

# Select Attributes

In addition to selecting target elements by type, class, identity or by relationship, CSS selectors can target HTML elements that have specific attributes or particular attribute values. Attribute selectors have seven options:

## **Attribute Name Selector [ *attribute* ]**

This selects all elements that have a specified attribute, by stating an element followed by an attribute name in [ ] brackets:

**ol[ *attribute* ]**

## **Attribute Value Selector [ *attribute*=“*value*” ]**

This selects all elements that have a specified attribute and a specified value, stated within the [ ] brackets:

**li[ *class*=“*value*” ]**

## **Attribute Value Item Selector [ *attribute*~="value" ]**

This selects all elements that have a specified attribute and a list of values that contain a specified word:

**li[ *class*~="item" ]**



The first word selector will only select the element if the attribute value is a single whole word or hyphenated – for example, selecting [class=“top”] with values of “topcat”, or “top-cat”.

## **Attribute First Word Selector [ *attribute*|="value" ]**

This selects all elements that have a specified attribute and a value that begins with a specified word:

**li[ *class*|="word" ]**

## **Attribute Substring Selector [ *attribute*\*="value" ]**

This selects all elements that have a specified attribute and a value that includes a specified substring anywhere in a value or list:

**li[ *class*\*="substring" ]**

## **Attribute First Substring Selector [ *attribute*^="value" ]**

This selects all elements that have a specified attribute and a value that begins with a specified substring anywhere in a value or list:

**li[ *class* ^ ="substring" ]**

## **Attribute Final Substring Selector [ *attribute*\$="value" ]**

This selects all elements that have a specified attribute and a value that ends with a specified substring anywhere in a value or list:

**li[ *class*\$="substring" ]**

...cont'd

1

Create an HTML document containing an ordered list in which all elements include attributes

```
<ol id="list">
<li class="reptile">Alligator</li>
<li class="domestic animal">Dog</li>
<li class="animal wild">Tiger</li>
<li class="cat-family">Lion</li>
<li class="sea fish">Barracuda</li>
<li class="topcat">Cartoon</li>
<li class="domestic bird">Budgerigar</li>
</ol>
```



attribute.html

2

Add a style sheet with a style rule that selects the list element by its attribute

```
<style>
ol[ id ] { border : 2px solid Red ; }
</style>
```

3

Now, add style rules that select all the list items by their attribute values

li[class="reptile"]	{ background : Red ; }
li[class~="animal"]	{ background : Blue ; }
li[ class = "cat" ]	{ background : Green ; }
li[class*="fi"]	{ background : Yellow ; }
li[class^="top"]	{ background : Orange ; }
li[class\$="ird"]	{ background : Purple ; }



The value specified to the three substring selectors does not need to be a whole word.

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