<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/Pseudo-classes>

A CSS ***pseudo-class*** is a keyword added to a selector that specifies a special state of the selected element(s). For example, [:hover](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/:hover) can be used to change a button's color when the user hovers over it.

div:hover {

background-color: #F89B4D;

}

Pseudo-classes let you apply a style to an element not only in relation to the content of the document tree, but also in relation to external factors like the history of the navigator ([:visited](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/:visited), for example), the status of its content (like [:checked](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/:checked) on certain form elements), or the position of the mouse (like [:hover](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/:hover), which lets you know if the mouse is over an element or not).

**Note:** In contrast to pseudo-classes, [pseudo-elements](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/pseudo-elements) can be used to style a *specific part* of an element.

**Syntax**

selector:pseudo-class {

property: value;

}

Like regular classes, you can chain together as many pseudo-classes as you want in a selector.

A CSS **pseudo-element** is a keyword added to a selector that lets you style a specific part of the selected element(s). For example, [::first-line](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/::first-line) can be used to change the font of the first line of a paragraph.

/\* The first line of every <p> element. \*/

p::first-line {

color: blue;

text-transform: uppercase;

}

**Note:** In contrast to pseudo-elements, [pseudo-classes](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/pseudo-classes) can be used to style an element based on its state.

## Syntax

selector::pseudo-element {

property: value;

}

You can use only one pseudo-element in a selector. It must appear after the simple selectors in the statement.

**Note:** As a rule, double colons (::) should be used instead of a single colon (:). This distinguishes pseudo-classes from pseudo-elements. However, since this distinction was not present in older versions of the W3C spec, most browsers support both syntaxes for the original pseudo-elements.

In CSS, **::before** creates a [pseudo-element](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/Pseudo-elements) that is the first child of the selected element. It is often used to add cosmetic content to an element with the [content](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/content) property. It is inline by default.

/\* Add a heart before links \*/

a::before {

content: "♥";