

CSS Selector Reference

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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.

Selector	Example	Example description
<u>.class</u>	.intro	Selects all elements with class="intro"
.class1.class2	.name1.name2	Selects all elements with both <i>name1</i> and <i>name2</i> set within its class attribute
.class1 .class2	.name1 .name2	Selects all elements with <i>name2</i> that is a descendant of an element with <i>name1</i>
<u>#id</u>	#firstname	Selects the element with id="firstname"
*	*	Selects all elements
<u>element</u>	p	Selects all <p> elements
<u>element.class</u>	p.intro	Selects all <p> elements with class="intro"



<u><i>element element</i></u>	div p	Selects all <p> elements inside <div> elements
<u><i>element>element</i></u>	div > p	Selects all <p> elements where the parent is a <div> element
<u><i>element+element</i></u>	div + p	Selects the first <p> element that is placed immediately after <div> elements
<u><i>element1~element2</i></u>	p ~ ul	Selects every element that is preceded by a <p> element
[<u><i>attribute</i></u>]	[target]	Selects all elements with a target attribute
[<u><i>attribute=value</i></u>]	[target=_blank]	Selects all elements with target="_blank"
[<u><i>attribute~=value</i></u>]	[title~=flower]	Selects all elements with a title attribute containing the word "flower"
[<u><i>attribute =value</i></u>]	[lang =en]	Selects all elements with a lang attribute value equal to "en" or starting with "en-"
[<u><i>attribute^=value</i></u>]	a[href^="https"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value begins with "https"
[<u><i>attribute\$=value</i></u>]	a[href\$=".pdf"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value ends with ".pdf"
[<u><i>attribute*=value</i></u>]	a[href*="w3schools"]	Selects every <a> element whose href attribute value contains the substring "w3schools"
<u><i>:active</i></u>	a:active	Selects the active link
<u><i>::after</i></u>	p::after	Insert something after the content of each <p> element
<u><i>::before</i></u>	p::before	Insert something before the content of each <p> element
<u><i>:checked</i></u>	input:checked	Selects every checked



<u>:default</u>	input:default	Selects the default <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 (including text nodes)
<u>:enabled</u>	input:enabled	Selects every enabled <input> element
<u>:first-child</u>	p:first-child	Selects every <p> element that is the first child of its parent
<u>::first-letter</u>	p::first-letter	Selects the first letter of every <p> element
<u>::first-line</u>	p::first-line	Selects the first line of every <p> element
<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 which has focus
<u>:fullscreen</u>	:fullscreen	Selects the element that is in full-screen mode
<u>:hover</u>	a:hover	Selects links on mouse over
<u>:in-range</u>	input:in-range	Selects input elements with a value within a specified range
<u>:indeterminate</u>	input:indeterminate	Selects input elements that are in an indeterminate state
<u>:invalid</u>	input:invalid	Selects all input elements with an invalid value
<u>:lang(<i>language</i>)</u>	p:lang(it)	Selects every <p> element with a lang attribute equal to "it" (Italian)
<u>:last-child</u>	p:last-child	Selects every <p> element that is the last child of its parent
<u>:last-of-type</u>	p:last-of-type	Selects every <p> €



<u>:link</u>	a:link	Selects all unvisited links
<u>::marker</u>	::marker	Selects the markers of list items
<u>:not(<i>selector</i>)</u>	:not(p)	Selects every element that is not a <p> element
<u>:nth-child(<i>n</i>)</u>	p:nth-child(2)	Selects every <p> element that is the second child of its parent
<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
<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 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
<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
<u>:optional</u>	input:optional	Selects input elements with no "required" attribute
<u>:out-of-range</u>	input:out-of-range	Selects input elements with a value outside a specified range
<u>::placeholder</u>	input::placeholder	Selects input elements with the "placeholder" attribute specified
<u>:read-only</u>	input:read-only	Selects input elements with the "readonly" attribute specified
<u>:read-write</u>	input:read-write	Selects input elements with the "readonly" attribute NOT specified
<u>:required</u>	input:required	Selects input elements with the "required" attribute specified
<u>:root</u>	:root	Selects the document's root element

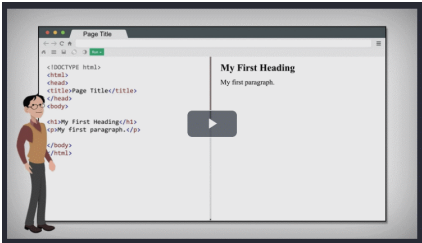
		that is selected by a user
<code>:target</code>	<code>#news:target</code>	Selects the current active #news element (clicked on a URL containing that anchor name)
<code>:valid</code>	<code>input:valid</code>	Selects all input elements with a valid value
<code>:visited</code>	<code>a:visited</code>	Selects all visited links

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