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Open Chrome DevTools



There are many ways to open Chrome DevTools. Choose your favorite way from this comprehensive reference.

You can access DevTools using Chrome UI or keyboard:

- From [drop-down menus in Chrome](#).
- With dedicated [shortcuts](#) that open **Elements**, **Console**, or the last panel you used.

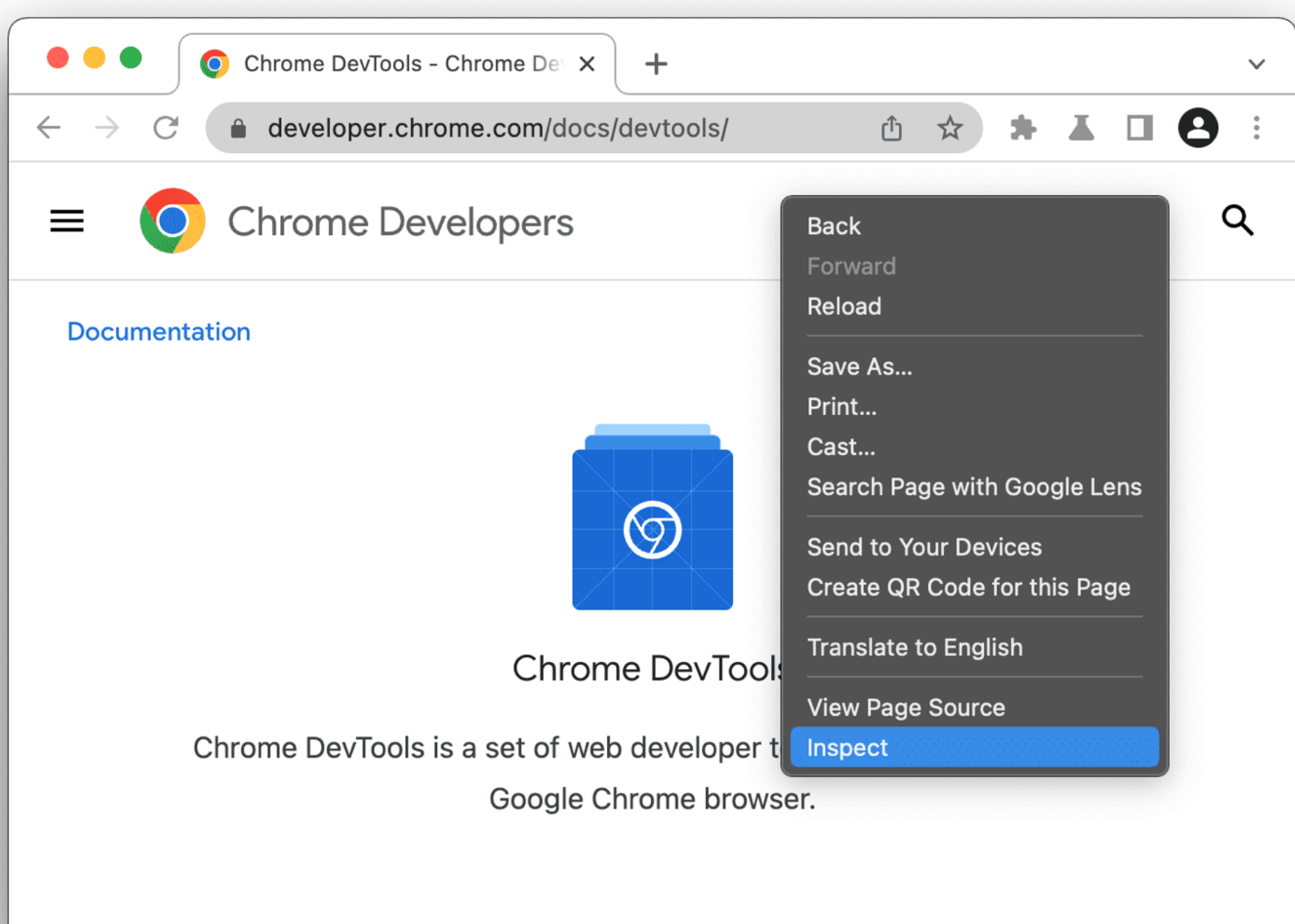
Additionally, learn how to [auto-open DevTools for every new tab](#).

