

# EXT: HTML/CSS styling

Extension Key: **htmlcssstyling**

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This extension was inspired by "Modern Template Building Part 1 MTB/1"  
and most of the typoscript was adapted from there.

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The content of this document is related to Typo3  
- a GNU/GPL CMS/Framework available from [www.typo3.com](http://www.typo3.com)

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# Introduction

This extension is an introductory \*and\* immediately useful frontend templating environment for TYPO3. 100%HTML/CSS styling. Features: All 4 columns of content, shared page content, separately selectable per page HTML template and CSS Styling.

## Goals

The goals of this extension is to:

- Make the TYPO3 Content Management System styling easily accessible to people who are familiar with HTML/CSS styling.
- Provide an **introductory and useful** styling environment for TYPO3 including CSS styled:
  - Navigation Tree Menu (4 levels deep)
  - Path Menu (infinite levels deep)
- Make all 4 backend "columns" of content (Left, Normal, Right and Border) available.
- Make the linkage between the backend content columns and the HTML/ CSS style file **direct** and understandable **without needing to refer to any typoscript**.
- Support a useful amount of TYPO3's backend content types including css styled plugins. (such as tt\_news 2.0.4 with CSS static templates) Try it and see.
- Avoid <frameset> based HTML, make the the markup XHTML 1.0 Transitional compliant,
- Create an environment where <DIV> and <SPAN> based CSS styling is supported simply by editing HTML and CSS text files.
- Make the HTML and CSS stylesheets **independently** selectable. This is part of the promise of CSS styling. For example make it easy to render a 3 column HTML template with differing CSS files **without having to duplicate** the HTML.
- Support shared content that appears on all pages of a website or a portion of it.

## Assumptions

This manual assumes that you have a TYPO3 dummy package (or other) installed and ready to go and that you are familiar with adding extensions and pages with content through the backend.

## Installation

The "HTML/CSS Styling extension builds on two other extensions, CSS Styled Content and the Template Auto-Parser. They need to be installed first.

### CSS Styled Content extension

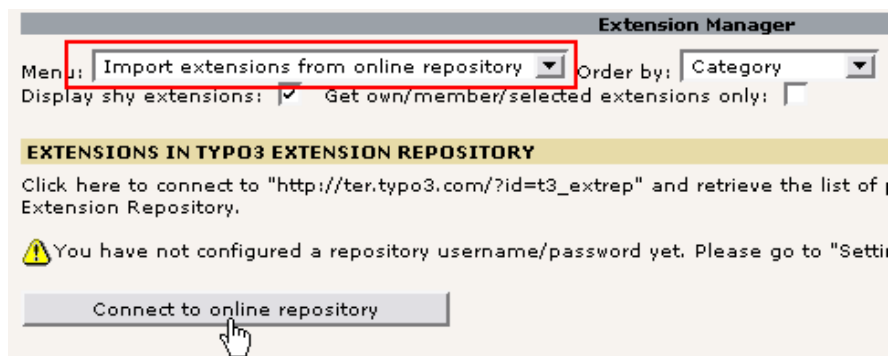
Please ensure that the "CSS Styled Content" extension is installed. Make sure to check the "Set PageTSCofig by Default" option is set. (If you didn't set this, then uninstall and reinstall the "CSS Styled Content" extension and set it.)

### Template Auto-Parser extension

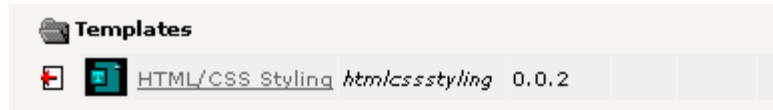
Please ensure that the "Template Auto-Parser" extension is installed. If necessary, please download and install it.

