

CSS Selectors

A CSS selector selects the HTML element(s) you want to style.

CSS Selectors

CSS selectors are used to "find" (or select) the HTML elements you want to style.

We can divide CSS selectors into five categories:

- Simple selectors (select elements based on name, id, class)
- [Combinator selectors](#) (select elements based on a specific relationship between them)
- [Pseudo-class selectors](#) (select elements based on a certain state)
- [Pseudo-elements selectors](#) (select and style a part of an element)
- [Attribute selectors](#) (select elements based on an attribute or attribute value)

The CSS element Selector

The element selector selects HTML elements based on the element **name** (body, p, h1, h5, a, div, etc.).

The CSS id Selector

The id selector uses the id attribute of an HTML element to select a specific element.

The id of an element is unique within a page, so the id selector is used to select one unique element!

To select an element with a specific id, write a hash (#) character, followed by the id of the element.

The CSS class Selector

The class selector selects HTML elements with a specific class attribute.

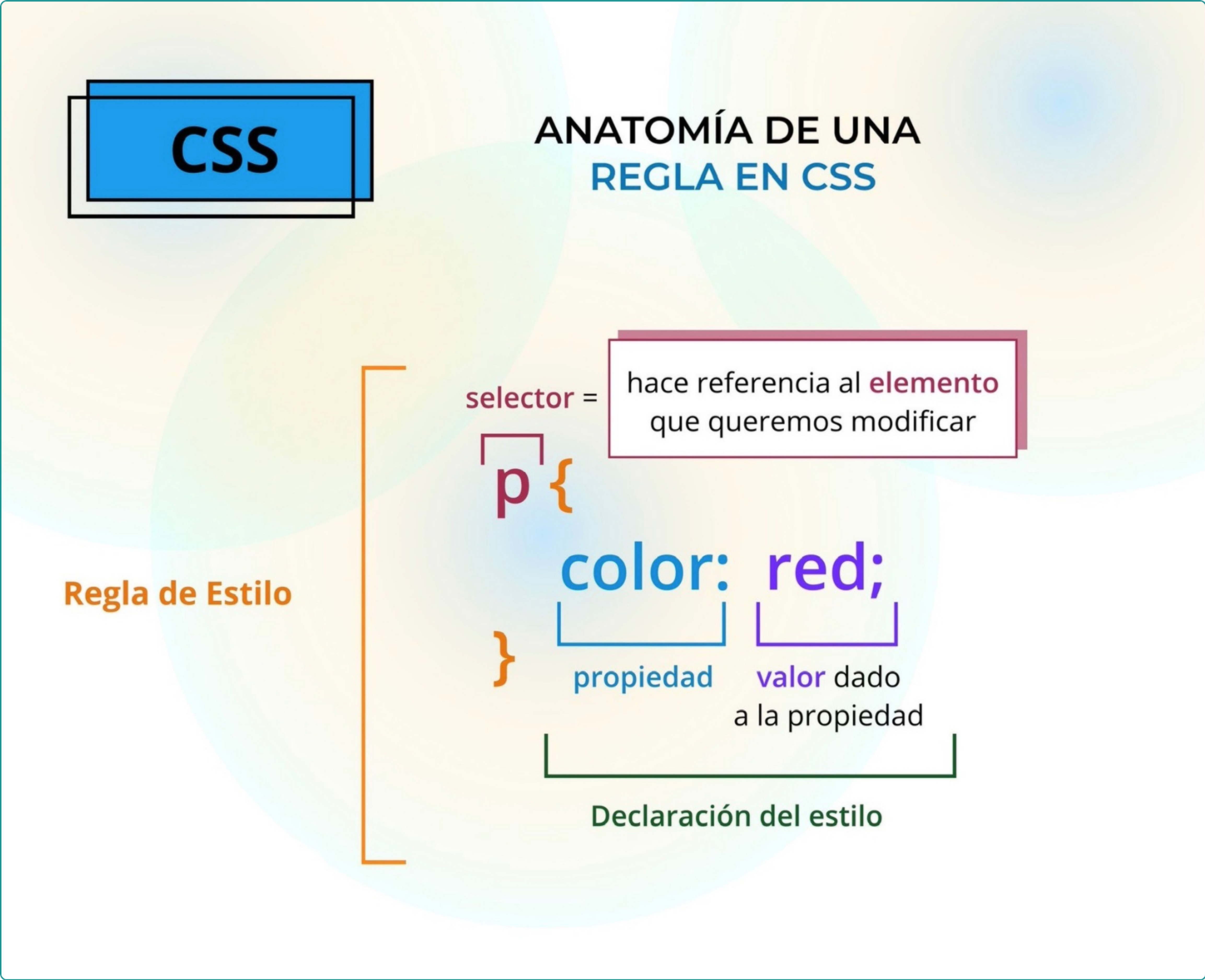
To select elements with a specific class, write a period (.) character, followed by the class name.

The CSS Universal Selector

The universal selector (*) selects all HTML elements on the page.

Use our [CSS Selector Tester](#) to demonstrate the different selectors.

CSS Syntax



All CSS Simple Selectors

Selector	Example	Example description
<u>#id</u>	#firstname	Selects the element with id="firstname"
<u>.class</u>	.intro	Selects all elements with class="intro"
<u>element.class</u>	p.intro	Selects only <p> elements with class="intro"
<u>*</u>	*	Selects all elements
<u>element</u>	p	Selects all <p> elements
<u>element,element,..</u>	div, p	Selects all <div> elements and all <p> elements