CSS on Fandom

Responsible creativity
Customizing the Fandom skin

(aka Mad Hacks Beyond ThunderChrome)
PRO-TIP: Green Zone

Always safe to edit

You're good to go if your changes are only within #mw-content-text

CAVEAT: Portable Infoboxes use h2 and h3, so h2 and h3 modification should specify #mw-content-text > h2. Other content-area portable elements may also reuse typical tags, so it's probably a good idea to qualify elements like h2.
PRO-TIP: Danger Zone

Unsafe spaces, where Fandom does not allow public alteration

Global Navigation / #globalNavigation

Global Footer / #wds-global-footer

Any selector with the word "ad".
Avoid overreach!

If you're adding something like a custom font to your community, under no circumstances should it enter the "danger zone". Fandom takes things like altering the corporate branding in the global footer very seriously, and will always remove it when we discover it.

Squeezing out the background area (by adjusting the width) or overlaying the background, no matter how well intentioned, is still problematic. The general layout of the site should remain intact. This is crucial for quality control on Fandom's end.
Other areas - should we customize this?

Things beyond that get into areas governed by customization policy, and areas where the design is currently being evolved. So it's best to ask for advice or approval in most cases.

- Masthead: No, especially in the space above it.
- Article background: Acceptable, but be careful that you don't make text unreadable.
- Background space: Acceptable if adding a "wallpaper", but not acceptable to draw elements into. Also, increasing the width of the content to squeeze out the sides is a no-go.

Altering the style is not the same as removing the elements, which is not acceptable in site-wide CSS. CSS selectors for these components occasionally change, so we're describing them instead.
Page Header

As Fandom is currently (March / April 2017) testing a complete redesign of the page and article header areas for the Modernization effort, new customizations are not advised.

We are exploring the options available for customizing the new page header once it goes global, and we hope that the new options for customization presented then will meet your community's needs. It is too soon to tell how extensive CSS-related alteration will be permitted.
Right rail and Fandom modules

The right rail on communities frequently contains a combination of content, Fandom modules, and advertisement.

- Fandom modules are elements that circulate a reader throughout the network ("Fan Feed", "Discover New Wikis", "Read more", "Discussions about …", etc.)
- Restyling the Fandom modules is generally acceptable if done lightly and tastefully. Examples include light transparency (no less than 70% opacity), the shape of the containing borders (rounding corners), and font consistency with the rest of the community's style. Note that these modules are subject to change, and customizations to them will require maintenance from the local community.
- Adding content via JavaScript may prepend (be inserted above) the Fandom modules, but may not prepend advertisements.
- Extensive restyling of the Fandom modules is not acceptable. The readability of the modules, size, and page positions must remain intact.
Customizing other skins

Fandom does not support (nor allow) customization of the mobile skin, Mercury.

Community Apps also strip most CSS customization.

Fandom allows most customization of the Monobook alternative skin, though we would caution that the traffic on Monobook represents 0.07% of Fandom’s global traffic per day. As a result, Fandom does not develop new features with Monobook in mind.
Community customization: the big picture

Questions to ask yourself before you customize:

- Will this change make any text more difficult to read?
- Will this change make the purpose of a specific feature or element unclear?
- Will this change interfere with ads or article content?
- Will this change cause problems for people with color blindness or other vision conditions?
Content and Template

CSS

Everything that goes inside

#mw-content
Portability: a quick refresher

Content portability refers to the way content can be compatible and best shown on any device. It is not strictly the same as "looks good on mobile". Holistic portability refers to the use of style (through class and span) inside content space that is not created by portable elements or wikitext. This can be as simple as `<span style="color: red">...</span>`.

Fandom tries to ensure your communities content can be experienced on any device, but can't do it alone. The most important key is user involvement. After all, shouldn't you want your community visible on the widest possible audience?
Portable Infobox CSS

PI styling is fairly easy if you know the right selectors. We provided a full list in the Portability Town Hall, but here's a summary.

For more information, check out Help:Infobox/CSS for the selectors. The Portability Hub also provides extensive CSS resources on styling Portable Infoboxes.

PRO-TIP: :empty is an awesome selector when used with Portable Infoboxes; it’s much better than a default of "Unknown".
Section Headings

This is where you should always use
#mw-content-text > h2 (and so on), because
otherwise you risk conflicts with elements like PIs.

Headings with specific text can also be styled specially.

Example:

h2 #References applies only to the
== References == heading

.editsection img.edit-pencil applies to the
"pencil" in the section editing link
Gallery

There are a few things you can do to style "new" style galleries, including adding a background color, borders, and rounded edges.

- `.media-gallery-wrapper` The outermost element
- `.media img` Each image
- `.media-gallery-caption` Image captions
References

1. ↑ The time frame for the affair in relation to "the present" was established in Halloween: Part 2.
2. ↑ The time frame for "the present" was established in Halloween: Part 1.
Other templates and holistic portability

These are where many communities have difficulty with mobile-compatibility. There are some simple (and some not-so simple) rules about these. We'll talk about some of the big ones. When in doubt, you can come to the Portability Hub for help or ask a Vanguard team member the best way to accomplish what you're trying to do.
Other templates and holistic portability

Key things:

- Reduce or eliminate using JavaScript to apply CSS properties.
- Avoid entirely the use of class or style attributes EXCEPT in `<span>`.
- Use tables when you're displaying spreadsheet-type data, but not for layout or making elements.
- Make sure that your templates are classified properly.

These are ways we can make sure your content presents the best way on all platforms, no matter what the style on desktop.