[Primitives](http://docs.kendoui.com/getting-started/web/appearance-styling" \l "primitives)

Kendo UI widgets use primitives, meaning that different HTML elements in different widgets use the same CSS classes to provide a level of abstraction and allow common styling.

Commonly-used CSS classes include:

* **k-widget** - applied to the widget wrapper to set a border, text and background color. In addition to t-widget, every widget has its own specific CSS class, for example **k-menu**, **k-panelbar**, **k-tabstrip**, etc.
* **k-header** - applied to Grid headers, Menu top level items, PanelBar top level items, TabStrip items, DropDownLists, to set a background image and a background color
* **k-link** - applied to hyperlinks and clickable text items to set a text color
* **k-button** - applied to elements that should look like push buttons. The class sets a text color, background color, background image and hover styling. This is the **recommended *\*class for styling \**form buttons**
* **k-input** - applied to textboxes inside input widgets like ComboBox and AutoComplete to set border, text and background color
* **k-textbox** - same as k-input, but used for standalone (generic) input elements that are not part of widget. This is the **recommended *\*class for styling user*** form input elements\* as it provides the same look, height and vertical alignment as the Kendo UI input widgets
* **k-group** and **k-content** - applied to various containers to set a background and border color
* **k-popup** - applied to popup containers that are detached from their opener component and are placed in the body element
* **k-icon** and **k-sprite** - applied to elements that display part of a sprite image as background to init their dimensions
* **k-image** - applied to inline images to set their dimensions
* **k-item** - applied to various repeating widget items, e.g. in the Menu, TabStrip, TreeView, PanelBar, ComboBox, DropDownList, etc. This CSS class does not apply any particular global styles and sports display: block.
* **k-first** and **k-last** - set on first and last k-item respectively, where special styling is needed - rounded corners, removing borders

The appearance of a component may also depend on its state, which is also tied to CSS classes:

* **k-state-default** - this class is applied on items to set their default appearance background and colors
* **k-state-hover** - this class is set to items when they are hovered to apply their hovered look
* **k-state-focused** - this class is applied on focused mostly input elements (plus DropDownList)
* **k-state-active** - a class set on activated **k-link** elements
* **k-state-selected** - selected items receive this class to apply their selected look, like in PanelBar and TabStrip
* **k-state-disabled** - this class is set on disabled items