Open DevTools from Chrome menus

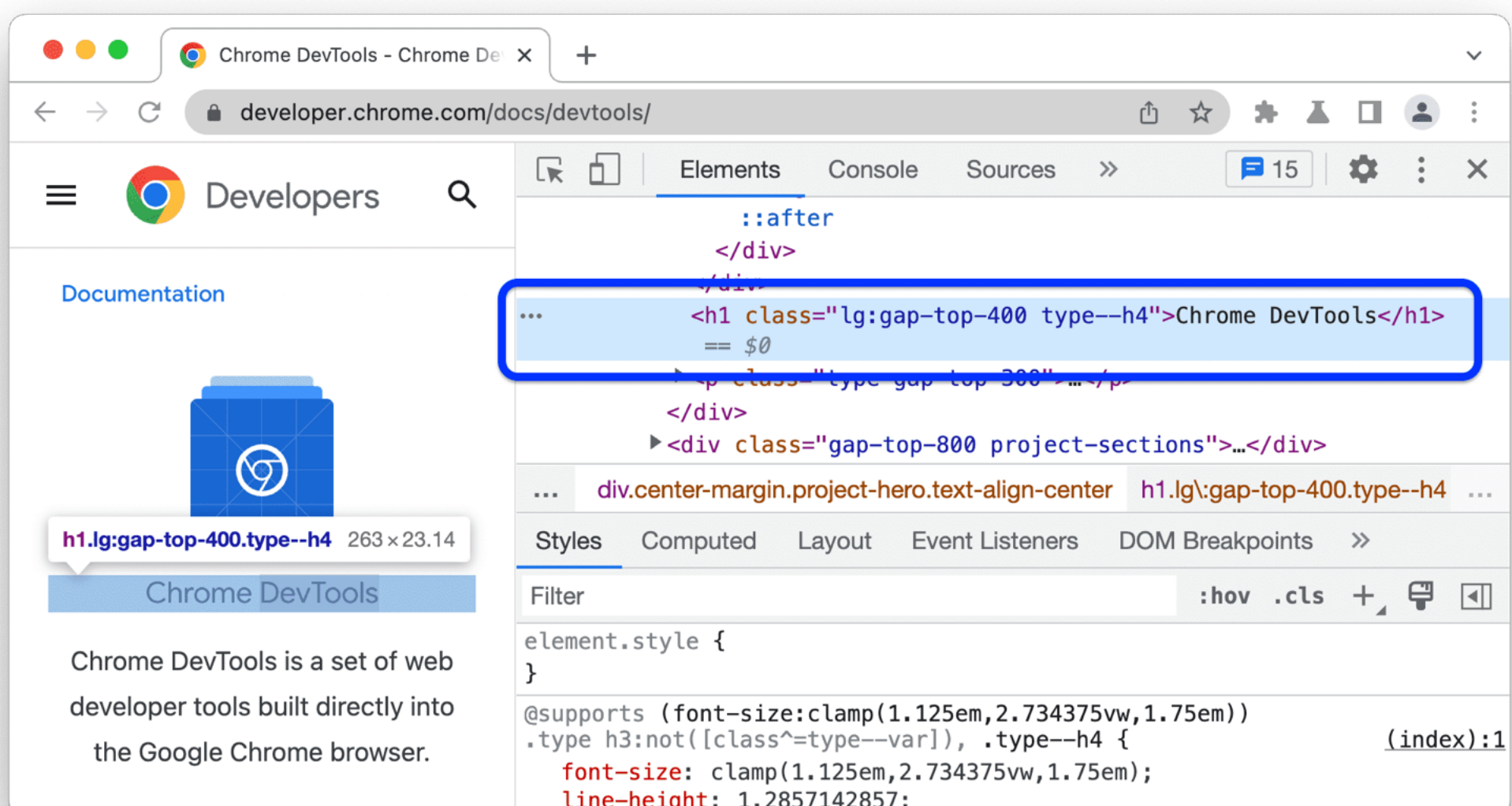
If you prefer UI, you can access DevTools from drop-down menus in Chrome.

Open the Elements panel to inspect the DOM or CSS

To inspect, right-click an element on a page and select **Inspect**.

