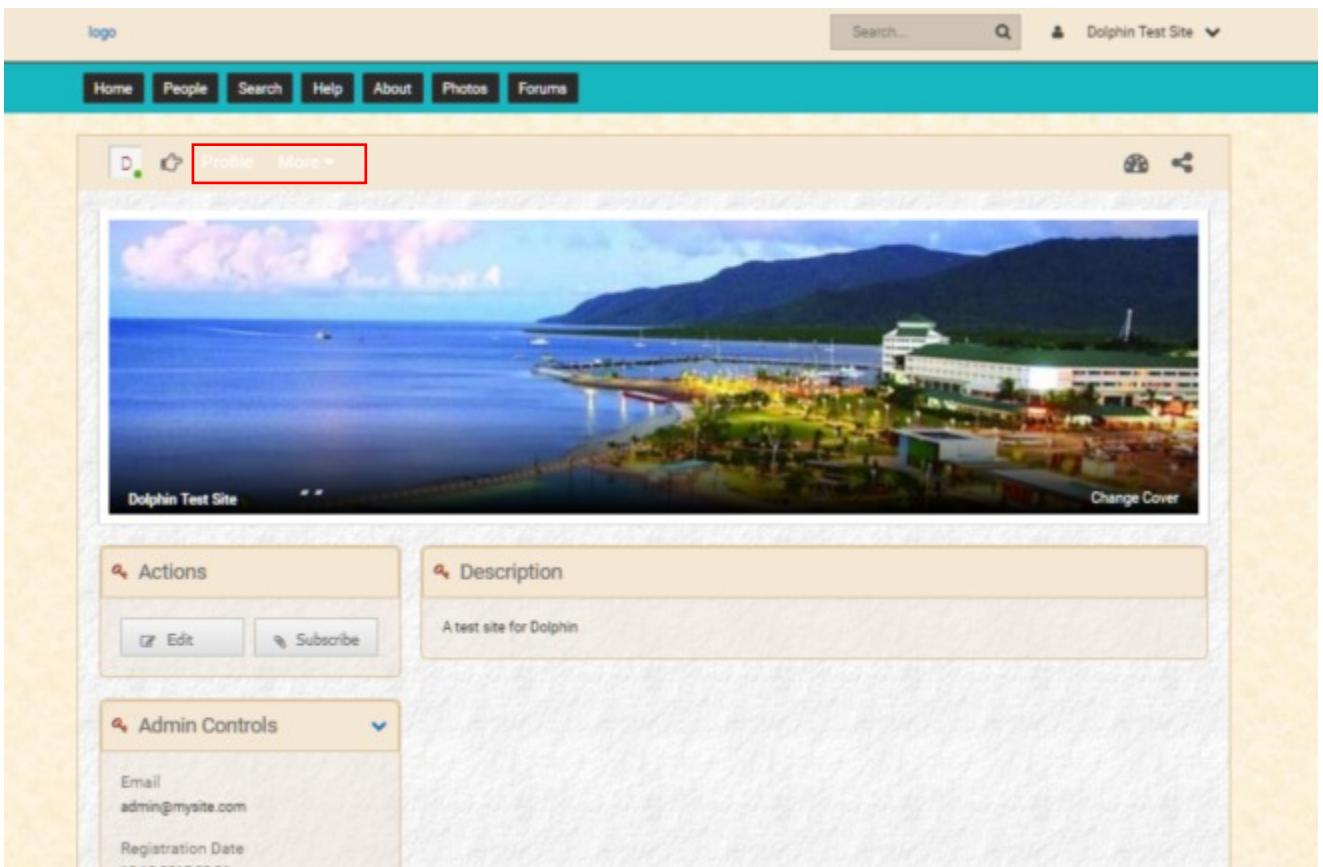# Modifying CSS With Your Browser

Before doing these mods, you should seriously consider installing a copy of Dolphin on your local computer. It's not hard to do and it makes doing things so much easier and so much faster.
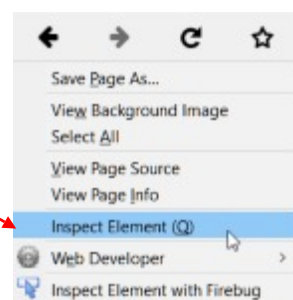

This is my test site. I'm using the free Biz2 template and as you can see, I've already changed a lot of colours to suit my project.
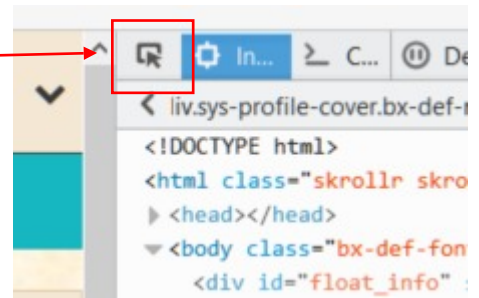
Notice the sub-menu in the red box is white and almost impossible to read. Let's change it to black for the time being.