## Install "HTML/CSS Styling" extension

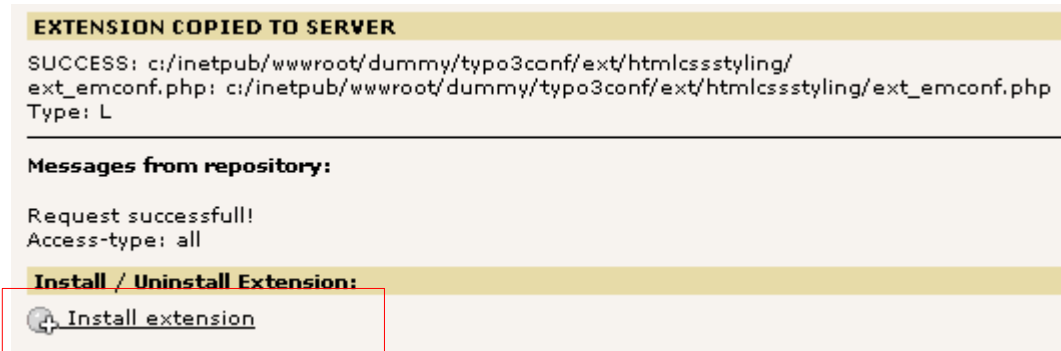
1. Go to the Extension Manager, import extension from online repository:



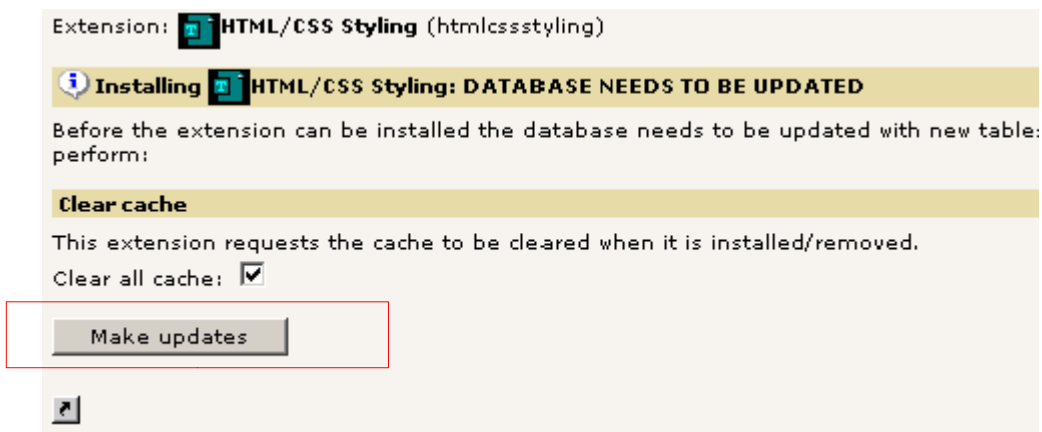
2. Find the extension "htmlcssstyling", click the import icon:



3. Then click “Install extension”



4. And “Make Updates:



## Configuration

### What is a “template”?

The word “template” is used in this document to refer to two quite different things.

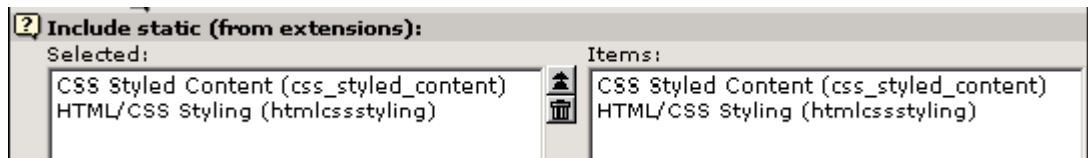
- Template Record – This is the “control program” of TYPO3 styling that is accessed using the Template module of the TYPO3 backend.  
Using the HTML/CSS Styling extension, the template record's role is to point to the HTML template file, the CSS styling file and to the page for common content.
- HTML Template file – This is an HTML file which may be paired with a CSS file to control the visual layout of a website. The HTML Template file's role is to provide the 'skeleton' layout of the page using <div></div>s and <table></table> HTML. This file is accessed using a text editor.
- CSS style file – Provides the other half of the HTML/CSS styling. The HTML Template file is paired with a CSS style file which controls visual appearance of the page (background images, size, font, spacing, ...)

