

CSS Pseudo-classes

A CSS pseudo-class is a keyword that can be added to a selector, to define a style for a special state of an element.

Some common use for pseudo-classes:

- Style an element when a user moves the mouse over it
- Style visited and unvisited links differently
- Style an element when it gets focus
- Style valid/invalid/required/optional form elements
- Style an element that is the first child of its parent

Syntax

Pseudo-classes are always denoted by a single colon (:) followed by the pseudo-class name:

```
selector:pseudo-class-name {  
    CSS properties  
}
```

Here we use the `:hover` pseudo-class and the `:focus` pseudo-class:

Mouse Over Me

Pseudo-classes Used on Links

For HTML links, it is common to use the following pseudo-classes:

- `:link` - Styles unvisited links
- `:visited` - Styles visited links
- `:hover` - Styles a link on mouse over
- `:active` - Styles an activated link

Example

Display links in different colors depending on state:

```
/* unvisited link */
a:link {
    color: #FF0000;
}

/* visited link */
a:visited {
    color: #00FF00;
}

/* mouse over link */
a:hover {
    color: #FF00FF;
}

/* selected link */
a:active {
    color: #0000FF;
}
```

:hover on <div>

Here is an example of using the [:hover](#) pseudo-class on a <div> element:

Example

```
div:hover {
    background-color: blue;
}
```

:focus on <input>

Here is an example of using the [:focus](#) pseudo-class to style an input field when it gets focus:

Example

```
input:focus {  
    background-color: yellow;  
}
```

Pseudo-classes and HTML Classes

Pseudo-classes can easily be combined with HTML classes:

Example

Add a :hover pseudo-class to the <a> element with class "highlight":

```
a.highlight:hover {  
    color: #ff0000;  
}
```

Simple Tooltip Hover

Hover over a <div> element to show a <p> element (like a tooltip):

Hover over me to show the <p> element.

Example

```
p {  
    display: none;  
    background-color: yellow;  
    padding: 20px;  
}
```

```
div:hover p {  
    display: block;  
}
```

CSS Pseudo-Elements

A CSS pseudo-element is a keyword that can be added to a selector, to style a specific part of an element.

Some common use for pseudo-elements:

- Style the first letter or first line, of an element
- Insert content before or after an element
- Style the markers of list items
- Style the user-selected portion of an element
- Style the viewBox behind a dialog box

Syntax

Pseudo-elements are denoted by a double colon (:) followed by the pseudo-element name:

```
selector::pseudo-element-name {  
    CSS properties  
}
```

The CSS ::first-line Pseudo-element

The ::first-line pseudo-element is used to add a special style to the first line of a text.

Example

Format the first line of text in all <p> elements:

```
p::first-line {  
    color: red;  
    font-variant: small-caps;  
    font-size: 19px;  
}
```

The CSS ::first-letter Pseudo-element

The ::first-letter pseudo-element is used to add a special style to the first letter of a text.

Example

Format the first letter of the text in all `<p>` elements:

```
p::first-letter {  
    color: red;  
    font-size: xx-large;  
}
```

The CSS ::before Pseudo-element

The ::before pseudo-element is used to insert some content before the content of a specified element.

Use the content property to specify the content to insert.

Example

Insert an image before the content of each `<h3>` element:

```
h3::before {  
    content: url(smiley.gif);  
}
```

The CSS ::after Pseudo-element

The ::after pseudo-element is used to insert some content after the content of a specified element.

Use the content property to specify the content to insert.

Example

Insert an image after the content of each `<h3>` element:

```
h3::after {  
    content: url(smiley.gif);  
}
```

The CSS ::marker Pseudo-element

The ::marker pseudo-element is used to style the list item markers.

Example

Style the markers of list items:

```
::marker {  
    color: red;  
    font-size: 23px;  
}
```

The CSS ::selection Pseudo-element

The ::selection pseudo-element is used to style the part of a text that is selected by a user.

Example

Style the user-selected text with a red color, and a yellow background:

```
::selection {  
    color: red;  
    background: yellow;  
}
```

The CSS ::backdrop Pseudo-element

The ::backdrop pseudo-element is used to style the viewBox behind a dialog box or popover element..

Example

Style the viewBox behind a dialog box:

```
dialog::backdrop {  
    background-color: lightgreen;  
}
```
