

Select Identity

Similar to a class selector, an identity selector can select HTML elements that contain an `id` attribute that has been assigned a value matching the selector. The identity selector begins with a `#` hash character followed by the `id` value to match. This is mostly useful to apply the style rule to one specific element, as each `id` attribute value must be unique within the HTML document.

Optionally, an identity selector can be combined with a type selector simply to identify the element type. In this case, the selector first specifies the element type, followed by a hash character and the `id` value to match:

1 Create an HTML document containing a paragraph and two spanned phrases – which all have a unique `id` value

```
<p id="para1">You may only be someone
<span id="span1">in the world</span><br>
but to someone else you may
<span id="span2">be the world</span></p>
```

2 Add a style sheet with style rules painting colored backgrounds behind the text in each `span` element

```
<style>
#span1 { color : White ; background : Yellow ; }
#span2 { color : White ; background : Green ; }
</style>
```

3 Now, add a style rule to paint a colored background behind the rest of the paragraph and to set its width

```
p#para1 { background : Yellow ; width : 70% ; }
```

4 Save the HTML document then open the web page in a browser to see elements styled by the identity selectors



identity.html



If a class selector and an identity selector both attempt to style the same property of one element, the identity selector value would be applied as it has greater importance.

