

# Advanced CSS Tips and Tricks with MadCap Flare

Scott DeLoach – [scott@clickstart.net](mailto:scott@clickstart.net)

ClickStart – [www.clickstart.net](http://www.clickstart.net)

In this session, Scott will share advanced tips and tricks for using CSS to handle common formatting challenges in MadCap Flare. Learn best practices for formatting lists, including nesting elements within lists and formatting images, including auto-sizing images and using thumbnails. In addition, Scott will offer numerous solutions for handling localization and text expansion challenges using CSS.

## Overview

- lists
- images
- localization

## Lists

### ol and ul tags

---

Bullets

```
ul {  
  margin-left: 0;  
  padding-left: 18px;  
  list-style-type: square;  
}
```

Numbers

```
ol {  
  margin-left: 0;  
  padding-left: 24px;  
  list-style-type: decimal;  
}
```

Nested lists

```
ul ul { list-style-type: circle; }  
ol ol { list-style-type: lower-alpha; }
```

Nested paragraphs, tables, and images

```
ul p { ... }  
ul table { ... }  
ul img { ... }
```

### p tag

---

Bullets

```
p.Bullet1 {  
  margin-left: 20px;
```

```
mc-auto-number-format: '• ';
mc-auto-number-position: inside-head;
mc-auto-number-offset: 24px;
text-indent: -20px;
}
```

Numbers

```
p.Numbers1 {
  margin-left: 28px;
  text-indent: -20px;
  mc-auto-number-format: '{n+} ';
  mc-auto-number-position: inside-head;
}
```

Nested lists

```
p.Bullet2 {
  margin-left: 40px;
  mc-auto-number-format: '◦ ';
  mc-auto-number-position: inside-head;
  mc-auto-number-offset: 24px;
  text-indent: -20px;
}
```

Nested paragraphs, tables, and images

Tip: Use a div.

```
div.Indent1 { margin-left: 20px; }

<p class=Bullet1">Bullet bullet bullet</p>
<div class="Indent1">
  <p>Text text text</p>
</div>
```

**Future: any pseudo class**

---

```
/* Level 2 */
:-moz-any(ol, ul) ul { list-style-type: square; }
:-webkit-any(ol, ul) ul { list-style-type: square; }
:any(ol, ul) ul { list-style-type: square; }

/* Level 3 */
:-moz-any(ol, ul) :-moz-any(ol, ul) ul { list-style-type: disc; }
:-webkit-any(ol, ul) :-webkit-any(ol, ul) ul { list-style-type: disc; }
:any(ol, ul) :-any(ol, ul) ul { list-style-type: disc; }
```

## Images

**Overriding inline image sizing**

---

```
.widthHeight {
  max-width: 30px;
  max-height: 48px;
}
```

```

```

---

### Sizing images to fit printed page

```
img { max-width: 100%; }
```

---

### Centering images – img style class

```
.centered {  
  display: block;  
  margin: 0 auto;  
}  
  

```

---

### Right-aligning images – img style class

```
.rightAlign {  
  float: right;  
  display: inline-block;  
}  
  

```

---

### Adding a drop shadow

```
img { box-shadow: 8px 8px 5px 0px #d0d0d0; }  
  
@media print  
{  
  img {  
    background-color: #d0d0d0;  
    padding-right: 4px;  
    padding-bottom: 4px;  
  }  
}
```

---

### Adding rounded corners

```
img { border: 1px solid #000000; border-radius: 8px; }
```

---

### Adding image captions

Figcaption tag

```
figcaption { font-weight: bold; }  
  
<figure>  
    
  <figcaption>Figure caption example</figcaption>  
</figure>
```

Pseudo element

```
img  
{  
  display: block;  
}
```

```
img:after
{
content: attr(alt);
font-weight: bold;
color: green;
display: block;
}


```

### **"DRAFT" overlay – online**

---

```
.draft:after {
  content: attr(class);
  position: absolute;
  font-size: 2rem; text-transform: uppercase;
  color: #ffffff; background-color: #ff0000;
  padding: 0 4px 0 4px;
  bottom: 4px;
  right: 0;
}

<p class="draft">
  
</p>
```

### **"DRAFT" overlay – print**

---

```
.draft:after {
  content: attr(class);
  font-size: 2rem; color: #ff0000; text-transform: uppercase;
  display: block;
  padding-top: 2px;
  padding-left: 2px;
}


```

### **Responsive images**

---

```
img {
  min-height : auto;
  min-width : 480px; /* max width of mobile medium */
  max-height : auto;
  max-width : 100%;
}
```