### Configure a website root template record

Use the backend Template module to add (or investigate) the template record on the root page of your website. Your website root needs a template record with the following characteristics. Firstly, it will have the following 3 flags set.



Secondly, you must include the static templates from “CSS Styled Content” and “HTML/CSS Styling” extensions.



Then configure the connection between TYPO3 and your HTML/CSS template files using the Template Module's, Constants Editor:

Choose Category: "HTMLCSS"

- **Path to template HTML and CSS files**

The path defaults to the place where the sample template HTML and CSS files are located. This can be changed to any folder under your TYPO3 folder.

- **HTML template filename**

The template filename defaults to "threecolumn.html". Another sample template file "twocolumn.html" is also included.

- **CSS stylesheet filename**

The stylesheet filename defaults to "stylesheet\_main.css".

- **Shared Content PageId**

If you have content that is repeated on multiple pages (For example: Login, Search or Footer text) these can be entered on a page that you create in the Backend page tree. Enter the PageId here for the page that contains the content that you want to be common to all pages which are displayed by this template. The Shared Content PageId defaults to 9999 which will disable this feature as this page doesn't exist.

## Configuring an extension template record on a branch of the page tree

### What is an “extension”?

The word “extension” is used in two quite different ways in this document.

- A **TYPO3 extension** is a bundle of additional functionality that may be added to TYPO3. These extensions are managed using the Extension Module.
- An **extension template** is an additional template record added somewhere in the page tree that is not the primary template record of a website. It's function is to alter the appearance of the page that has the additional template and also the appearance of sub-pages of this page.

### For “HTML/CSS Styling” what can be adjusted with an extension template record?

Many websites have a variety of page styles and layouts in the one site. A TYPO3 extension template record can be used to:

- change the path and filenames of the HTML template and CSS files being used
- change the PageId of the page from which shared content is to be retrieved from.

If you wish different pages (or whole branches of your website) to shown with a different HTML/CSS template or different shared content, then use the Template Module to add an Extension Template to that page (or headpage of the branch).

The extension template will have the following settings:

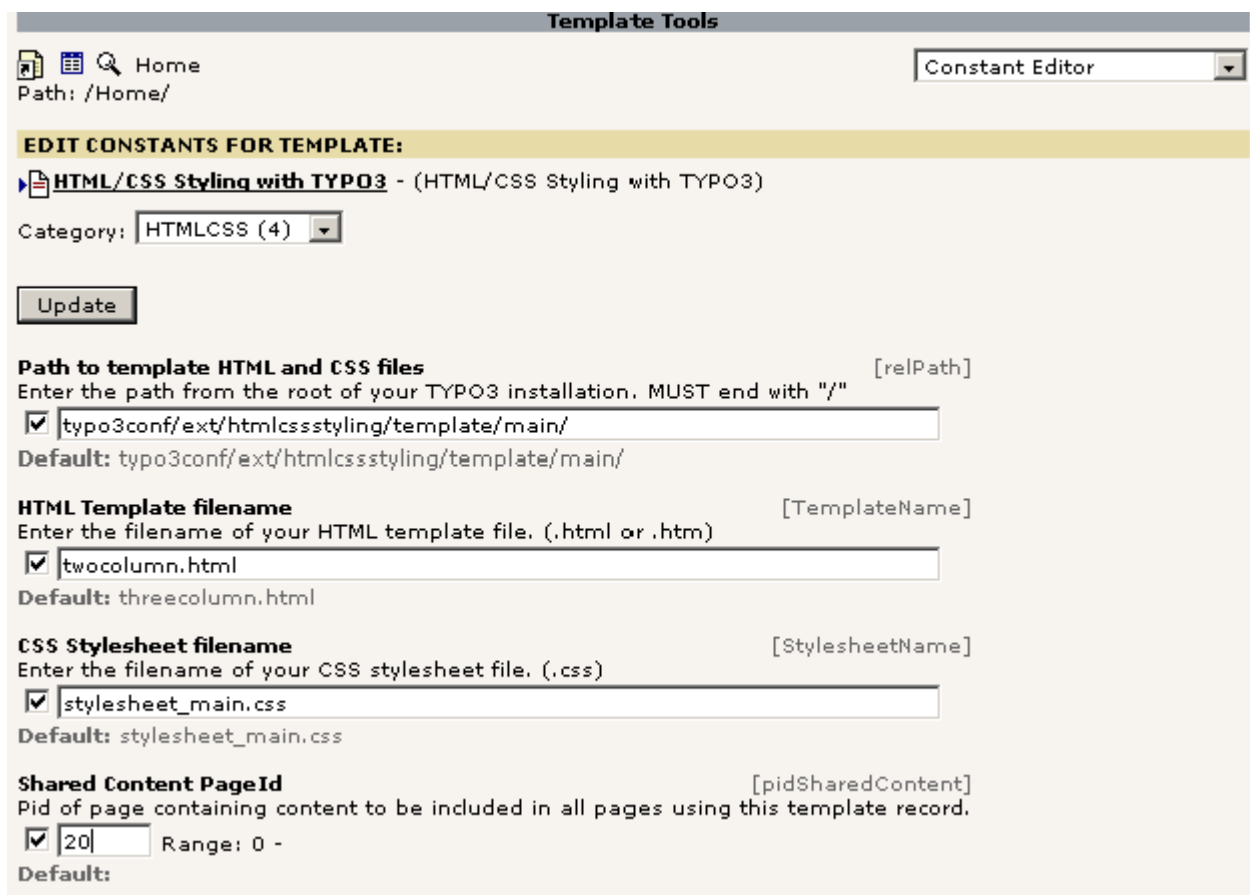


The screenshot shows two sections of a form. The first section is labeled 'Clear:' and contains two checkboxes: 'Constants' and 'Setup'. The second section is labeled 'Rootlevel:' and contains one checkbox.

There is no need to re-include the Static templates that you included in the root template record.

To configure the extension template use the Template module's Constant Editor.

For example, the following screen shot shows a change to a two column layout (twocolumn.html), the use the same css file as shown above but shared content will now come from page with id=20:



The screenshot shows the 'Template Tools' interface with the 'Constant Editor' dropdown selected. The main area is titled 'EDIT CONSTANTS FOR TEMPLATE:' and shows a tree view with 'HTML/CSS Styling with TYPO3' selected. Below the tree, the 'Category' is set to 'HTMLCSS (4)'. There is an 'Update' button. The main configuration area has four sections:

- Path to template HTML and CSS files** [relPath]: Enter the path from the root of your TYPO3 installation. MUST end with "/". The input field contains 'typo3conf/ext/htmlcssstyling/template/main/' and the default is 'typo3conf/ext/htmlcssstyling/template/main/'.
- HTML Template filename** [TemplateName]: Enter the filename of your HTML template file. (.html or .htm). The input field contains 'twocolumn.html' and the default is 'threecolumn.html'.
- CSS Stylesheet filename** [StylesheetName]: Enter the filename of your CSS stylesheet file. (.css). The input field contains 'stylesheet\_main.css' and the default is 'stylesheet\_main.css'.
- Shared Content PageId** [pidSharedContent]: Pid of page containing content to be included in all pages using this template record. The input field contains '20' and the range is '0 -'. The default is empty.

## Linkage between the HTML template and database content

### What is a “column”?

The word “column” is used in two senses in this document.

- The TYPO3 backend arranges content into 4 “column”s - Left, Normal, Right and Border. There is, however, **no** hard and fast connection between these names and the location where the content will appear on your website. Just because you enter content into the “Left” content column does not **force** the content to appear on the left hand side of your website. The positioning of content columns is under the complete control of the HTML template. (See below for details)
- One of the sample HTML template files is called 'threecolumn.html' - “column” in this case refers to the classic visual appearance of many websites with a three column layout. Many websites have a two column layout and a few use a single column layout. While this is a “three column layout”, the template actually shows all 4 backend content columns. This template places the backend's Border content column into the footer of the page.