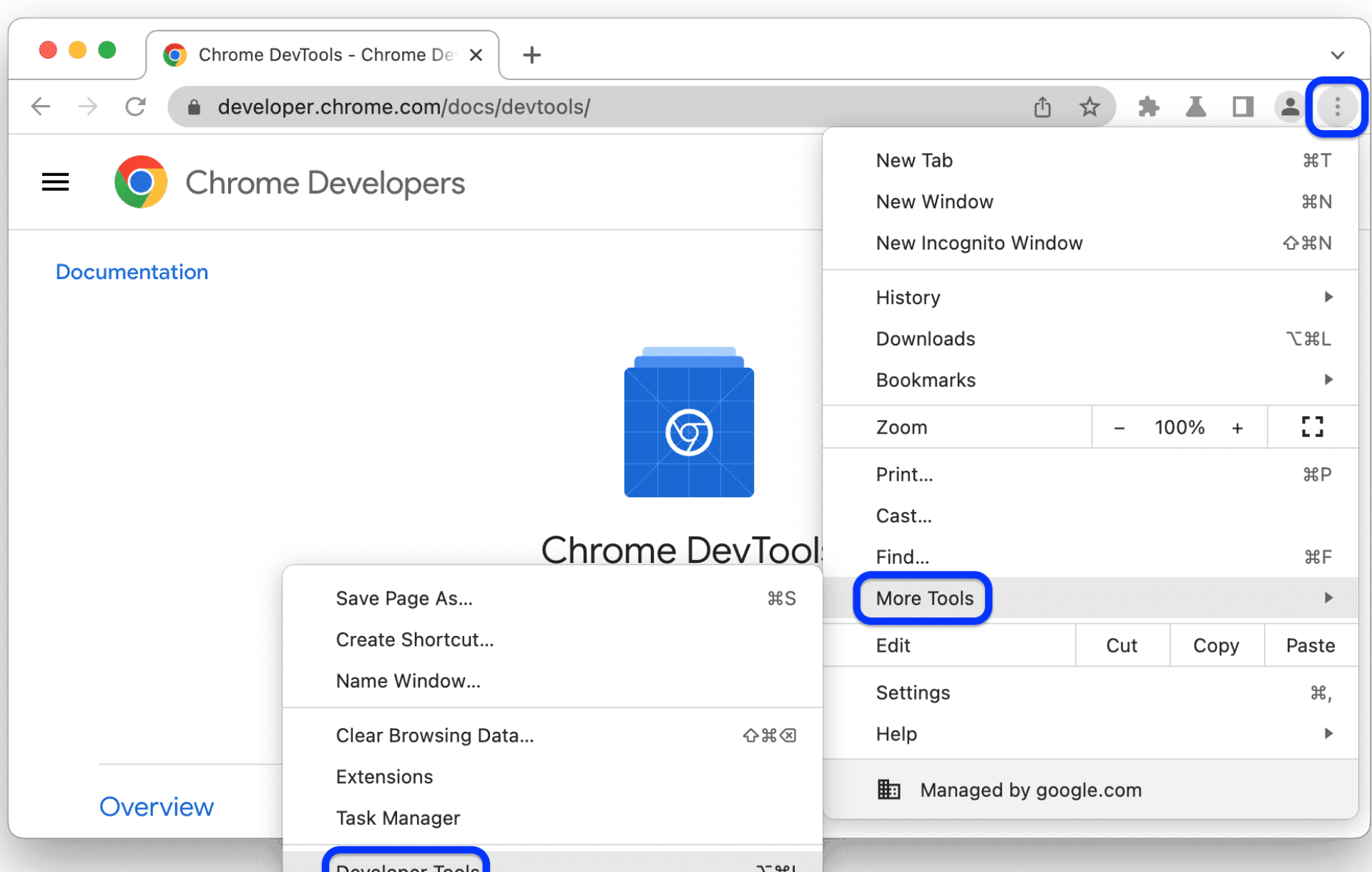


DevTools opens the **Elements** panel and selects the element in the DOM tree. In the **Styles** pane, you can see CSS rules applied to the selected element.



Open the last panel you used from Chrome's main menu

To open the last DevTools panel, click the **More Tools** button to the right of the address bar and select **More Tools > Developer Tools**.



Alternatively, you can open the last panel with a shortcut. See the next section to learn more.

