

# How are the CSS selectors matched against the elements by the browser?

1069 Administrator Fri, Jun 3, 2022 [CSS](#) 0 4175

The order of matching selectors goes from **right to left** of the selector expression. The elements in the DOM are filtered by browsers based on the key selectors and are then traversed up to the parent elements for determining the matches. The speed of determining the elements depends on the length of the chain of selectors. Consider an example:

Here, the browser first finds all span elements in the DOM and then it traverses to each of its parent elements to check if they are the paragraph p elements.

Once the browser finds **all** matching span tags having paragraph elements as parents and applies the color black to the content, the matching process is stopped.

Online URL:

<https://www.articlediary.com/article/how-are-the-css-selectors-matched-against-the-elements-by-the-browser-1069.html>

```
SyntaxHighlighter.config.stripBrs=true; SyntaxHighlighter.all();
```