I'm using Firefox, but Google Chrome is very similar.

1. Right Click anywhere on the page:

2. From the popup, select "Inspect Element"

3. The browser screen will split and some code will appear in the right section.
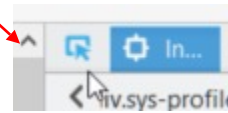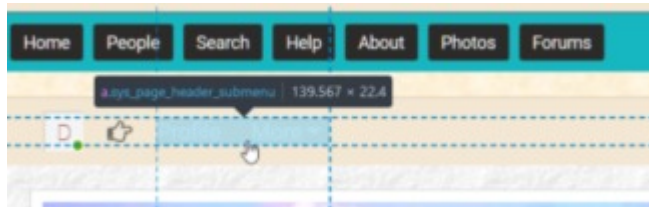
4. At the top of the right hand section you will see a box with a curser pointer in it.
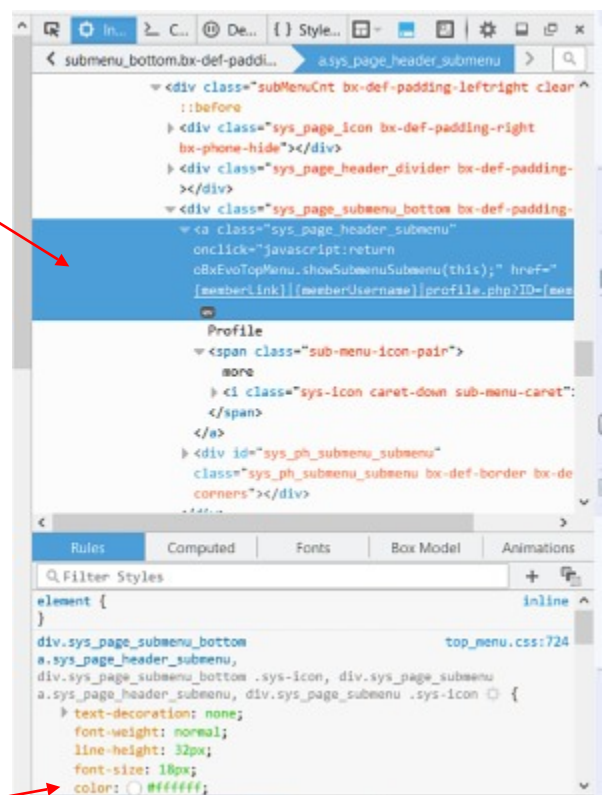
5. Click the box and it will change colour:

   You can now go to the browser window and select any element you want. Watch as you move over the elements and they turn to blue.

6. Highlight the sub menu until all the words you wish to change are surrounded by a blue square.

7. When you're happy, click the left mouse button.

8. Now look at the top section of the right hand pane. Notice how a section has turned blue.

   This is the code that was passed to your browser.

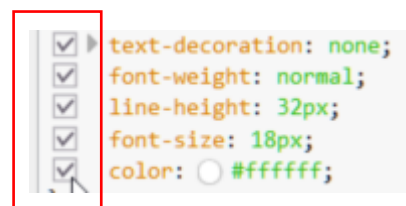9. Now look at the bottom section of this pane. This is the information about the font we wish to modify.

10. Notice the last line: color: #ffffff;

    #ffffff represents white and as our text is white, that's probably the line we want to change.
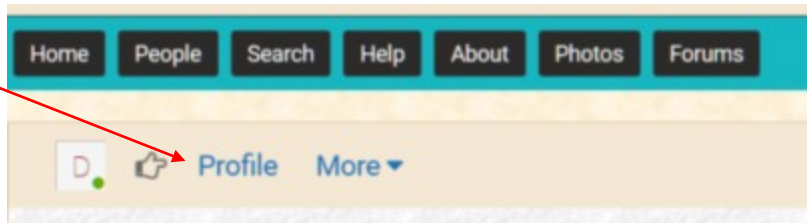
    Let's try.