### **Home page flip cards**

---

```
.flip-card {
  background-color: transparent;
  width: 200px; height: 200px;
  perspective: 1000px;
}

.flip-card-inner {
  position: relative;
```

```

width: 100%; height: 100%;
text-align: center;
transition: transform 0.6s; transform-style: preserve-3d;
box-shadow: 0 4px 8px 0 rgba(0,0,0,0.2);
}

.flip-card:hover .flip-card-inner { transform: rotateY(180deg); }

.flip-card-front, .flip-card-back {
position: absolute;
width: 100%; height: 100%;
backface-visibility: hidden;
padding-top: 10%;
}

.flip-card-front {
background-color: #fff; color: #000;
border: 1px solid black;
}

.flip-card-back {
background-color: #2980b9; color: #fff;
transform: rotateY(180deg);
}

<div class="flip-card">
  <div class="flip-card-inner">
    <div class="flip-card-front">
      
      <h1>Boss</h1>
    </div>
    <div class="flip-card-back">
      <h1>Boss</h1>
      <p>Watch out for my tractor beam!</p>
    </div>
  </div>
</div>

```

### Auto-swapping images using lang attribute

---

```

<script>/**<![CDATA[*/*
$(document).ready(function() {
  $(' .main-section img').each(function() {
    if ($('#html')[0].hasAttribute('lang') && $('#html').attr('lang') != 'en') {
      $(this).attr('src', $('#html').attr('lang') + $(this).attr('src').slice(2));
    }
  });
});

$('img').on("error", function() {
  $(this).attr('src', "en" + $(this).attr('src').slice(2));
});
/**>*/</script>

```

## Localization

- Text expansion
- Hyphenation
- Language-specificity

### Text expansion options

---

- font-size property
- line-height property
- letter-spacing property
- word-spacing property

font-size property

```
.per90 { font-size: 90%; }  
.per95 { font-size: 95%; }
```

line-height property

```
.lh120percent { line-height: 1.2; }  
.lh90percent { line-height: .9; }
```

letter-spacing property

```
.minus1px { letter-spacing: -1px; }
```

word-spacing property

```
.minus2px { word-spacing: -2px; }
```

### Hyphenation

---

- hyphens
- mc-hyphenate
- mc-short-line

hyphens property values:

- none
- manual
- auto
- initial
- inherit

Tip: Set for body tag.

mc-hyphenate properties

- mc-hyphenate
- mc-hyphenate-maximum-adjacent-line-count

mc-short-line properties

- mc-short-line
- mc-short-line-method
- mc-short-line-step
- mc-short-line-tighten-maximum

- mc-short-line-loosen-maximum
- mc-short-line-loosen-end-length

## Language-specific options

---

Replacing the font by language

```
html[xml\:lang="en"] body { font-family: Arial, sans-serif; }
*[xml\:lang="is"] { font-family: Times, serif; color: green; }
```

Replacing the font for specific characters

```
@font-face {
  font-family: 'Ampersand';
  src: local('Times New Roman');
  unicode-range: U+22, U+26, U+27;
}

body { font-family: Ampersand, Helvetica, sans-serif; }
```

Automating quotes

```
q {
  quotes: "\201C" "\201D" "\2018" "\2019";
  display: block;
}
```

```
/* EN "... " and '...' */
p.quotes:before { content: "\201C"; }
p.quotes:after { content: "\201D"; }
span.quotes:before { content: "\2018"; }
span.quotes:after { content: "\2019"; }

/* FR <<...>> and <...> */
p[xml\:lang="fr"]:before { content: "\00AB"; }
p[xml\:lang="fr"]:after { content: "\00BB"; }
```

Automatically adding words

```
.caution:before {
  font-weight: bold;
  content: "Caution: ";
}

*[xml\:lang="es"].caution:before {
  content: "Cuidado: ";
}
```

## Sample project

I have created a sample project to demonstrate advanced CSS tips and tricks. You can download it at:

[bit.ly/MW19EuropeDeLoach](http://bit.ly/MW19EuropeDeLoach)

## About the presenter

Scott DeLoach is the Founder of Click**Start**, where he provides training and consulting for MadCap Flare, embedded user assistance, JavaScript/jQuery, CSS, and HTML5. He has been developing browser-based help systems for 25+ years, and he has received four Best in Show awards for his work from STC.

Scott is a certified Flare and Doc-to-Help instructor, and he is the author of *MadCap Flare: The Definitive Guide*, *CSS to the Point*, and *HTML5 to the Point*. For more information about Scott's books see [www.lulu.com/clickstart](http://www.lulu.com/clickstart).

You can reach Scott at [www.clickstart.net](http://www.clickstart.net) or by email at [scott@clickstart.net](mailto:scott@clickstart.net).

