

WDD 131

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CSS Concepts: Pseudo Selection


Overview

Pseudo-classes and pseudo-elements are used to abilities and/or content to some selectors. A pseudo-class is used to define a special state of an element. For example, it can be used to change the color of a button when the user hovers over it with their cursor. A pseudo-element is used to style specified parts of an element, like the first letter, or the first line of a paragraph.

You have been using a pseudo-class named **:hover** which can be used to select a button when a user's pointer hovers over the button.

Pseudo-classes

- Reference:  [Pseudo-classes](#) - MDN

- Reference:  [:root](#) - MDN

The **:root** CSS pseudo-class can be useful for declaring global [CSS variables](#) - MDN. What are the advantages of using CSS variables/custom properties?


► Check Your Understanding

- Open: [CSS Only Floated Labels](#) - CodePen by Nick Salloum Can you find all the instances of CSS pseudo-classes being used in this CodePen example?

► Check Your Understanding

A key design issue with color contrast is not accounting for the default settings of browsers, specifically for anchor tags link and visited properties. These can be adjusted with pseudo-classes.

Activity Instructions: Pseudo-classes

1. Fork (copy) this CodePen  [CSS Pseudo-classes Activity](#) to your own CodePen account.
2. In your copy on CodePen, add CSS pseudo-class rule(s) for the anchor tags to be **navy** for both **active** links and **visited** links.
3. Add a CSS pseudo-class rule for the anchor tags to change to **purple** for the **hover** effect on links.
4. Add CSS pseudo-class rule to provide borders for the **div.datatable** so that the borders of the **div.col** elements do not double up. (see the example screenshot below)
5. Make the last row of the data table have a darker gray background color by using the **:last-child** pseudo-class.
6. Set up a CSS variable for the border shorthand value in the **:root** pseudo-class as **1px solid #777**;

► Hints

Pseudo-class Fun

Anchor Tag: [The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](#)

1-1	1-2
2-1	2-2
3-1	3-2

The borders on this "table"'s cells (.col) should not double up on each other.

Screenshot of Pseudo-classes Activity CodePen

► Check Your Understanding - Example Solution


Pseudo-elements

- Reference:  [Pseudo-elements](#) - MDN

Most browsers will actually accept single colons versus double-colons. However, it is good practice to always use double colons **::** when selecting

pseudo-elements in CSS.

Activity Instructions

1. Fork this CodePen  [CSS Pseudo Elements](#) to your own CodePen account.
2. Add a **new CSS rule** for the list items in the ordered list that uses a marker pseudo element.
3. In this new rule, add **3 declarations** to change the ordered list's appearance:
 1. make the list item marker a checkmark using **content**
 2. make the marker **color** navy
 3. make the **font-size** 2rem

► Option: Using the Emoji Picker to get a checkmark symbol

► Check Your Understanding - Example Solution

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