



Use Shorthand

Usefully, CSS provides a **font** property to which various font preferences can be specified in a combined single rule stating:

font-style | font-variant | font-weight | font-size | font-family

Appropriate values can be assigned to each part of the combined **font** shorthand property – for example, like this:

```
p { font : italic small-caps bold medium "Times", serif ; }
```

The **font-size** and **font-family** values are mandatory, but the first three values for **font-style**, **font-variant**, and **font-weight** properties are optional and may appear in any order. Values for each one of these three optional properties may be completely omitted and a **normal** value will be automatically assumed.

It is important to recognize that values not explicitly specified will still have a **normal** value applied – no value is inherited from the containing element, and this can produce some unexpected results. For example, a style rule selecting a span element within a containing paragraph element styled by the rule above might look like this:

```
span { font : large cursive ; }
```

The values explicitly specified in this rule will be applied to the **font-size** and **font-family** properties of the span element, and a **normal** value will be applied to its **font-style**, **font-variant**, and **font-weight** properties – so text within the span element does not inherit the **italic**, **small-caps**, or **bold** values from the paragraph.

One further possibility available with a combined **font** rule is the option to specify a **line-height** (the spacing between each line) by adding a forward slash and unit value after the **font-size** value. This is useful to establish a common standard line spacing where various font sizes appear.



Remember that a **normal** value is applied for each part of a combined **font** rule unless explicitly specified – and this will override the current parent element value.



font.html

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Create an HTML document containing a paragraph with several spanned sections of text

```
<p>
<span class="head">The Sneakers Game</span><br>
In 1934 the
<span class="giant">New York Giants</span> beat the
<span class="bears">Chicago Bears</span>, by
<span class="score">30-13</span>,
in nine-degree temperatures [
```