



CSS Selector Reference

[« Previous](#)[Next Reference »](#)

W3Schools' CSS reference is tested regularly with all major browsers.

CSS Selectors

In CSS, selectors are patterns used to select the element(s) you want to style.

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

The "CSS" column indicates in which CSS version the property is defined (CSS1, CSS2, or CSS3).

Selector	Example	Example description	CSS
<u>.class</u>	.intro	Selects all elements with class="intro"	1
<u>#id</u>	#firstname	Selects the element with id="firstname"	1
<u>*</u>	*	Selects all elements	2
<u>element</u>	p	Selects all <p> elements	1
<u>element,element</u>	div, p	Selects all <div> elements and all <p> elements	1
<u>element element</u>	div p	Selects all <p> elements inside <div> elements	1

<u><i>element>element</i></u>	div > p	Selects all <p> elements where the parent is a <div> element	2
<u><i>element+element</i></u>	div + p	Selects all <p> elements that are placed immediately after <div> elements	2
<u><i>element1~element2</i></u>	p ~ ul	Selects every element that are preceded by a <p> element	3
<u><i>[attribute]</i></u>	[target]	Selects all elements with a target attribute	2
<u><i>[attribute=value]</i></u>	[target=_blank]	Selects all elements with target="_blank"	2
<u><i>[attribute~=value]</i></u>	[title~=flower]	Selects all elements with a title attribute containing the word "flower"	2
<u><i>[attribute =value]</i></u>	[lang =en]	Selects all elements with a lang attribute value starting with "en"	2
<u><i>[attribute^=value]</i></u>	a[href^="https"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value begins with "https"	3
<u><i>[attribute\$=value]</i></u>	a[href\$=".pdf"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value ends with ".pdf"	3
<u><i>[attribute*=value]</i></u>	a[href*="w3schools"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value contains the substring "w3schools"	3
<u><i>:active</i></u>	a:active	Selects the active link	1
<u><i>::after</i></u>	p::after	Insert something after the content of each <p> element	2
<u><i>::before</i></u>	p::before	Insert something before the content of each <p> element	2
<u><i>:checked</i></u>	input:checked	Selects every checked <input> element	3
<u><i>:disabled</i></u>	input:disabled	Selects every disabled <input> element	3
<u><i>:empty</i></u>	p:empty	Selects every <p> element that has no children (including text	3

		nodes)	
<u>:enabled</u>	input:enabled	Selects every enabled <input> element	3
<u>:first-child</u>	p:first-child	Selects every <p> element that is the first child of its parent	2
<u>::first-letter</u>	p::first-letter	Selects the first letter of every <p> element	1
<u>::first-line</u>	p::first-line	Selects the first line of every <p> element	1
<u>:first-of-type</u>	p:first-of-type	Selects every <p> element that is the first <p> element of its parent	3
<u>:focus</u>	input:focus	Selects the input element which has focus	2
<u>:hover</u>	a:hover	Selects links on mouse over	1
<u>:in-range</u>	input:in-range	Selects input elements with a value within a specified range	3
<u>:invalid</u>	input:invalid	Selects all input elements with an invalid value	3
<u>:lang(<i>language</i>)</u>	p:lang(it)	Selects every <p> element with a lang attribute equal to "it" (Italian)	2
<u>:last-child</u>	p:last-child	Selects every <p> element that is the last child of its parent	3
<u>:last-of-type</u>	p:last-of-type	Selects every <p> element that is the last <p> element of its parent	3
<u>:link</u>	a:link	Selects all unvisited links	1
<u>:not(<i>selector</i>)</u>	:not(p)	Selects every element that is not a <p> element	3
<u>:nth-child(<i>n</i>)</u>	p:nth-child(2)	Selects every <p> element that is the second child of its parent	3
<u>:nth-last-child(<i>n</i>)</u>	p:nth-last-child(2)	Selects every <p> element that is the second child of its parent, counting from the last child	3
<u>:nth-last-of-type(<i>n</i>)</u>	p:nth-last-of-type(2)	Selects every <p> element that is the second <p> element of its	3

		parent, counting from the last child	
<u>:nth-of-type(<i>n</i>)</u>	p:nth-of-type(2)	Selects every <p> element that is the second <p> element of its parent	3
<u>:only-of-type</u>	p:only-of-type	Selects every <p> element that is the only <p> element of its parent	3
<u>:only-child</u>	p:only-child	Selects every <p> element that is the only child of its parent	3
<u>:optional</u>	input:optional	Selects input elements with no "required" attribute	3
<u>:out-of-range</u>	input:out-of-range	Selects input elements with a value outside a specified range	3
<u>:read-only</u>	input:read-only	Selects input elements with the "readonly" attribute specified	3
<u>:read-write</u>	input:read-write	Selects input elements with the "readonly" attribute NOT specified	3
<u>:required</u>	input:required	Selects input elements with the "required" attribute specified	3
<u>:root</u>	:root	Selects the document's root element	3
<u>::selection</u>	::selection	Selects the portion of an element that is selected by a user	
<u>:target</u>	#news:target	Selects the current active #news element (clicked on a URL containing that anchor name)	3
<u>:valid</u>	input:valid	Selects all input elements with a valid value	3
<u>:visited</u>	a:visited	Selects all visited links	1

[<< Previous](#)
[Next Reference >>](#)

COLOR PICKER



LEARN MORE

HTML Cards
Google Maps
Animated Buttons
Modal Boxes
Modal Images
Tooltips
Loaders
Filter List
JS Animations

Progress Bars

Dropdowns

Slideshow

Accordions

Side Navigation

Top Navigation

HTML Includes

Tabs

SHARE



CERTIFICATES

HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, jQuery, Bootstrap and XML.

Read More »

[REPORT ERROR](#)
[PRINT PAGE](#)
[FORUM](#)
[ABOUT](#)

Top 10 Tutorials

[HTML Tutorial](#)
[CSS Tutorial](#)
[JavaScript Tutorial](#)
[W3.CSS Tutorial](#)
[Bootstrap Tutorial](#)
[SQL Tutorial](#)
[PHP Tutorial](#)
[jQuery Tutorial](#)
[Angular Tutorial](#)
[XML Tutorial](#)

Top 10 References

[HTML Reference](#)
[CSS Reference](#)
[JavaScript Reference](#)
[W3.CSS Reference](#)
[Browser Statistics](#)
[PHP Reference](#)
[HTML Colors](#)
[HTML Character Sets](#)
[jQuery Reference](#)
[AngularJS Reference](#)

Top 10 Examples

[HTML Examples](#)
[CSS Examples](#)
[JavaScript Examples](#)
[W3.CSS Examples](#)
[HTML DOM Examples](#)
[PHP Examples](#)

[ASP Examples](#)
[jQuery Examples](#)
[Angular Examples](#)
[XML Examples](#)

Web Certificates

[HTML Certificate](#)
[HTML5 Certificate](#)
[CSS Certificate](#)
[JavaScript Certificate](#)
[jQuery Certificate](#)
[PHP Certificate](#)
[Bootstrap Certificate](#)
[XML Certificate](#)

W3Schools is optimized for learning, testing, and training. Examples might be simplified to improve reading and basic understanding. Tutorials, references, and examples are constantly reviewed to avoid errors, but we cannot warrant full correctness of all content. While using this site, you agree to have read and accepted our terms of use, cookie and privacy policy. Copyright 1999-2016 by Refsnes Data. All Rights Reserved.

Powered by W3.CSS.

