

BEM

A More Informative Way to Name CSS Classes

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- » underneath the link to this slide on granneman.com
- » at files.granneman.com/presentations/webdev/CSS-BEM.txt

BEM: Block, Element, Modifier

Method of naming CSS classes to make their meaning more obvious

```
.block {}  
.block__element {}  
.block--modifier {}
```

.block: highest level of an abstraction or component

.block__element: descendent of **.block** that helps form **.block** as a whole

.block--modifier: different state or version of **.block**

You can also combine elements with modifiers, & vice-versa

```
.block__element--modifier {}  
.block--modifier__element {}
```



SIDE NOTE

Why double hyphens & underscores?

So you can still use single hyphens (or underscores) in your block name

```
.site-search {} /* Block */  
.site-search__field {} /* Element */  
.site-search--full {} /* Modifier */
```

Typical class names are not as clear & communicative as they could be

```
.person {}  
.hand {} /* Clock? Cards? Human? */  
.female {} /* Female what? */  
.female-hand {}  
.left-hand {} /* Whose? */
```

```
.block {}  
.block__element {}  
.block--modifier {}
```

```
.person {}  
.person__hand {}  
.person--female {}  
.person--female__hand {}  
.person__hand--left {}
```


You do not need to BEM-ify everything

```
.caps { text-transform: uppercase; }
```

```
/* Happens to be in header, but doesn't have  
to be */
```

```
.site-logo {}
```

Is it styled that way *because* it's in the `.block` (use BEM), or does it *just happen to be* in the `.block` (do not use BEM)?

Thank you!

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