

Browser Capabilities

Designing for consistent appearance

Browsers Differ

- **Even though browsers are moving to a consistent implementation of HTML, they differ in display and adherence.**
- **It is your responsibility to make sure your page works for a wide audience.**

Handling Stylistic Differences

- “Easiest” way to eliminate browser differences is to use a default style sheet
- Default style sheets reset all of the values for the page
- Will make your page look worse!

Handling Unsupported Properties

- **Not all browsers support all HTML5 tags**
- **Not all browsers support all CSS3 properties**
- **Browser prefixes (or vendor prefixes) provide a quick fix for handling unsupported CSS3 options.**

Browser Prefixes

- **-webkit-: Android, Chrome, iOS, Safari**
- **-moz-: Firefox**
- **-ms-: Internet Explorer**
- **-o-: Opera**

Often Unsupported Properties

- column-count
- border-radius
- gradient
- Sites such as <http://caniuse.com/> will tell you when you need to use prefixes

Example

Automated Ways to include Prefixes

- For now, add the prefixes by hand
- There are ways to automate the addition of prefixes
 - Editor add-ons (You have most of the control)
 - Use outside programs to dynamically add appropriate prefix based on browser

Review

- **Default style sheets remove stylistic differences**
 - Should default style sheet be internal or external?
 - Where should it go in relation to other style sheets?
- **Browser prefixes can help remove some differences caused by unsupported options**
 - Shouldn't be overused

Acknowledgements/Contributions

These slides are Copyright 2015- Colleen van Lent as part of <http://www.intro-webdesign.com/> and made available under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial 4.0 License. Please maintain this last slide in all copies of the document to comply with the attribution requirements of the license. If you make a change, feel free to add your name and organization to the list of contributors on this page as you republish the materials.

Initial Development: Colleen van Lent , University of Michigan School of Information

