

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)

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 |

All CSS Attribute Selectors

| Selector | Example | Example description |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>[attribute]</u> | [target] | Selects all elements with a target attribute |
| <u>[attribute=value]</u> | [target="_blank"] | Selects all elements with target="_blank" |
| <u>[attribute~=value]</u> | [title~="flower"] | Selects all elements with a title attribute that contains a space-separated list of words, one of which is "flower" |
| <u>[attribute =value]</u> | [lang="en"] | Selects all elements with a lang attribute value starting with "en" |
| <u>[attribute^=value]</u> | a[href^="https"] | Selects all <a> elements with a href attribute value starting with "https" |
| <u>[attribute\$=value]</u> | a[href\$=".pdf"] | Selects all <a> elements with a href attribute value ending with ".pdf" |
| <u>[attribute*=value]</u> | a[href*="w3schools"] | Selects all <a> elements with a href attribute value containing the substring "w3schools" |

All CSS Combinator Selectors

| Selector | Example | Example description |
|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>element element</u> | div p | Selects all <p> elements inside <div> elements |
| <u>element>element</u> | div > p | Selects all <p> elements where the parent is a <div> element |
| <u>element+element</u> | div + p | Selects the first <p> element that are placed immediately after <div> elements |
| <u>element1~element2</u> | p ~ ul | Selects every element that are preceded by a <p> element |

All CSS Pseudo Classes

| Selector | Example | Example description |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>:active</u> | a:active | Selects the active link |
| <u>:checked</u> | input:checked | Selects every checked <input> element |
| <u>:disabled</u> | input:disabled | Selects every disabled <input> element |
| <u>:empty</u> | p:empty | Selects every <p> element that has no children |
| <u>:enabled</u> | input:enabled | Selects every enabled <input> element |
| <u>:first-child</u> | p:first-child | Selects every <p> elements that is the first child of its parent |
| <u>:first-of-type</u> | p:first-of-type | Selects every <p> element that is the first <p> element of its parent |
| <u>:focus</u> | input:focus | Selects the <input> element that has focus |
| <u>:hover</u> | a:hover | Selects links on mouse over |
| <u>:link</u> | a:link | Selects all unvisited links |
| <u>:not(selector)</u> | :not(p) | Selects every element that is not a <p> element |
| <u>:nth-child(n)</u> | p:nth-child(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second child of its parent |
| <u>:nth-last-child(n)</u> | p:nth-last-child(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second child of its parent, counting from the last child |
| <u>:nth-last-of-type(n)</u> | p:nth-last-of-type(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second <p> element of its parent, counting from the last child |
| <u>:nth-of-type(n)</u> | p:nth-of-type(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second <p> element of its parent |
| <u>:only-of-type</u> | p:only-of-type | Selects every <p> element that is the only <p> element of its parent |
| <u>:only-child</u> | p:only-child | Selects every <p> element that is the only child of its parent |

All CSS Pseudo Elements

| Selector | Example | Example description |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>::after</u> | p::after | Insert something after the content of each <p> element |
| <u>::before</u> | p::before | Insert something before the content of each <p> element |
| <u>::first-letter</u> | p::first-letter | Selects the first letter of each <p> element |
| <u>::first-line</u> | p::first-line | Selects the first line of each <p> element |
| <u>::marker</u> | ::marker | Selects the markers of list items |
| <u>::selection</u> | p::selection | Selects the portion of an element that is selected by a user |