Stylelint CSS linter

START HERE

`npx stylelint "**/*.css"`
Lint all CSS files

`npx stylelint "src/**/*.scss" --fix`
Lint and auto-fix

`npx stylelint --print-config <file>`
Show the config in effect

`npx stylelint -f json <file>`
Machine-readable output

`npx stylelint --cache "**/*.css"`
Skip unchanged files

`npx stylelint --rd "**/*.css"`
Find useless disable comments

`echo "a{}" | npx stylelint --stdin-filename a.css`
Lint piped input

`npx stylelint --mw 0 "**/*.css"`
Fail on any warning

CONCEPTS

Quote globs so Stylelint expands them itself; node_modules is always ignored. Exit code 2 means lint problems, 1 a fatal error.

Config extends + rules
↓ applies to
Files CSS, SCSS, HTML…
↓ reports
Problems error or warning
↓ --fix
Fixed source safe rules only

RUNNING

`stylelint "<glob>"`
Lint files matching a glob

`stylelint <dir>/`
Lint a directory

`stylelint "<glob>" --allow-empty-input`
No error if glob matches nothing
Without it a glob matching no files is a fatal error (exit 1).

`stylelint --stdin`
Read source from stdin

`stylelint --stdin-filename <name>`
Name the stdin input
Picks the syntax and overrides by file name.

`stylelint --custom-syntax <name>`
Use a custom PostCSS syntax

RUNNING (cont.)

`stylelint --ignore-path <file>`
Read ignore patterns from a file

`stylelint --ignore-pattern "<glob>"`
Ignore extra paths

`stylelint --disable-default-ignores`
Also lint node_modules

FIXING

`stylelint --fix "<glob>"`
Fix what is auto-fixable
Only rules that support it are fixed; the rest are still reported.

`stylelint -f verbose "<glob>"`
List files checked, with tally

`stylelint --suppress "<glob>"`
Record current problems in a file
Writes stylelint-suppressions.json so only new problems fail.

SEVERITY AND EXIT CODES

`stylelint -q "<glob>"`
Show errors only, hide warnings

`stylelint --max-warnings <n>`
Exit 2 above n warnings
Useful with defaultSeverity: "warning" in CI.

SEVERITY AND EXIT CODES (cont.)

Exit codes

Code	Meaning
0	No problems
1	Fatal error
2	Lint problems
64	Bad CLI usage
78	Invalid config file

OUTPUT

`stylelint -f <name>`
Choose a formatter
string (default), compact, json, tap, unix, verbose.

`stylelint -f verbose "<glob>"`
List files checked, with tally

`stylelint -f json "<glob>"`
JSON report for tools

`stylelint -o <path>`
Write the report to a file

`stylelint --custom-formatter <path>`
Use your own formatter module

CACHE

`stylelint --cache "<glob>"`
Only re-lint changed files
Cache lives in .stylelintcache by default; gitignore it.

`stylelint --cache-location <path>`
Move the cache file or dir
A directory needs a trailing slash.

CACHE (cont.)

`stylelint --cache-strategy content`
Detect changes by content
Use in CI, where fresh clones change mtimes.

CONFIG

`stylelint --config <file>`
Use a specific config

`stylelint --print-config <file>`
Print the resolved config
Takes a file path, not a glob.

Config files searched (in order)

Where
`"stylelint" key in package.json`
`.stylelintrc`
`.stylelintrc.{cjs,mjs,js,ts,json,yaml,yml}`
`stylelint.config.{cjs,mjs,js,ts}`

.stylelintrc.json

```
{
  "extends": ["stylelint-config-standard"],
  "rules": {
    "color-named": "never",
    "declaration-no-important": [true, { "severity": "warning" }],
    "selector-class-pattern": null
  },
  "ignoreFiles": ["dist/**"]
}
```

CONFIG (cont.)

Per-file overrides

```
"overrides": [{
  "files": ["**/*.scss"],
  "customSyntax": "postcss-scss"
}]
```

`"defaultSeverity": "warning"`
Make every rule a warning

`"rules": { "<rule>": null }`
Turn a rule off

DISABLE COMMENTS

`/* stylelint-disable */ ... /* stylelint-enable */`
Turn off a region

`/* stylelint-disable <rule> */`
Turn off one rule below

`/* stylelint-disable-next-line <rule> */`
Skip the next line

`/* stylelint-disable-line <rule> */`
Skip this line

`/* stylelint-disable <rule> -- <reason> */`
Add a description
Required by --report-descriptionless-disables.

DISABLE COMMENTS (cont.)

`stylelint --report-needless-disables`
Flag useless disable comments
Exits 2 if any are found.

`stylelint --report-descriptionless-disables`
Flag disables without a reason

`stylelint --ignore-disables`
Ignore all disable comments

RECIPES

CI check

```
npx stylelint --cache --cache-strategy content \
  --max-warnings 0 "src/**/*.{css,scss}"
```

Adopt in a legacy codebase

```
npx stylelint --suppress "**/*.css"
git add stylelint-suppressions.json
# new problems fail; old ones are tolerated
```

Quick rule audit

```
npx stylelint --print-config src/app.css | less
npx stylelint -f json "**/*.css" > report.json
```

Install with the standard config

```
npm i -D stylelint stylelint-config-standard
echo '{"extends":["stylelint-config-standard"]}' \
  > .stylelintrc.json
```