

What are Pseudo-Elements?

A CSS pseudo-element is used to style specified parts of an element.

For example,

---->> It can be used to Style the first letter, or line, of an element

---->> It can be used to Insert content before, or after, the content of an element

Syntax

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The syntax of pseudo-elements:

```
selector::pseudo-element {  
  property: value;  
}
```

The ::first-line Pseudo-element

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The ::first-line pseudo-element is used to add a special style to the first line of a text.

The following example formats the first line of the text in all <p> elements:

Example

=====

```
p::first-line {  
  color: #ff0000;  
  font-variant: small-caps;  
}
```

Note: The ::first-line pseudo-element can only be applied to block-level elements.

The following properties apply to the ::first-line pseudo-element:

font properties

color properties

background properties

word-spacing

letter-spacing
text-decoration
vertical-align
text-transform
line-height
clear

The ::first-letter Pseudo-element

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The ::first-letter pseudo-element is used to add a special style to the first letter of a text.

The following example formats the first letter of the text in all <p> elements:

Example

=====

```
p::first-letter {  
  color: #ff0000;  
  font-size: xx-large;  
}
```

Note: The ::first-letter pseudo-element can only be applied to block-level elements.

Pseudo-elements and HTML Classes

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Pseudo-elements can be combined with HTML classes:

Example

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```
p.intro::first-letter {  
  color: #ff0000;  
  font-size: 200%;  
}
```

```
<body>  
  <p class="intro">This is an introduction.</p>  
  <p>This is a paragraph with some text. A bit more text even.</p>  
</body>
```

Multiple Pseudo-elements

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Several pseudo-elements can also be combined.

In the following example, the first letter of a paragraph will be red, in an xx-large font size. The rest of the first line will be blue, and in small-caps. The rest of the paragraph will be the default font size and color:

Example

=====

```
p::first-letter {  
  color: #ff0000;  
  font-size: xx-large;  
}
```

```
p::first-line {  
  color: #0000ff;  
  font-variant: small-caps;  
}
```

CSS - The ::before Pseudo-element

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The ::before pseudo-element can be used to insert some content before the content of an element.

The following example inserts an image before the content of each <h1> element:

Example

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```
h1::before {  
  content: url(smiley.gif);  
}
```

CSS - The ::after Pseudo-element

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The ::after pseudo-element can be used to insert some content after the content of an element.

The following example inserts an image after the content of each <h1> element:

Example

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```
h1::after {  
  content: url(smiley.gif);  
}
```

CSS - The ::marker Pseudo-element

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The ::marker pseudo-element selects the markers of list items.

The following example styles the markers of list items:

Example

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```
::marker {  
  color: red;  
  font-size: 23px;  
}
```

CSS - The ::selection Pseudo-element

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The ::selection pseudo-element matches the portion of an element that is selected by a user.

The following CSS properties can be applied to ::selection: color, background, cursor, and outline.

The following example makes the selected text red on a yellow background:

Example

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```
::selection {  
  color: red;  
  background: yellow;  
}
```

CSS ::placeholder Selector

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::placeholder input::placeholder Selects input elements with the "placeholder" attribute specified