Extracted from:

Pragmatic Guide to Sass

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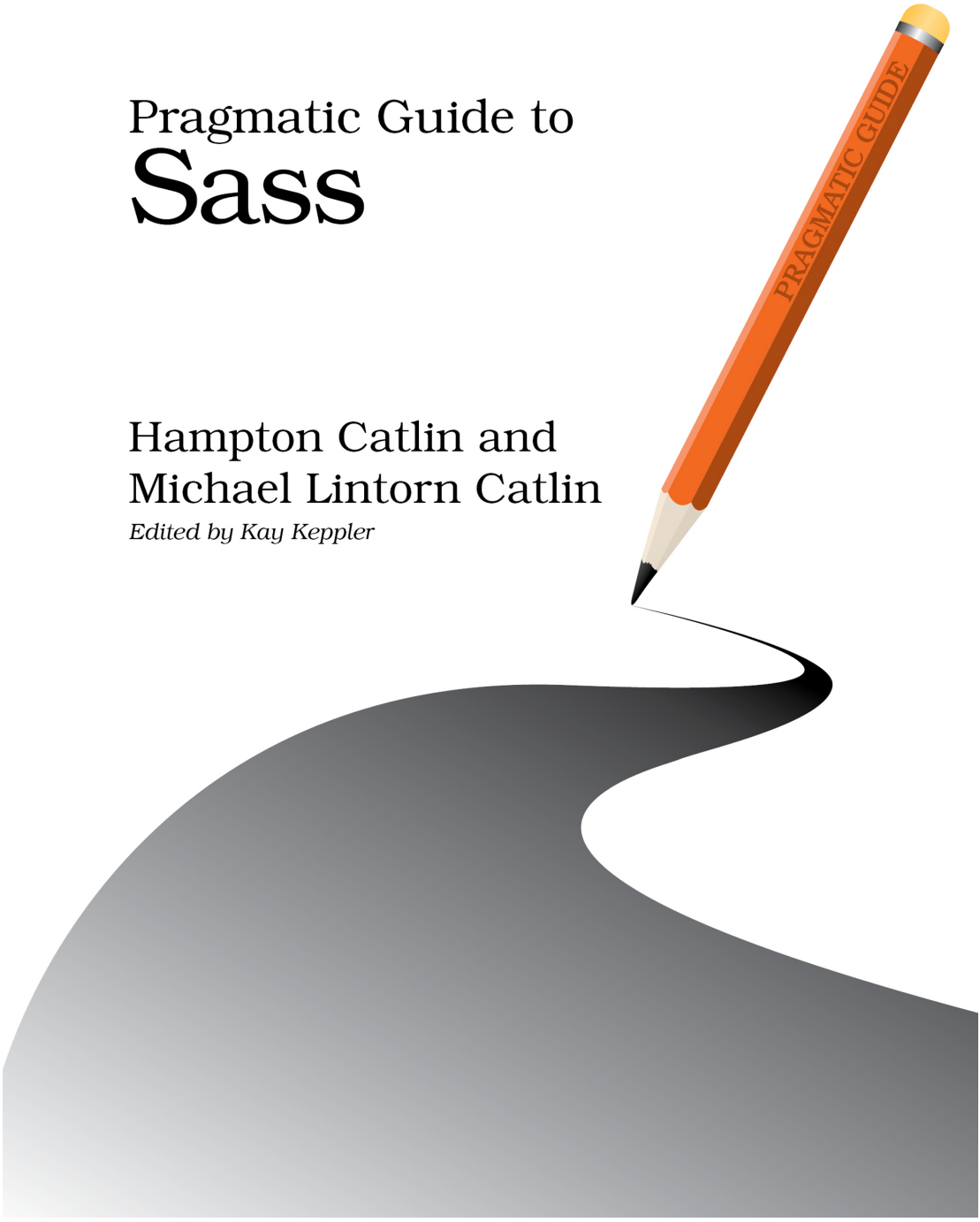
The Pragmatic Programmers

Pragmatic Guide to Sass



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Keeping things semantic is a philosophy where everything is named logically. We name items based on what they *do*, not what they look like. We don't want to name something .blue_button; we want to name it .checkout_button, which is far more useful when we're going through the code.

But what if you had a set of attributes—say a blue button—that needed to be applied to multiple buttons with different functions? You want to name the buttons after their function, but it would be a pain typing out the set of attributes over and over again.

This is where @extend comes in. @extend clones the attributes from one class or ID and adds them to another. Let's run with the example we had with the blue button. Say we want to use the blue button style for the checkout button. If we've defined the blue button class elsewhere, all we need to do is use @extend, followed by the .blue_button class in the declaration of your selector.

You'll notice that the CSS output has two selectors. What @extend does is merge all the properties and values from both selectors, with a list of selectors merged before the declaration block.

We can also tweak the style being copied. What if we needed the checkout button to be slightly darker than the regular blue button? We can just add those properties we need to change onto the end of the declaration block. The new attributes you add will override the old ones.

This saves us so much time when we're coding. There's far less copying and pasting: you'll barely ever use Ctrl+C again.

➤ Use @extend in a selector.

First we make sure we've described the class elsewhere:

Download advanced/atextend_blueButton.scss

```
.blue_button {
  background: #336699;
  font-weight: bold;
  color: white;
  padding: 5px; }
```

Then we can @extend the class to another:

Download advanced/atextend_use.scss

```
.checkout_button {
  @extend .blue_button }
```

This compiles to:

```
.blue_button, .checkout_button {
  background: #336699;
  font-weight: bold;
  color: white;
  padding: 5px; }
```

➤ Modify a selector.

Download advanced/atextend_use_modified.scss

```
.checkout_button {
  @extend .blue_button;
  color: darken(#336699, 10%); }
```