

CSS Hacks

October 27th, 2008



What is a Hack?

To devise or modify instructions skillfully

What is a CSS Hack?

Using rules, properties, values, and typos intentionally not as they were intended



Real Life Example(s)

My Ironing Habits

Lamp/Hat stand

Can you think of something?

Why use a hack?

If a browser interprets something incorrectly
why fix it?

Using hacks is our attempt to make our site render
the same in all browsers

Do websites need to look exactly the same in
every browser?

When in doubt

Validate your CSS

<http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/>

If still nothing, then see about a hack

Conditional Statements

IE Only

```
<!--[if condition]> HTML <![endif]-->
```

IE

- Any version of IE

lt IE *version*

- Versions less than *version*

lte IE *version*

- Versions less than or equal to *version*

IE *version*

- Only version *version*

gte IE *version*

- Versions greater than or equal to *version*

gt IE *version*

- Versions greater than *version*

version is the version of Internet Explorer, typically 5, 5.5, 6, or 7

Speaking directly to one browser

IE 6 and below

```
* html {}
```

IE 7 and below

```
*:first-child+html {} * html {}
```

IE 7 only

```
*:first-child+html {}
```

IE 7 and modern browsers only

```
html>body {}
```

Modern browsers only (not IE 7)

```
html>/**/body {}
```

Recent Opera versions 9 and below

```
html:first-child {}
```

Use your powers for good

Identifying the browser is not for messages like this:

“You are using IE6, this site is best viewed in FF”