

98.css + XP.css

ID	GP-002
Type	CSS Framework
Category	K. Gaming and Pixel Art
Source	https://jdan.github.io/98.css/
Licence	MIT (98.css © 2020 Jordan Scales; XP.css by botoxparty, MIT). The Windows look is Microsoft's trade dress; these are community recreations
Commercial use	Yes (MIT)
Attribution	Keep the MIT notice
Redistribution	Yes, with the licence notice
Delivery	npm or unpkg CDN
Updated	2026-10-24

Notes

Two sibling CSS files that turn semantic HTML into faithful Windows 98 and Windows XP dialogs, title bars, fieldsets, sliders and tree views. No JavaScript, so they work with any framework.

Our analysis

Our captures of the 98.css and XP.css docs: a narrow left table of contents and a long single column where every component is shown live above its HTML. The components carry all the colour (teal-free gray bevels for 98, blue title bars and soft greens for XP), the page itself stays plain. Strength: it styles semantic HTML (fieldset, button, input type=range) so markup stays accessible. Risk: the retro look reads as a joke unless the product really is about nostalgia, and bevelled 11 px UI is small for touch.

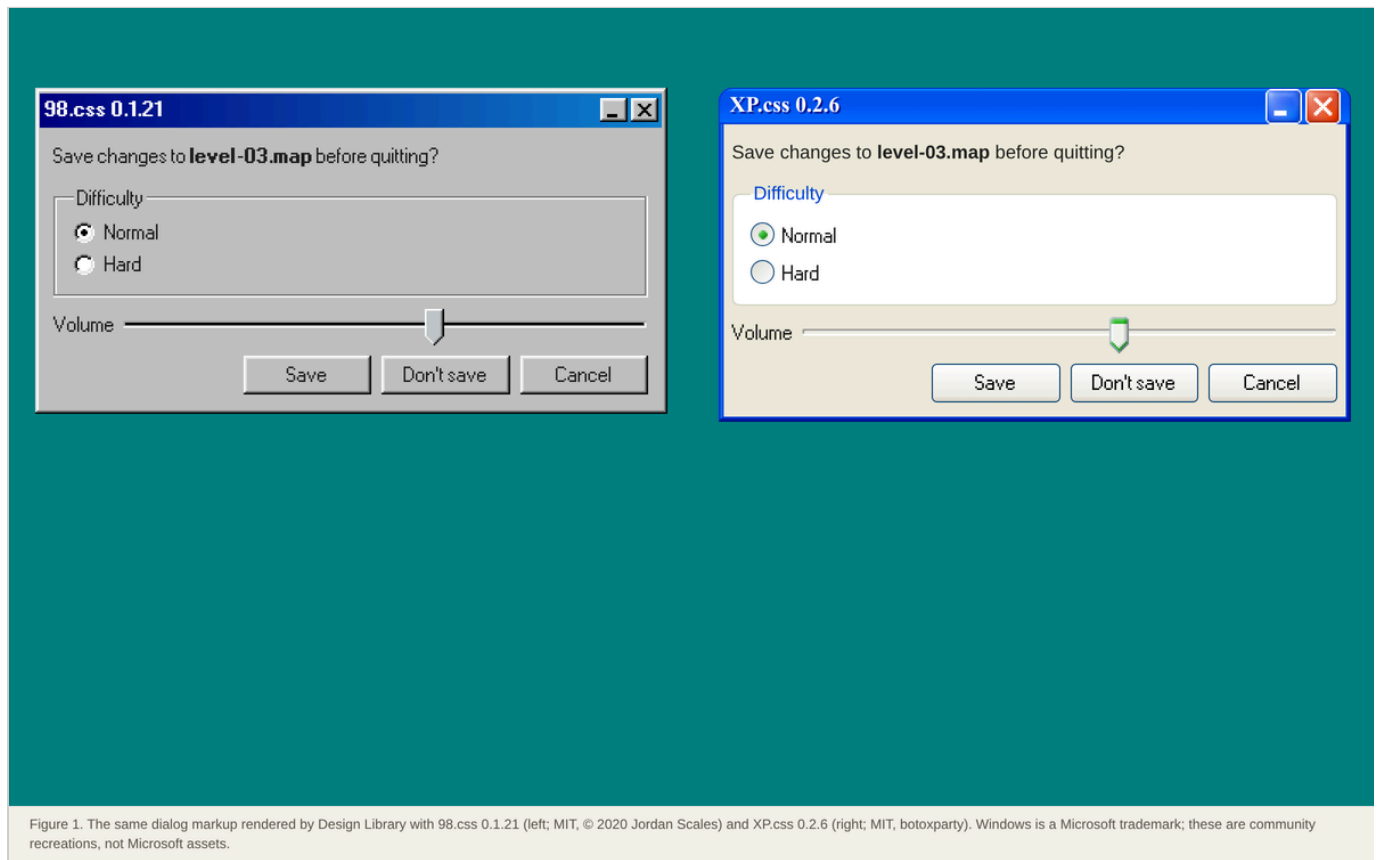
Best practices

- Use real semantic elements (fieldset, legend, button, input type=range); the CSS styles them directly, which keeps keyboard and screen-reader support (OFFICIAL concept, <https://github.com/jdan/98.css>).
- Load only one theme at a time: XP.css says to 'include only one theme at a time' (OFFICIAL, <https://github.com/botoxparty/XP.css>).
- 98.css is tiny: about 27 KB raw / 4.5 KB gzip, while XP.css is about 256 KB / 38 KB because it inlines more assets (ESTIMATED, our download).
- Scale the window up (CSS zoom or larger font) for touch screens; the original 11 px controls are below comfortable tap size (OURS).

