that formatting before using a stylesheet.

- 1. Open Music.htm.
- 2. Press CTRL+A to select all of the topic's content.
- 3. From the Home ribbon, Font section, click \mathbb{B} .
- 4. Click 🔙 to save your work.
- 5. Open South-by-Southwest.htm. Repeat the above steps to remove the local formatting.

▶ NOTE Removing local formatting is important because of style precedence. Flare Desktop lets you have multiple stylesheets (primary and local) set on different files and at different levels. Therefore, you need to understand how precedence works, both in the interface (editors) and the output. In general, the closer something is to the source, the higher its precedence will be. For example, local formatting is close, whereas a factory stylesheet installed with Flare Desktop is farther away.

How to Use a Stylesheet for Applying Styles

Changing the style by local formatting was quick for the first two topics. But this could get timeconsuming if we continue to change the font size for every paragraph in all the topics. Is there a more efficient way? Yes, and that way is through using a stylesheet.

- 1. Open the Styles.css file. Let's work in the Advanced view.
- 2. From the Styles drop-down, select Paragraph Styles, and select the p style.

Par	ragraph Styles 🔹 Hide
	address
	blockquote
	center
	dir
Þ	div
	fieldset
	figcaption
	figure
	h1
⊳	h2
	h3
	h4
	h5
	h6
⊳	MadCap relationshipsHeading
⊳	MadCap slideshowBullet
	MadCap slideshowCaption
⊳	pre

- 3. Expand the Font group.
- 4. Find **font-size**, and click
- 5. From the pop-up window, change the font size to 14pt, and select OK.
- 6. Click 🔙 to save your work.

 Since there are some list items in the project, let's change the font size on the list styles so all the text appears as the same size. From the Styles drop-down, select List Styles, and then select li.

Styles.css* ×	C 📔 Sou	ıth-by-	Sout	hwest.ł
Stylesheet Editor 👼	View: Adva	anced	5	Add S
List Styles	•	Hide	Inhe	rited
(Custom Lists) dd dl dt ▷ li ol ul				

- 8. From the local toolbar, **Show** drop-down, select **Show: Assorted Relevant Properties**. (Your view might already show this filter.)
- 9. Expand the Font group, and next to font-size, click
- 10. From the pop-up window, change the font size to **14pt**, and select **OK**.

List Styles	 Hide Inherited 	📋 🕞 🕩 🗹 Medium: (default)	 Show: Assorted Relevant Properties
(Custom Lists) dd			Medium: (default) li
dl dt	✓ Font		
⊳li	color:		
ol ul	font:		
	font-fam	ily:	
	font-size	: 14pt	···
	font-style	2:	14 🗢 pt 💙
	font-vari	ant:	OK Cancel

- 11. Click 🔙 to save your work.
- 12. Open any topic file and see the text has been styled to the larger size—all at once! Using a stylesheet will make the maintenance, and any future updates, easier to manage.
- 13. From the Window ribbon, select Close All Documents.

★ EXAMPLE You are working on a project that has 100 topics. Your corporate style guide says to use a red, italic font style for text referring to an interface item. As you are writing content, it seems natural and easy to use local formatting from the Home ribbon to style the necessary text (which appears in half your topics). A few weeks after you finish the project, the corporate style guide is updated to write interface items in a bold font style. You have to go back through all your content to find the 50 topics referring to the interface, and manually make edits.

CHAPTER 9

Nested Tags

When one HTML tag is contained within another, it is nested and therefore can inherit the style settings from the outer tag.

How to Edit Nested Style Elements

- 1. From the Content Explorer, open Austin-City-Limits.htm.
- 2. At the end of the "Format" section, create an empty paragraph.
- 3. From the **Home** ribbon, click 🗐. This groups selected items.
- 4. From the Create Group dialog, select div. Click OK.

	?	×
roup:		
Description		^
		~
OK	Cano	:el
		Description

5. Type Willie Nelson was the first featured performer. Notice the default paragraph font color is black.



- 6. Open Styles.css.
- 7. From the **Styles** drop-down, select **All Styles**.
- 8. In the left pane tree structure, select the **div** style.
- 9. From the local toolbar, Show drop-down, select Show: Set (Locally) Properties properties set in this stylesheet.