Open panels with shortcuts: Elements, Console, or your last panel

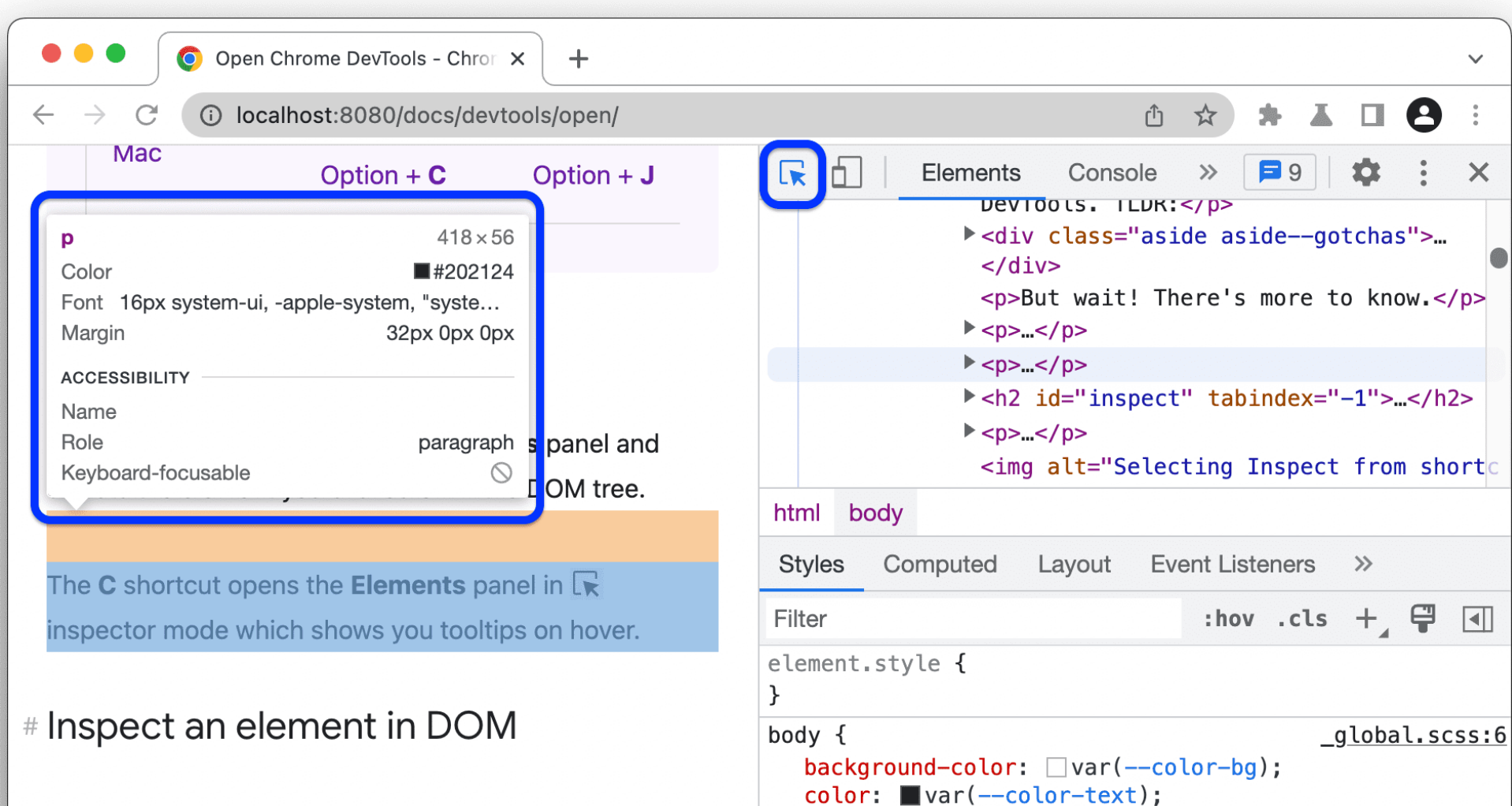
If you prefer keyboard, press a shortcut in Chrome depending on your operating system:

OS	Elements	Console	Your last panel
Windows or Linux	Ctrl + Shift + C	Ctrl + Shift + J	F12 Ctrl + Shift + I
Mac	Cmd + Option + C	Cmd + Option + J	Fn + F12 Cmd + Option + I

Here's an easy way to memorize the shortcuts:

- C** stands for CSS.
- J** for JavaScript.
- I** designates your choice.

The **C** shortcut opens the **Elements** panel in **Inspector** mode. This mode shows you helpful tooltips when you hover over elements on a page. You can also click any element to view its CSS in the **Elements > Styles** pane.



For the full list of DevTools shortcuts, see [Keyboard shortcuts](#).

Auto-open DevTools on every new tab

Run Chrome from the command line and pass the `--auto-open-devtools-for-tabs` flag:

- Quit any running Chrome instance.

Key point: This flag works only for the first Chrome instance you open. If it doesn't work for you, for example, on Windows, make sure to end any residing Chrome processes from the Task Manager.

- Run your favorite terminal or command line application.
- Depending on your operating system, run the following command:

• MacOS:

```
open -a "Google Chrome" --args --auto-open-devtools-for-tabs
```

• Windows:

```
start chrome --auto-open-devtools-for-tabs
```

• Linux:

```
google-chrome --auto-open-devtools-for-tabs
```

DevTools will automatically open for every new tab until you close Chrome.

What's next?

🎉 **Success:** Congratulations! You've successfully unlocked the power of Chrome DevTools.

Next, watch the following video to learn some useful shortcuts and settings for quicker DevTools navigation.



For a more hands-on learning experience, see [how to customize DevTools](#).

Was this helpful?👍🔗

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