

# Xpath cheatsheet

## Xpath test bed

## Browser cons

Test queries in the Xpath test bed:

`$x("//div")`

### Xpath test bed

(whitebeam.org)

Works in Firefo

## Selectors

### Descendant selectors

### Attribute sele

h1	//h1	#id
div p	//div//p	.class
ul > li	//ul/li	input[type="
ul > li > a	//ul/li/a	a#abc[for="x
div > *	//div/*	a[rel]
:root	/	a[href^='/']
:root > body	/body	a[href\$='pdf']
		a[href*='://']
		a[rel~='help']
		?

### Order selectors

<code>ul &gt; li:first-child</code>	<code>//ul/li[1]</code>	Siblings
<code>ul &gt; li:nth-child(2)</code>	<code>//ul/li[2]</code>	<code>h1 ~ ul</code>
<code>ul &gt; li:last-child</code>	<code>//ul/li[last()]</code>	<code>h1 + ul</code>
<code>li#id:first-child</code>	<code>//li[@id="id"][1]</code>	<code>h1 ~ #id</code>
<code>a:first-child</code>	<code>//a[1]</code>	
<code>a:last-child</code>	<code>//a[last()]</code>	jQuery

## Other things

	<code>\$('ul &gt; li')</code>	
<code>h1:not([id])</code>	<code>//h1[not(@id)]</code>	? os
Text match	<code>//button[text()="Submit"]</code>	? r(
Text match (substring)	<code>//button[contains(text(),"Go")]</code>	te
Arithmetic	<code>//product[@price &gt; 2.50]</code>	
Has children	<code>//ul[*]</code>	Class check
Has children (specific)	<code>//ul[li]</code>	<code>//div[contai</code>
Or logic	<code>//a[@name or @href]</code>	Xpath doesn't h
Union (joins results)	<code>//a   //div</code>	?

## Expressions

Steps and axes				Prefixes
<code>//</code>	<code>ul</code>	<code>/</code>	<code>a[@id='link']</code>	Prefix
Axis	Step	Axis	Step	<code>//</code>
Axes				<code>.</code>
Axis	Example			<code>/</code>
				What
				xp

Axis	Example	What
/	//ul/li/a	Steps Child
//	//[@id="list"]//a	//div //div[@name= //[@id='link'
Separate your steps with /. Use two (//) if you don't want to select direct children.		A step may have other things:  //a/text() //a/@href //a/*

## ⊜ Predicates

Predicates	Operators
<pre>//div[true()] //div[@class="head"] //div[@class="head"][@id="top"]</pre>	<pre># Comparison //a[@id = "x" //a[@id != "y" //a[@price &gt;</pre>

Restricts a nodeset only if some condition is true. They can be chained.

## Using nodes

<pre># Use them inside functions //ul[count(li) &gt; 2] //ul[count(li[@class='hide']) &gt; 0]</pre>	<pre># Logic (and //div[@id="h"] //div[(x and</pre>
<pre># This returns `&lt;ul&gt;` that has a `&lt;li&gt;` child //ul[li]</pre>	<pre>Indexing //a[1] //a[last()] //ol/li[2] //ol/li[posi //ol/li[posi</pre>
You can use nodes inside predicates.	

## Chaining order

```
a[1][@href='/']
a[@href='/'][1]
```

Order is significant, these two are different.

Use [] with a r

Nesting pred

//section[./

This returns <se

## Functions

### Node functions

```
name()          # //*[starts-with(name(), 'h')]
text()          # //button[text()="Submit"]
                # //button/text()
lang(str)
namespace-uri()
```

```
count()         # //table[count(tr)=1]
position()      # //ol/li[position()=2]
```

Boolean func

not(expr)

String functic

contains()  
starts-with()  
ends-with()

### Type conversion

```
string()
number()
boolean()
```

concat(x,y)
substring(st

be  
af  
)  
sp  
gt

## Axes

### Using axes

Child axis

```
//ul/li          # ul > li
//ul/child::li    # ul > li (same)
//ul/following-sibling::li # ul ~ li
//ul/descendant-or-self::li # ul li
//ul/ancestor-or-self::li # $('ul').closest('li')
```

# both the s  
//ul/li/a  
//child::ul/

child:: is the

Steps of an expression are separated by /, usually used to pick child nodes. That's not always true: specify a different "axis" with ::.

//	ul	/child::	li
Axis	Step	Axis	Step

## Descendant-or-self axis

```
# both the same
//div//h4
//div/descendant-or-self::h4
```

## Other axes

// is short for the descendant-or-self:: axis.

```
# both the same
//ul//last()
//ul/descendant-or-self::last()
```

Axis  
ancestor  
ancestor-or-self  
attribute  
child  
descendant  
descendant-or-self  
following  
preceding

## Unions

```
//a | //span
```

Use | to join two expressions.

-0  
parent  
following  
following-sibling  
preceding  
preceding-sibling

There are other

## More examples

### Examples

```

//*                      # all elements
count(//*[1])          # count all elements
//h1[1]/text()           # text of the first h1 heading
//li[span]                # find a <li> with an <span> inside it
                           # ...expands to //li[child::span]
//ul/li/...               # use .. to select a parent

```

### Find a parent

//section[h1]

Finds a <secti

//section[//

Finds a <secti  
child)

### Closest

```
./ancestor-or-self::[@class="box"]
```

### Attributes

Works like jQuery's `$( '.box' ).closest( '.box' )`.

//item[@pric

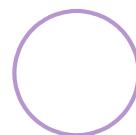
Finds <item> a

## References

[Xpath test bed](#) (whitebeam.org)

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