10. In the Add Property drop-down, select color.

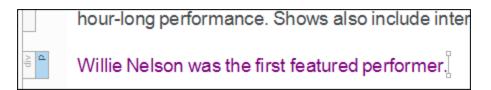
Add Property	Add Property	~

11. In the **Color Property** field, replace the default property "inherit," by typing a new value of Purple. Press **ENTER**.

colgroup	^				Medium: (default) div	
datalist dd		Add Property		v		
del dir		✓ Font				
[▶] div		color:	Purple			
▷ div dl		color:	Purple			

NOTE You might not see the purple color display right away, and that is okay. When you press ENTER and save the stylesheet, those actions enforce the style update.

- 12. Click 🛃 to save all files.
- 13. Open the **Austin City Limits** topic. Since the p element is within the div element (and the div is the wrapping container tag that holds the style), the paragraph text within the div inherits the div style of purple font.

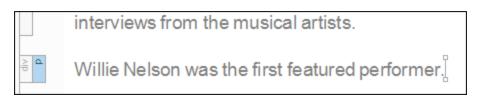


- 14. In the stylesheet, select the **p** style.
- 15. In the Add Property drop-down, select color.

16. In the **Color Property** field, replace the default property "inherit," by typing a new value of Gray. Press **ENTER**.

noframes object	^			Medium: (default) p
ol		Add Property	~	
optgroup option		✓ Font		
pre p		color:	Gray	

- 17. Click 🔙 to save your work.
- 18. Open the topic again. Since the p element is within the div element, it is "closer" to the source, and the text turns gray.



- 19. Open Famous-Austin-Folks.htm. Let's change the color on the list styles so all the text in the project appears the same.
- 20. Open Styles.css.
- 21. From the Styles drop-down, select List Styles, and then select li.
- 22. In the Add Property drop-down, select color.
- 23. In the **Color Property** field, replace the default property "inherit," by typing a new value of Gray. Press **ENTER**.
- 24. Click 🖬 to save all files.
- 25. Go back to the Famous Austin Folks topic to check the list items color update.
- 26. From the Window ribbon, select Close All Documents.
- **NOTE** Cascading stylesheet (CSS) rules account for cascading order, specificity, and inheritance. All of which determine the look and feel of the project.

APPENDIX

PDFs

The following PDFs are available for download from the Help system.

I Tutorials

Autonumbers Tutorial Back-to-Top Button Tutorial Context-Sensitive Help Tutorial Custom Toolbar Tutorial eLearning Tutorial—Basic eLearning Tutorial—Advanced Getting Started Tutorial Image Tooltips Tutorial Lists Tutorial

Meta Tags Tutorial

Micro Content Tutorial—Basic Micro Content Tutorial—Advanced Responsive Output Tutorial Single-Sourcing Tutorial Snippet Conditions Tutorial Styles Tutorials Tables Tutorial Word Import Tutorial

Cheat Sheets

Context-Sensitive Help Cheat Sheet Folders and Files Cheat Sheet Learning & Development Cheat Sheet Lists Cheat Sheet Micro Content Cheat Sheet Print-Based Output Cheat Sheet Search Cheat Sheet Shortcuts Cheat Sheet Structure Bars Cheat Sheet Styles Cheat Sheet

User Guides

Accessibility Guide	Meta Tags Guide	Source Control Guide: Team	
Analysis and Reports Guide	Micro Content Guide	Foundation Server	
Architecture Guide	Navigation Links Guide	Styles Guide	
Autonumbers Guide	Plug-In API Guide	Tables Guide	
Branding Guide	Print-Based Output Guide	Tables of Contents Guide	
Condition Tags Guide	Project Creation Guide	Targets Guide	
Context-Sensitive Help Guide	QR Codes Guide	Template Pages Guide	
Eclipse Help Guide	Reviews & Contributions With	Templates Guide	
eLearning Guide	Contributor Guide	Topics Guide	
Getting Started Guide	Scripting Guide	Touring the Workspace Guide	
	Search Guide	Transition From FrameMaker	
Global Project Linking Guide	SharePoint Guide	Guide	
HTML5 Guide	Skins Guide	Translation and Localization Guide	
Images Guide	Snippets Guide	Variables Guide	
Import Guide	Source Control Guide: Git	Videos Guide	
Indexing Guide			
Key Features Guide	Source Control Guide: Perforce Helix Core	What's New Guide	
Lists Guide	Source Control Guide:		
MadCap Flare Online Integration Guide	Subversion		