

Case Study:

Adding class to hyperlinks containing images

Upload/Insert  Visual HTML

B *I* **ABC**                                 

```
<a href="..." class="img"></a>
```


``
``

➔


``
``

Path: p
Word count: 0



How can I set the class of anchors? (11 posts)

CSS

```
a:hover img { background: ... }
```

```
a < img { background: ... }
```

```
a img:parent { background: ... }
```

WRONG

JS / jQuery

```
$('a img').parent('a').addClass('img');
```

POOR

BAD

These “solutions” target/modify HTML in the visitor’s browser.

GOOD

Desired HTML should be coming from the server in the first place.





Insert into Post

Wordpress Filters



Filters modify specific text elements that are inserted into the database or displayed in your theme.

http://codex.wordpress.org/Plugin_API

Each “filterable” text-element has a unique name.

http://codex.wordpress.org/Plugin_API/Filter_Reference

Filters are easily added to your theme’s functions.php



```
/**
 * Attach a class to linked images' parent anchors
 * e.g. a img => a.img img
 */
2 function give_linked_images_class(3 $html, $id, $caption, $title,
  $align, $url, $size, $alt = '' ) {
  $classes = 'img'; // separated by spaces, e.g. 'img image-link'

  // check if there are already classes assigned to the anchor
  if ( preg_match('/<a.*? class=".*?">/', $html) ) {
4   $html = preg_replace('/(<a.*? class=".*?">)/', '$1 '
    . $classes . '$2', $html);
  } else {
    $html = preg_replace('/(<a.*?>)/', '$1 class=""
    . $classes . ">', $html);
  }
5 return $html;
}

1 add_filter('image_send_to_editor', 'give_linked_images_class', 10, 8);
```



Insert into Post



EMPATHY

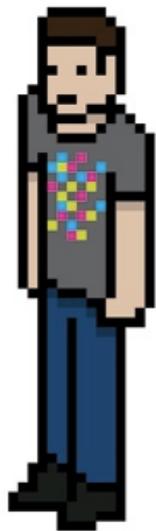
Finding the proper `filter_name` and callback function's arguments is hard.

OK

You can always filter on “`the_content`”.

GOOD

Specifically mention filters in title when asking questions in the Wordpress.org Forums (or wordpress.stackexchange.com):
“How do I filter the output of...?”



@bensheldon blogs at <http://island94.org>