11. Move the cursor over the line and notice how a series of ticked boxes appear.

12. Untick the box and watch what happens to the text in your browser window.
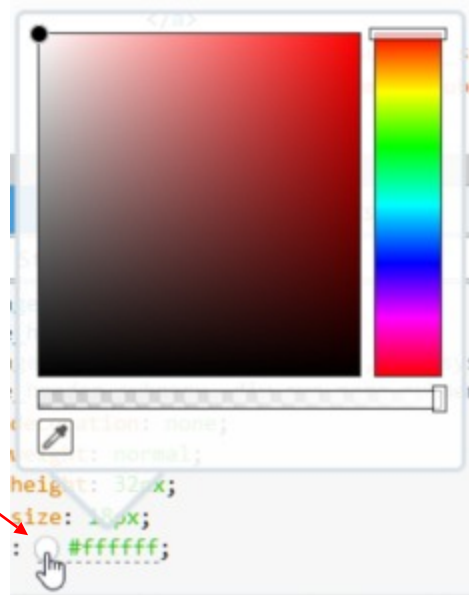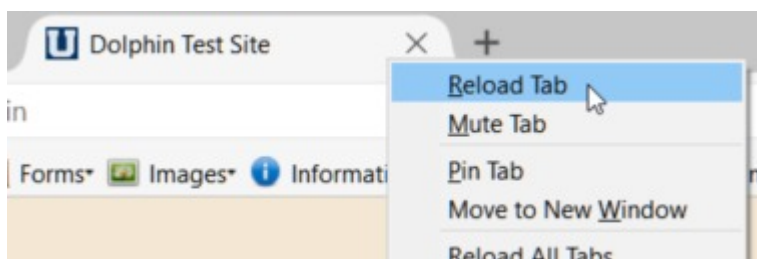
The text has changed colour!

13. You can also experiment with colours by clicking the little circle.

The following colour chart will appear and you can chose almost any colour you want. You can also use the eyedropper to choose another colour on the screen.

Please Note: Whatever you do at this stage is non-destructive. Experiment as much as you like and when you're happy or fed up, just reload the Browser Tab to bring everything back to the way it was. Just remember, you'll have to start from step one (1) to get back to this point.

To refresh the page, right click the browser tab and select Reload Tab.

Making the Changes Permanent

The first thing we must remember is that CSS elements can be used many times under many circumstances. Thus, changing the font colour here may also change it in other places where you don't want that to happen. This font colour is actually used in several places, some of which are shown at the top of the lower pane.
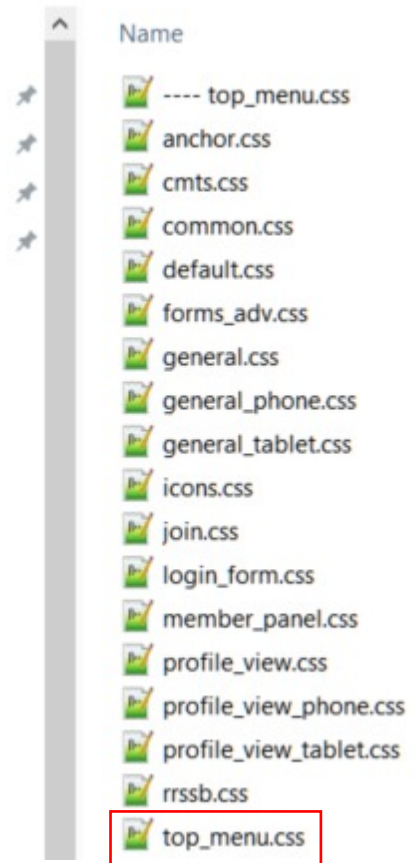
It's never worried me and it possibly won't worry you.

1. This screen also tells you the name of the Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) and the approximate line number that contains the code you're looking for. Simply place your cursor over the wording top_menu.css: 724 and the path to the file will appear:

http://localhost/dolphin7/templates/tmpl_biz2/css/top_menu.css:724

2. Let's head off to the file and make the changes.

3. Use File Explorer to navigate. To do this you must remember where your Localhost directory resides. In my case, it's D:/Uniserver/www/

   So I'm heading off to D:/uniserver/www/dolphin7/templates/tmpl_biz2/css/top_menu.css

Name

---- top_menu.css

anchor.css

cmts.css

common.css

default.css

forms_adv.css

general.css

general_phone.css

general_tablet.css

icons.css

join.css

login_form.css

member_panel.css

profile_view.css

profile_view_phone.css

profile_view_tablet.css

rrssb.css

top_menu.css

I use a free program called Notepad++ to edit my files. It has line numbering and multi-coloured text that helps you identify errors quickly. The line numbers are essential when you're looking for line 724.

4. When you get to line 724 in top_menu.css, you will see that a number of elements use the code. This isn't covered here, so leave things alone and just alter the colour on line 732.

```
724   div.sys_page_submenu_bottom a.sys_page_header_submenu,
725   div.sys_page_submenu_bottom .sys-icon,
726   div.sys_page_submenu a.sys_page_header_submenu,
727   div.sys_page_submenu .sys-icon {
728       text-decoration: none;
729       font-weight:normal;
730       line-height: 32px;
731       font-size: 18px;
732       color: #ffffff;
```

5. Black is represented by #000000, so change the value and don't forget the trailing semi-colon.

6. Save the file and return to your site.

   If you're doing this online, you'll have to FTP the change and overwrite the existing file.

```
       text-decoration: none;
       font-weight:normal;
       line-height: 32px;
       font-size: 18px;
       color: #000000;
}
```

7. Refresh the cache and reload the browser tab .

8. The text colour should now be black.

9. You can now experiment with other page elements.

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