



# Playing with link styles

First we had links that were underlined, next we had links and the capability to underline text with the u element.

Then we wanted more control of what we could do with underlines so we moved to using border-bottom for our underlining playground because it gave us more flexibility than what the native underlining tools gave us at the time.

But now Firefox has introduced new text-decoration and text-underline rules that make it easier to customize our underlines to do what we want to do.

**As far as I know and tested, text-decoration-thickness and text-underline-offset are Firefox only for now.**

```
a {  
  text-decoration-thickness: 3px; // 1  
  text-underline-offset: 6px; // 2  
  color: #ff2908; // 3  
  text-decoration-color: rebeccapurple; // 4  
  text-decoration-skip-ink: auto; // 5  
  text-decoration-style: solid; // 6  
}
```

The idea is that we can declare rules to better control underlines and it's characteristics. The rules do the following:

1. [text-decoration-thickness](#) sets the thickness of the underline
2. [text-underline-offset](#) sets the offset distance of an underline line from its original position
3. color determines the color of the link
4. [text-decoration-color](#) sets the color of decorations
5. [text-decoration-skip-ink](#) controls the behavior of underline and overline (but not line-through) when the line passes above the top or hang below the bottom of a line.
6. [text-decoration-style](#) indicates what type of line to use in the underline

I don't think we need to wrap this in a feature query since the browsers that don't understand thickness and offset will ignore them but keep the ones it

understands. So now we have a way to progressively enhance the way our underlined elements look without resorting to hacks.