

# Naming conventions

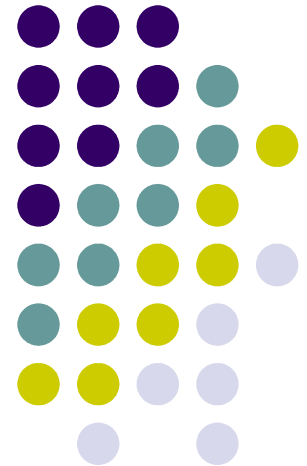
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## *CSS contracts for designers*

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# Background

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## Apache Lenya



Java/XML content management system

<http://cocoon.apache.org/lenya/>

## Apache Forrest



XML documentation framework

<http://forrest.apache.org/>

# Agenda

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- Introduction
- Analysis
- Concept
- Implementation

# What are naming conventions?

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A naming convention is an attempt to systematize names in a field so they unambiguously convey similar information in a similar manner.

- **Introduction**
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# Why naming conventions?

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Standards in OS projects:

- ❑ coding guidelines (e.g. commit then review)
- ❑ naming standards (e.g. Java type names usually start with an uppercase letter)
- allows productive collaboration in global teams

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# ...and in CSS?

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If web developers make use of naming conventions for `<div>`s too, we can make it easier for regular users to create their own visual stylesheets that will work across a wide range of sites. *[2a]*

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# Exiting CSS conversions



- ❑ Container div 8/40
- ❑ Header 18/40
- ❑ Nav 4/40
- ❑ Sidebar 7/40
- ❑ Content 16/40
- ❑ Footer 24/40    compare [2b]

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# Problems with naming

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- ❑ Top or footer, leftCol or rightCol refers only to positioning rather than content.
- ❑ Then you decide to switch their position.
- ➔ Maintenance impossible

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# Basic standard

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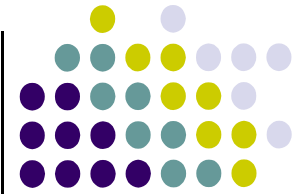


- ❑ container
- ❑ branding
- ❑ nav
- ❑ search
- ❑ content
- ❑ siteinfo

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# Forrest “leather” skin

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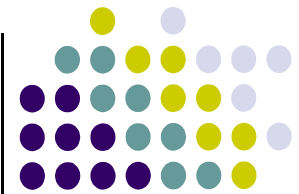


□ <http://svn.apache.org/viewcvcs.cgi/forrest/trunk/src/core/context/skins/leather-dev/?root=Apache-SVN>

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# Ressources

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- [1a] [http://www.stuffandnonsense.co.uk/archives/whats\\_in\\_a\\_name.html](http://www.stuffandnonsense.co.uk/archives/whats_in_a_name.html)
- [1b] [http://www.stuffandnonsense.co.uk/archives/naming\\_conventions\\_table.html](http://www.stuffandnonsense.co.uk/archives/naming_conventions_table.html)
- [2] <http://www.useit.com/alertbox/20040913.html>
- [3] [http://www.andybudd.com/archives/2004/05/semantic\\_coding/](http://www.andybudd.com/archives/2004/05/semantic_coding/)