CSS > CSS reference English (US)

CSS reference

Use this **CSS reference** to browse an alphabetical index of all of the standard CSS properties, pseudo-classes, pseudo-elements, data types, functional notations and at-rules. You can also browse key CSS concepts and a list of selectors organized by type. Also included is a brief DOM-CSS / CSSOM reference.

Basic rule syntax

Style rule syntax

```
style-rule ::=
    selectors-list {
      properties-list
    }
```

Where:

```
selectors-list ::=
    selector[:pseudo-class] [::pseudo-element]
    [, selectors-list]

properties-list ::=
    [property : value] [; properties-list]
```

See the index of *selectors*, *pseudo-classes*, and *pseudo-elements* below. The syntax for each specified *value* depends on the data type defined for each specified *property*.

STYLE RULE EXAMPLES

CSS

```css
strong {
  color: red;
}

div.menu-bar li:hover > ul {
  display: block;
}
```

For a beginner-level introduction to the syntax of selectors, see our guide on CSS Selectors. Be aware that any syntax error in a rule definition invalidates the entire rule. Invalid rules are ignored by the browser. Note that CSS rule definitions are entirely (Unicode) text-based, whereas DOM-CSS / CSSOM (the rule management system) is object-based.

At-rule syntax

As the structure of at-rules varies widely, please see At-rule to find the syntax of the specific one you want.

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Note: This index does not include SVG-exclusive presentation attributes, which can be used as CSS properties on SVG elements.

Note: The property names in this index do **not** include the JavaScript names which do differ from the CSS standard names.

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Selectors

The following are the various selectors, which allow styles to be conditional based on various features of elements within the DOM.

Basic selectors

Basic selectors are fundamental selectors; these are the most basic selectors that are frequently combined to create other, more complex selectors.

- Universal selector `*`
- Type selector `elementname`
- Class selector `.classname`
- ID selector `#idname`
- Attribute selector `[attr=value]`

Grouping selectors

Selector list `A, B`

Specifies that both `A` and `B` elements are selected. This is a grouping method to select several matching elements.

Combinators

Combinators are selectors that establish a relationship between two or more simple selectors, such as "`A` is a child of `B`" or "`A` is adjacent to `B`", creating a complex selector.

Next-sibling combinator `A + B`

Specifies that the elements selected by both `A` and `B` have the same parent and that the element selected by `B` immediately follows the element selected by `A` horizontally.

Subsequent-sibling combinator `A ~ B`

Specifies that the elements selected by both `A` and `B` share the same parent and that the element selected by `A` comes before—but not necessarily immediately before—the element selected by `B`.

Child combinator `A > B`

Specifies that the element selected by `B` is the direct child of the element selected by `A`.

Descendant combinator `A B`

Specifies that the element selected by `B` is a descendant of the element selected by `A`, but is not necessarily a direct child.

Column combinator `A || B` ⚗

Specifies that the element selected by `B` is located within the table column specified by `A`. Elements which span multiple columns are considered to be a member of all of those columns.

Pseudo

Pseudo classes `:`

Specifies a special state of the selected element(s).

Pseudo elements `::`

Represents entities that are not included in HTML.

> See also selectors in the Selectors specification ↗ and the pseudo-element specification ↗.

Concepts

Syntax and semantics

- CSS syntax
- At-rules
- Cascade
- Comments
- Descriptor
- Inheritance
- Shorthand properties
- Specificity
- Value definition syntax
- CSS values and units
- CSS functional notations

Values

- Actual value
- Computed value
- Initial value
- Resolved value
- Specified value
- Used value

Layout

- Block formatting context
- Box model
- Containing block
- Layout mode
- Margin collapsing
- Replaced elements
- Stacking context
- Visual formatting model

DOM-CSS / CSSOM

Major object types

- `Document.styleSheets`
- `HTMLElement.style`
- `Element.className`
- `Element.classList`
- `StyleSheetList`
- `CSSRuleList`
- `CSSRule`
- `CSSStyleRule`
- `CSSStyleDeclaration`

Important methods

- `CSSStyleSheet.insertRule()`
- `CSSStyleSheet.deleteRule()`

See also

- Mozilla CSS extensions (prefixed with `-moz-`)
- WebKit CSS extensions (mostly prefixed with `-webkit-`)

External Links

- CSS Indices (w3.org)