

HIERARCHY OF LOCATORS

ID

Best practices suggest that you should use ID whenever possible. It is the best locator because it is unique and fast. The way to search for an ID in HTML is very optimized by many browsers.



NAME



In second place is the name locator. Please note that it will not be unique every time. If several elements are found using the name locator, Selenium will always perform an action on the first matching element.

CSS Selector

Compared to XPath, its strengths are its speed and simpler construction. CSS selector is also cross-browser compatible. This is very useful when you want to test your browser application on multiple browsers, as the CSS engine is consistent across all browsers.



Xpath



This is the slowest option for locating elements. Each browser may behave differently for the same XPath expressions. The big advantage of XPath is that it provides many possibilities for locating elements.

linkText

The last is LinkText. This locator locates the element by its text. Which can change. Especially this locator can be a problem when the website supports multiple language versions.

