

AI-POWERED COURSE

# From the Cascade to Design Systems

Selectors, layout, design tokens and debugging, with an AI tutor.

• 40 modules

• Flexbox and Grid

• Custom properties

• Accessibility

The cascade

Grid

```
styles.css
1 :root {
2   --brand: #7c3aed;
3   --gap: 1rem;
4 }
5
6 .card {
7   display: grid;
8   gap: var(--gap);
9   padding: 1.5rem;
10  border: 2px solid var(--brand);
11 }
```

Design tokens

## About this course

Learn CSS the way professionals use it. This course teaches the rules of the language, including the cascade, specificity and the box model, then builds up to layouts, components and design systems that are predictable and easy to maintain. An AI tutor guides you with hints and code reviews while you write the code yourself, and you learn to debug, audit and refactor real stylesheets.

## What you will be able to do

- **Explain how CSS works:** syntax, selectors, the cascade, specificity, and inheritance.
- **Control the box model:** normal flow, display, units, and values.
- **Design with intent:** colour, typography, spacing, and visual rhythm.
- **Build a design system:** custom properties and design tokens.
- **Lay out any page:** positioning, stacking, Flexbox, Grid, and intrinsic patterns.
- **Go responsive:** fluid type and space, container queries, and logical properties.
- **Style components without a framework:** forms, states, transitions, animation, and media.
- **Debug and structure CSS:** DevTools, cascade layers, architecture, and AI-assisted debugging.
- **Audit and refactor safely,** with accessibility built in.

### At a glance

MODULES

40

FORMAT

eLearning

LANGUAGE

CSS

PREREQUISITE

Basic HTML

PRACTICE

Fotoblog and CSS lab

SUPPORT

AI tutor

FINAL PROJECT

Stylesheet system

## Your final project

You will build a complete stylesheet system with design tokens, layout, components, responsive behaviour and accessible states, structured so that someone else could maintain it. You will be able to explain every architectural decision you made.

## Course roadmap

40 modules in ten stages. Each stage builds on the one before it.

1

### Foundations

How CSS works, setting up your workspace, and the syntax and rules of the language.

[Modules 1–3](#)

2

### The rules of the language

Selectors, the cascade, specificity in practice, inheritance, and initial values.

[Modules 4–7](#)

3

### Box, flow and units

The box model, normal flow and display, and units and values.

[Modules 8–10](#)

4

### Colour, type and rhythm

Colour, typography, and spacing with visual rhythm.

[Modules 11–13](#)

5

### Design systems

Custom properties and design tokens.

[Modules 14–15](#)

6

### Positioning and layout

Positioning, stacking contexts, Flexbox, Grid, choosing between them, and intrinsic layout patterns.

[Modules 16–21](#)

7

### Responsive design

Responsive foundations, fluid type and space, container queries, and logical properties.

[Modules 22–25](#)

8

### Components and interaction

Component styling without a framework, forms, states, transitions, animation, and images and media.

[Modules 26–30](#)

9

### Advanced CSS and debugging

Cascade layers, DevTools, systematic and AI-assisted debugging, architecture, resets, and accessibility.

[Modules 31–37](#)

10

### Audit, refactor, ship

The Fotoblog CSS audit lab, refactoring, and your final project.

[Modules 38–40](#)

## Who this course is for

- Learners who have finished the HTML course, or who are comfortable with HTML.
- Developers whose CSS works but who keep fighting it with !important, mystery overrides, and z-index wars.
- Anyone who wants to use AI to write and debug CSS without accepting bad advice.

## What you will need

- Basic HTML knowledge.
- A code editor (VS Code recommended) and a modern browser.
- No JavaScript is needed.