SELECTORS CHEAT SHEET

Lest you're confused, HTML markup uses "elements" (p), "attributes" (alt=""), and "values" (alt="Logo"); CSS markup uses "selectors" (#title), "properties" (width:), and "values" (width:2em;).

Universal Selector Selects all elements on the page (*)

Type Selector Selects every instance of a given element (em, p, div, etc)

Class Selector Selects every instance with the specified class attribute; can be used multiple times per page (e.g. .big)

ID Selector Selects one instance with the specified id attribute; can be used only once per page (e.g. **#title**)

Descendant Selector Selects all elements that are descendants of another element in the document tree (e.g. #title em)

Child Selector Selects all direct children of a parent element; will NOT select all descendants, only direct children (e.g. #title>em will target any em that is a direct child of #title, whether or not it immediately follows)

Adjacent Selector Selects any sibling immediately following an element (e.g. h2+p will target any p following an h2)

:first Pseudo Selector Selects only the first child, line, or letter of an element (e.g. li:first-child, p:first-line, and h2:first-letter)

Attribute Selectors Selects elements based on their attributes or attribute values (e.g. img[alt] targets an attribute; img[src="small.gif"] targets an attribute value; img[alt~=small] targets space-separated instances of a value; img[alt|="small"] targets hyphen-separated instances of a value)

Combinators The characters ">", "+", and the whitespace used to construct selector combinations