

Chapter 7

STYLING LINKS

- The default settings for a CSS Link are: **text-decoration: underline; cursor: pointer; color: blue;** These settings are put in the selector for the **<a>** tag.
- The hand cursor is called **cursor: pointer;** The arrow cursor is called the **cursor: default;**
- A **pseudo-class** in CSS is used to define a special state of an element.
- A link has 4 states: **default, active, hover** and **visited**. The **pseudo-classes** for these states are denoted by **a:name_of_state**.
- The **default** state occurs when a link hasn't been clicked.
- The **active** state occurs when the left button of the mouse is held down while hovering over a link.
- The **hover** state occurs when the cursor is placed over the link.
- The **visited** state occurs after a link has been clicked.
- The **a:pseudoclass** selector has greater specificity than the **a** selector.
- The correct order in which to put the selectors for the different states is: **a (which contains all the default settings for the link)** followed by **a:visited** followed by **a:hover** followed by **a:active**. This is because all the selectors with pseudoclasses have the same specificity and thus the order in which they are placed in the custom CSS file determines how these rules are applied.
- The **a:focus** pseudoclass can be added to the selector with the **a:active** pseudoclass. This will allow us to tab through our links and when we select our links via tab, then the links will change their colour to their hover colour. This is helpful when accessing pages via a screen reader.