

# CSS Selectors

In CSS, selectors are patterns used to select DOM elements.

Here is an example of using selectors. In the following code, `a` and `h1` are selectors:

```
a {  
  color: black;  
}  
  
h1 {  
  font-size 24px;  
}
```

## Cheat list of selectors

Selector	Selects
head	selects the element with the head tag
.red	selects all elements with the 'red' class
#nav	selects the elements with the 'nav' Id
div.row	selects all elements with the div tag and the 'row' class
[aria-hidden="true"]	selects all elements with the aria-hidden attribute with a value of "true"
*	Wildcard selector. Selects all DOM elements. See below for using it with other selectors

We can combine selectors in interesting ways. Some examples:

Selectors	Selects
li a	DOM descendant combinator. All <code>a</code> tags that are a child of <code>li</code> tags
div.row *	selects all elements that are descendant (or child) of the elements with <code>div</code> tag and 'row' class
li > a	Difference combinator. Select direct descendants, instead of all descendants like the descendant selectors
li + a	The adjacent combinator. It selects the element that is immediately preceded by the former element. In this case, only the first <code>a</code> after each <code>li</code> .
li, a	Selects all <code>a</code> elements and all <code>li</code> elements.

## Selectors    Selects

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<code>li ~ a</code>	The sibling combinator. Selects <code>a</code> element following a <code>li</code> element.
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Pseudo-selectors or pseudo structural classes are also useful for selecting structural elements from the DOM. Here are some of them:

## Selectors    Selects

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<code>:first-child</code>	Target the first element immediately inside (or child of) another element
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<code>:last-child</code>	Target the last element immediately inside (or child of) another element
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<code>:nth-child()</code>	Target the <code>nth</code> element immediately inside (or child of) another element. Admits integers, even, odd, or formulas
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<code>a:not(.name)</code>	Selects all <code>a</code> elements that are not of the <code>.name</code> class
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<code>::after</code>	Allows inserting content onto a page from CSS, instead of HTML. While the end result is not actually in the DOM, it appears on the page as if it is. This content loads after HTML elements.
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<code>::before</code>	Allows inserting content onto a page from CSS, instead of HTML. While the end result is not actually in the DOM, it appears on the page as if it is. This content loads before HTML elements.
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We can use pseudo-classes to define a special state of an element of the DOM but don't point to an element by themselves. Some examples:

## Pseudo-class    Selects

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<code>:hover</code>	selects an element that is being hovered by a mouse pointer
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<code>:focus</code>	selects an element receiving focus from the keyboard or programmatically
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<code>:active</code>	selects an element being clicked by a mouse pointer
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<code>:link</code>	selects all links that have not been clicked yet
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<code>:visited</code>	selects a link that has already been clicked
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