How to use

```
npm install 98.css # or: npm install xp.css
<link rel="stylesheet" href="https://unpkg.com/98.css">
<div class="window"><div class="title-bar"><div class="title-bar-text">My First Program</div></div>
  <div class="window-body"><p>Hello, world!</p></div></div>
```

Figures and reference captures



The same dialog markup rendered by Design Library with 98.css 0.1.21 (left; MIT, © 2020 Jordan Scales) and XP.css 0.2.6 (right; MIT, botoxparty). Windows is a Microsoft trademark; these are community recreations, not Microsoft assets. Source: <https://jdan.github.io/98.css/>. Our mockup. Uses 98.css 0.1.21 and XP.css 0.2.6 (MIT).

Intro

Components

- Button
- Checkbox
- OptionButton
- GroupBox
- TextBox
- Slider
- Dropdown
- Window
 - Title Bar
 - Window contents
 - Status Bar
- TreeView
- Tab
- TableView
- ProgressIndicator
- Field borders

Issues, Contributing, etc.

98.css

A design system for building faithful recreations of old UIs.

npm

v0.121

gzip

4.35KB

Intro

98.css is a CSS library for building interfaces that look like Windows 98. See more [on GitHub](#).

My First VB4 Program

Hello, world!

OKCancel

This library relies on the usage of **semantic HTML**. To make a button, you'll need to use a `<button>`. Input elements require labels. Icon buttons rely on `aria-label`. This page will guide you through that process, but accessibility is a primary goal of this project.

You can override many of the styles of your elements while maintaining the appearance provided by this library. Need more padding on your buttons? Go for it. Need to add some color to your input labels? Be our guest.

This library does not contain any JavaScript, it merely styles your HTML with some CSS. This means 98.css is compatible with your frontend framework of choice.