### Example HTML template file

The following is a listing of **threecolumn.html**. Notice the 99.9% absence of styling information.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<?xml-stylesheet href="#internalStyle" type="text/css"?>
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
    "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
  <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=us-ascii" />
</head>

<body>
  <div id="wholepage">
    <div id="header"></div>
    <table id="middle" border="0" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0">
      <tr>
        <td id="pathplace" colspan="3">
          <span id="sitepath"> </span>
        </td>
      </tr>
      <tr>
        <td id="leftside">
          <div id="menu_1"> </div>
          <div id="leftcontentshared"> </div>
          <div id="leftcontent"> </div>
        </td>
        <td id="center">
          <div id="normalcontentshared"> </div>
          <div id="normalcontent"> </div>
        </td>
        <td id="rightside">
          <div id="rightcontentshared"> </div>
          <div id="rightcontent"> </div>
        </td>
      </tr>
    </table>
    <div id="footer">
      <div id="bordercontentshared"> </div>
      <div id="bordercontent"> </div>
    </div>
  </div>
</body>
</html>
```

### Linkage is done through id=""

- When using this extension, TYPO3 will replace the content of the HTML template file's <div>s and <span>s with database content.
- The <div>s and <span>s are linked up with backend content columns based on their id="" value.
- The <span> with id="sitepath" will get filled with a CSS styled Site Path Menu
- The <div> with id="menu\_1" will get filled with the CSS styled Navigation Menu
- **The <div>s and <span>s get their content from the TYPO3 backend “content columns” of the same name.**
- The <div>s and <span>s with “shared” in their name, get their content from the TYPO3 backend content column of the same name **from the shared content page which has it's PageId set in the displayed page's template record** (set using the Template module's Constants Editor).

## Modifying the HTML template file

1. This template file can be modified directly or copied to a new file and modified. For new files, enter the name into the TYPO3 Template Record using the Template Module's Constant's Editor.

2. The template file does **not** contain a reference to a CSS style file. This style file reference is provided by TYPO3 at page generation time based on the content of the template record's Constants.
3. The black colored HTML (shown above) forms a **skeleton** for the page. It may be changed to any valid HTML without affecting the operation of this template.
4. If you don't want certain content `<div>`s and `<span>`s to be shown **you can simply remove them**. Compare the `threecolumn.html` with `twocolumn.html` files for an example.
5. The blue content `<div>`'s have all got width of 100% so that can be moved to a new location within the HTML without requiring any change of the CSS files.
6. If you don't like `<table>` based formatting, no problems! Just remove it and replace it with floating `<div>`s.

## Linkage between the HTML template file and the CSS stylesheet file

When a page is generated by TYPO3, a reference to the selected CSS file is included in the `<header>` of the page. The CSS stylesheet file contains styling that is linked via the `id=""` attributes of the HTML code. So, not only does the `id=""` attribute control what content will be placed into the `<div>` or `<span>`, it also selects it's own styling from the CSS file.

## Tutorial

Visit the tutorial for this extension at: <http://typo3.org/extensions/repository/search/doctuthtmlcssstyling/>

## Configuration

### Typoscript PAGE

This extension contains the Typoscript PAGE Top Level Object (TLO) that controls the generation of the html web page that will be displayed. Because of this:

- this extension's "HTML/CSS Styling" static template should always be the last in the list of static templates (from extensions) included in your template records.
- This extension is incompatible with the static templates such as "TU", "RE", "BUSINESS" and "GREEN" that come with Typo3. Do not include any of these static templates.

### Further

If you wish to modify this extension and/or understand why this extension works then the "Modern Template Building Part 1 MTB/1" tutorial is a good place to find a next level of explanation.

## To-do List

- Allow shared content to come from hidden pages.

## Change Log

0.0.1Original Versions

0.0.2Addition of manual.

0.0.3Update to manual.

0.0.4Ditto

0.0.5Ditto

0.0.6Added Tutorial and fixed some documentation aspects.