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HTML, XHTML, And CSS Bible

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Synopsis
An essential update to the key web authoring standards of HTML, XHTML, and CSS. The existence of Web pages depends on three vital technologies: HTML (base language that Web pages are written in), XHTML (standards that define how to write HTML pages), and CSS (standard that applies formatting styles to Web pages). This new edition provides you with critical coverage of these three Web authoring standards, and places special focus on the upcoming releases of HTML 5 and CSS 3. Serving as a tutorial and reference, this comprehensive resource explains the basic structure and necessary formatting to create a static (non-changing) and dynamic (changing) page on the Internet. HTML, XHTML, and CSS are the three major Web authoring standards for creating either a static or dynamic Web page. Guides you through using HTML to create Web documents and introduces updates to HTML 5. Demonstrates best practices for using tools and utilities to create Web documents. Includes coverage of the new CSS 3 and tips and tricks for maximizing its abilities. Helpful examples round out this essential guide and will get you up and running with HTML, XHTML, and CSS in no time!

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Customer Reviews
The title is misleading. It's everything but an HTML, XHTML & CSS Bible. Title should read "Become a webmaster in a month". I expected to have: - The full HTML Specification with an example for each definition - Same for XHTML (DTD, rules to respect, validation, etc...) - Same for CSS and *PLEASE*, at least the basics of tableless CSS layout! If the book were to expose the
aforementioned information, it would exceed the 800 pages, and the author wouldn’t have had to put some more information that is useful, I agree, but it’s off-topic, sorry. The author should stress a lot more on standards. Standards are important, and one can’t call a book a "Bible" if it only covers 75% of HTML, 50% of XHTML and hardly covers basics of CSS. It lacks information on the PNG file format (open source). Mention of the Opera Browser is almost non-existent, even if it’s the most standard-compliant browser. Using tables to create a layout is old-fashioned and many good books (by Dan Cederholm, Jeffrey Zeldman or Eric Meyer) prove that one should *NOT* use tables for layout so that structure and content are clearly separated from presentation. Without this discipline, the web won’t be able to evolve toward XML. The book talks about image retouching, which again is off-topic, pretty much like SMIL, multimedia, FTP, maintenance, databases, weblogs, PHP & MySQL. I noticed several errors, and then I stopped writing them down. These are some of them: - p.93 PNG, is stored without being compressed doesn’t lose color or image quality, and does support transparency. At least this can be achieved in Photoshop CS. - p.108 I find it sad that the author doesn’t show how image maps are done with circles and polygons - chap.

While reading HTML, XHTML & CSS Bible, I was surprised to find that most of the most basic HTML markup codes have been deprecated. Classic codes which were the first codes people historically learned about markup language, like bold, italic, underline, center and font tags have all been essentially deleted from the language while the currently preferred method to adjust these has been changed to CSS. I heard estimates of around 30 HTML tags that had been deprecated with the idea that the styling should be handled in CSS vice HTML. (Charlesworth, 1999) This left me wondering why we even have HTML any more. Is it only to define divs, ids, headlines and paragraphs, leaving all other styling to CSS. So, did CSS kill HTML? While reading about the modern website, some authors argue that you can’t build a modern website without CSS and JavaScript, which certainly seems in line with other information I’ve read. (Marks, 2013) But the HTML/CSS Bible noted that while dozens of HTML 4 tags have been deprecated, like the tag for background color, but it adds that dozens more tags are being added. So, it looks like the world of digital publishing is simply in transition. According to one author that flux surrounds the transition from pure document to interactive content. (Roberts, 2013) In fact, he calls it evolution. "By using coding languages such as HTML5, CSS3, Javascript, JQuery, and Ajax, the movement on the page is completely compatible with any device," Roberts explains. He reasons that the remarkable change in HTML tags and the rise in significance of CSS is due largely to the changing variety of platforms on which people are viewing web content.

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