Here is an example of [98.css used with React](#), and [an example with vanilla JavaScript](#). The fastest way to use 98.css is to import it from unpkg.

```
<link
  rel="stylesheet"
  href="https://unpkg.com/98.css"
>
```

You can install 98.css from the [GitHub releases page](#), or [from npm](#).

```
npm install 98.css
```

Components

Reference capture of <https://jdan.github.io/98.css/> (landing view), taken 2026-10-24 16:41 (UTC+8) by this library with a headless browser at 1440×900, reduced to 1200px. Fair-use reference for design analysis only; the page, its artwork and marks belong to Jordan Scales (98.css) and botoxparty (XP.css). Asset files are not redistributed through this capture: get them from the source under its licence. Source: <https://jdan.github.io/98.css/>. Fair-use reference capture; content © Jordan Scales (98.css) and botoxparty (XP.css). Entry license: MIT (98.css © 2020 Jordan Scales; XP.css by botoxparty, MIT). The Windows look is Microsoft's trade dress; these are community recreations

Intro

Components

Button

Checkbox

OptionButton

Tab

GroupBox

TextBox

Slider

Dropdown

Window

Title Bar

Window contents

Status Bar

TreeView

ProgressBar

Issues, Contributing, etc.

XP.css

A design system for building faithful recreations of old UIs.

npm

v0.2.6

minzipped size

38.2 KiB

Intro

XP.css is an extension of 98.css. A CSS library for building interfaces that look like old UIs.

See [XP.css on GitHub](#)

See [98.css on GitHub](#)

My First Program

Hello, world!

OK

Cancel

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Here is an example of [XP.css used with React](#), and [an example with vanilla JavaScript](#). The fastest way to use XP.css is to import it from unpkg.

Windows XP Theme

```
<link
  rel="stylesheet"
  href="https://unpkg.com/xp.css"
>
```

Windows 98 Theme

```
<link
  rel="stylesheet"
  href="https://unpkg.com/xp.css@/dist/98.css"
>
```

Select a theme

Windows XP

Reference capture of <https://botoxparty.github.io/XP.css/> (landing view), taken 2026-10-24 16:42 (UTC+8) by this library with a headless browser at 1440×900, reduced to 1200px. Fair-use reference for design analysis only; the page, its artwork and marks belong to botoxparty (XP.css). Asset files are not redistributed through this capture: get them from the source under its licence. Source: <https://jdan.github.io/98.css/>. Fair-use reference capture; content © Jordan Scales (98.css) and botoxparty (XP.css). Entry license: MIT (98.css © 2020 Jordan Scales; XP.css by botoxparty, MIT). The Windows look is Microsoft's trade dress; these are community recreations

Reference captures are fair-use screenshots for design analysis, credited to their source; no asset files are redistributed in this PDF. Licence summaries are not legal advice: read the source's licence before use.

98.css + XP.css: deep dive

Gaming & Pixel Art deep dive, checked 2026-10-24 (UTC+8). OFFICIAL = stated on the cited official page, README, licence or package file; ESTIMATED = measured by Design Library (file sizes, counts, contrast); OURS = our interpretation, not legal advice. Earlier pages hold notes, analysis, best practices and captioned figures with sources.

Our analysis

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Best practices

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What it is OURS

- 98.css and its extension XP.css restyle plain HTML into Windows 98 or XP controls.
- For nostalgia projects, ‘desktop’ portfolios and teaching old UI patterns.

Source: <https://jdan.github.io/98.css/>

Licence and packages OFFICIAL

- 98.css: MIT, © 2020 Jordan Scales; npm 98.css 0.1.21. ‘It does not ship with any JavaScript’.
- XP.css: MIT, npm xp.css 0.2.6, ‘an extension of 98.css’; includes a 98 theme; ‘include only one theme at a time’ (<https://github.com/botoxparty/XP.css>).

Source: <https://github.com/jdan/98.css>

Measured ESTIMATED

- 98.css dist: 26,848 bytes raw / 4,459 gzip. XP.css dist: 256,202 raw / 38,003 gzip (our downloads).
- Both demo pages are long single-column docs with a left table of contents (our captures).

Source: <https://jdan.github.io/98.css/>

Pitfalls and lessons OURS

- Don't use the Windows logo or imply Microsoft endorsement; the CSS recreates a look, the brand is not included.
- Bevel-heavy 11 px controls need scaling on phones; test tap targets.

Source: <https://botoxparty.github.io/XP.css/>