CSS Combinators

A combinator is something that explains the relationship between the selectors. A CSS selector can contain more than one simple selector. Between the simple selectors, we can include a combinator.

There are four different combinators in CSS:

- Descendant selector (space)
- Child selector (>)
- Adjacent sibling selector (+)
- General sibling selector (~)

Descendant Selector

The Descendant selector matches all elements that are descendants of a specified element.

The following example selects "all" <p> elements inside elements:

```
div p {
  background-color: yellow;
}
```

"All" implies child, grand- and great grand-elements, `<p>` in this case.

Child Selector

The Child selector selects all elements that are the children of a specified element.

The following example selects all `<p>` elements that are children of a `<div>` element:

```
div > p {
  background-color: yellow;
}
```

Adjacent Sibling Selector

The adjacent sibling selector selects all elements that are the adjacent siblings of a specified element.

Sibling elements must have the same parent element, and "adjacent" means "immediately following".

The following example selects all `<p>` elements that are placed after `<div>` elements:

```
div + p {
  background-color: yellow;
}
```

General Sibling Selector

The General Sibling selector selects all elements that are siblings of a specified element.

The following example selects all `<p>` elements that are siblings of `<div>` elements:

```
div ~ p {
  background-color: yellow;
}
```

All CSS Combinator Selectors

Selector	Example	Description
element element	div p	selects all `<p>` elements inside `<div>` elements.
Element > element	div>p	selects all `<p>` elements where the parent is a `<div>` element.
Element + element	div+p	selects all `<p>` elements that are placed immediately after `<div>` element.
Element ~ element	p~ul	selects every `<ul>` element that are preceded by a `<p>` element.

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