**CSS Selectors**

In CSS, selectors are patterns used to select the element(s) you want to style.

The "CSS" column indicates in which CSS version the property is defined (CSS1, CSS2, or CSS3).

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Selector** | **Example** | **Example description** | **CSS** |
| [.*class*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_class.asp) | .intro | Selects all elements with class="intro" | 1 |
| [#*id*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_id.asp) | #firstname | Selects the element with id="firstname" | 1 |
| [\*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_all.asp) | \* | Selects all elements | 2 |
| [*element*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_element.asp) | p | Selects all <p> elements | 1 |
| [*element,element*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_element_comma.asp) | div,p | Selects all <div> elements and all <p> elements | 1 |
| [*element* *element*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_element_element.asp) | div p | Selects all <p> elements inside <div> elements | 1 |
| [*element*>*element*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_element_gt.asp) | div>p | Selects all <p> elements where the parent is a <div> element | 2 |
| [*element*+*element*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_element_pluss.asp) | div+p | Selects all <p> elements that are placed immediately after <div> elements | 2 |
| [[*attribute*]](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_attribute.asp) | [target] | Selects all elements with a target attribute | 2 |
| [[*attribute*=*value*]](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_attribute_value.asp) | [target=\_blank] | Selects all elements with target="\_blank" | 2 |
| [[*attribute*~=*value*]](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_attribute_value_contains.asp) | [title~=flower] | Selects all elements with a title attribute containing the word "flower" | 2 |
| [[*attribute*|=*value*]](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_attribute_value_lang.asp) | [lang|=en] | Selects all elements with a lang attribute value starting with "en" | 2 |
| [:link](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_link.asp) | a:link | Selects all unvisited links | 1 |
| [:visited](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_visited.asp) | a:visited | Selects all visited links | 1 |
| [:active](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_active.asp) | a:active | Selects the active link | 1 |
| [:hover](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_hover.asp) | a:hover | Selects links on mouse over | 1 |
| [:focus](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_focus.asp) | input:focus | Selects the input element which has focus | 2 |
| [:first-letter](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_firstletter.asp) | p:first-letter | Selects the first letter of every <p> element | 1 |
| [:first-line](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_firstline.asp) | p:first-line | Selects the first line of every <p> element | 1 |
| [:first-child](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_firstchild.asp) | p:first-child | Selects every <p> element that is the first child of its parent | 2 |
| [:before](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_before.asp) | p:before | Insert content before  the content of every <p> element | 2 |
| [:after](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_after.asp) | p:after | Insert content after every <p> element | 2 |
| [:lang(*language*)](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_lang.asp) | p:lang(it) | Selects every <p> element with a lang attribute value starting with "it" | 2 |
| [*element1*~*element2*](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_gen_sibling.asp) | p~ul | Selects every <ul> element that are preceded by a <p> element | 3 |
| [[*attribute*^=*value*]](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_attr_begin.asp) | a[src^="https"] | Selects every <a> element whose src attribute value begins with "https" | 3 |
| [[*attribute*$=*value*]](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_attr_end.asp) | a[src$=".pdf"] | Selects every <a> element whose src attribute value ends with ".pdf" | 3 |
| [[*attribute*\*=*value*]](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_attr_contain.asp) | a[src\*="w3schools"] | Selects every <a> element whose src attribute value contains the substring "w3schools" | 3 |
| [:first-of-type](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_first-of-type.asp) | p:first-of-type | Selects every <p> element that is the first <p> element of its parent | 3 |
| [:last-of-type](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_last-of-type.asp) | p:last-of-type | Selects every <p> element that is the last <p> element of its parent | 3 |
| [:only-of-type](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_only-of-type.asp) | p:only-of-type | Selects every <p> element that is the only <p> element of its parent | 3 |
| [:only-child](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_only-child.asp) | p:only-child | Selects every <p> element that is the only child of its parent | 3 |
| [:nth-child(*n*)](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_nth-child.asp) | p:nth-child(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second child of its parent | 3 |
| [:nth-last-child(*n*)](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_nth-last-child.asp) | p:nth-last-child(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second child of its parent, counting from the last child | 3 |
| [:nth-of-type(*n*)](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_nth-of-type.asp) | p:nth-of-type(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second <p> element of its parent | 3 |
| [:nth-last-of-type(*n*)](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_nth-last-of-type.asp) | p:nth-last-of-type(2) | Selects every <p> element that is the second <p> element of its parent, counting from the last child | 3 |
| [:last-child](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_last-child.asp) | p:last-child | Selects every <p> element that is the last child of its parent | 3 |
| [:root](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_root.asp) | :root | Selects the document’s root element | 3 |
| [:empty](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_empty.asp) | p:empty | Selects every <p> element that has no children (including text nodes) | 3 |
| [:target](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_target.asp) | #news:target | Selects the current active #news element (clicked on a URL containing that anchor name) | 3 |
| [:enabled](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_enabled.asp) | input:enabled | Selects every enabled <input> element | 3 |
| [:disabled](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_disabled.asp) | input:disabled | Selects every disabled <input> element | 3 |
| [:checked](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_checked.asp) | input:checked | Selects every checked <input> element | 3 |
| [:not(*selector*)](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_not.asp) | :not(p) | Selects every element that is not a <p> element | 3 |
| [::selection](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/sel_selection.asp) | ::selection | Selects the portion of an element that is selected by a user | 3 |