

CSS

CSS FUNDAMENTALS SELECTORS

# Pseudo-element



**IN A ROCKET**

Learn front-end development at *rocket speed*

“**Pseudo-elements** create abstractions about the document tree beyond those specified by the document language. They may also provide authors a way to refer to content that does not exist in the source document.”



SOURCE: [Selectors Level 3](#) by W3C.

## Pseudo-elements

**::first-letter**

::first-line

::before

::after



# PSEUDO-ELEMENTS / FIRST-LETTER

Represents the first letter of an element, if it is not preceded by any other content on its line.

**Syntax** `selector::first-letter {style properties}`

`p::first-letter {color: green}`

---

With this code the first letter of all paragraphs is shown in green.

## HTML

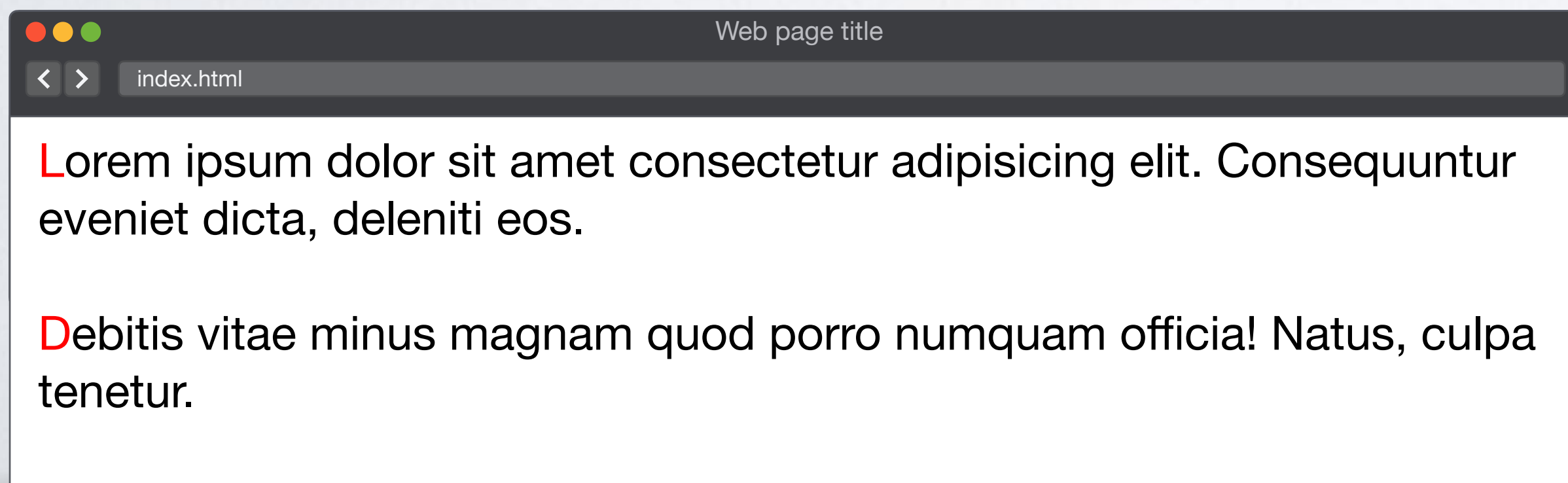
```
<body>  
<p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur  
adipisicing elit. Consequuntur eveniet dicta,  
deleniti eos.</p>
```

```
<p>Debitis vitae minus magnam quod porro  
numquam officia! Natus, culpa tenetur.</p>  
</body>
```

## CSS

```
p::first-letter { color: red; }
```

## Browser



## Pseudo-elements

::first-letter

**::first-line**

::before

::after



# PSEUDO-ELEMENTS / FIRST-LINE

Describes the contents of the first formatted line of an element.

```
Syntax selector::first-line {style properties}
```

```
p::first-line {color: green}
```

---

With this code the first line of all paragraphs is shown in green.

## HTML

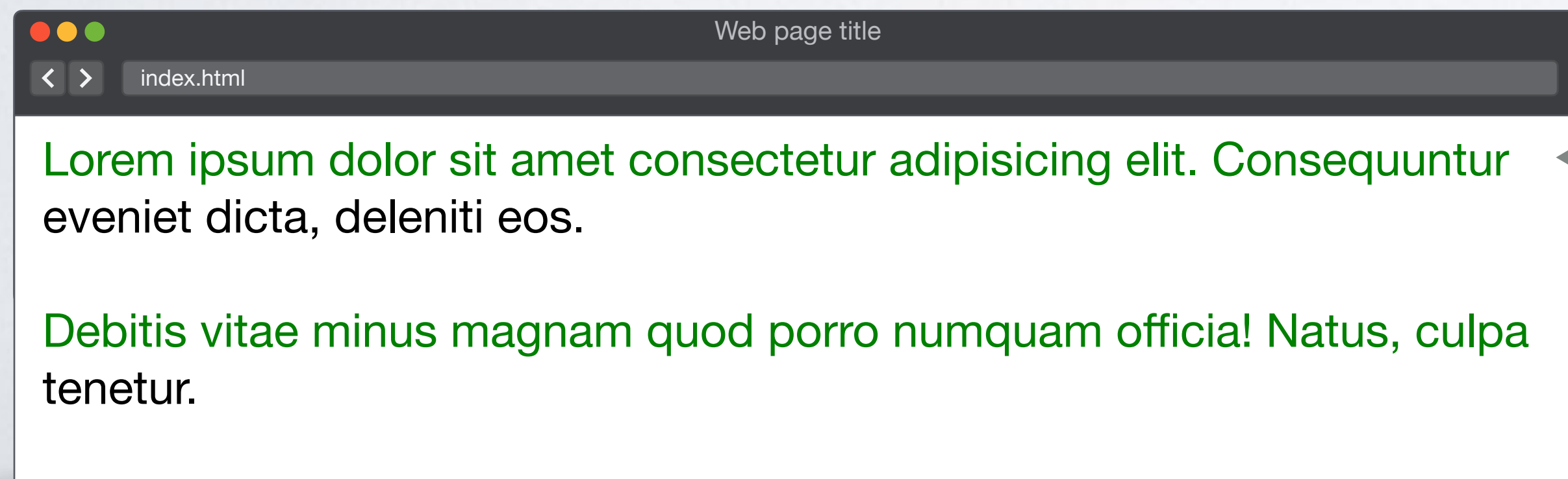
```
<body>
<p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur
adipisicing elit. Consequuntur eveniet dicta,
deleniti eos.</p>
```

```
<p>Debitis vitae minus magnam quod porro
numquam officia! Natus, culpa tenetur.</p>
</body>
```

## CSS

```
p::first-line { color: green; }
```

## Browser



Updated by the browser checking viewport's width



## Pseudo-elements

::first-letter

::first-line

**::before**

::after

# PSEUDO-ELEMENTS / BEFORE

Describes generated content before an element's content.

```
Syntax selector::before {style properties}
```

```
p::before {content: "★"}
```

---

With this code all paragraphs are preceded by "★".

## HTML

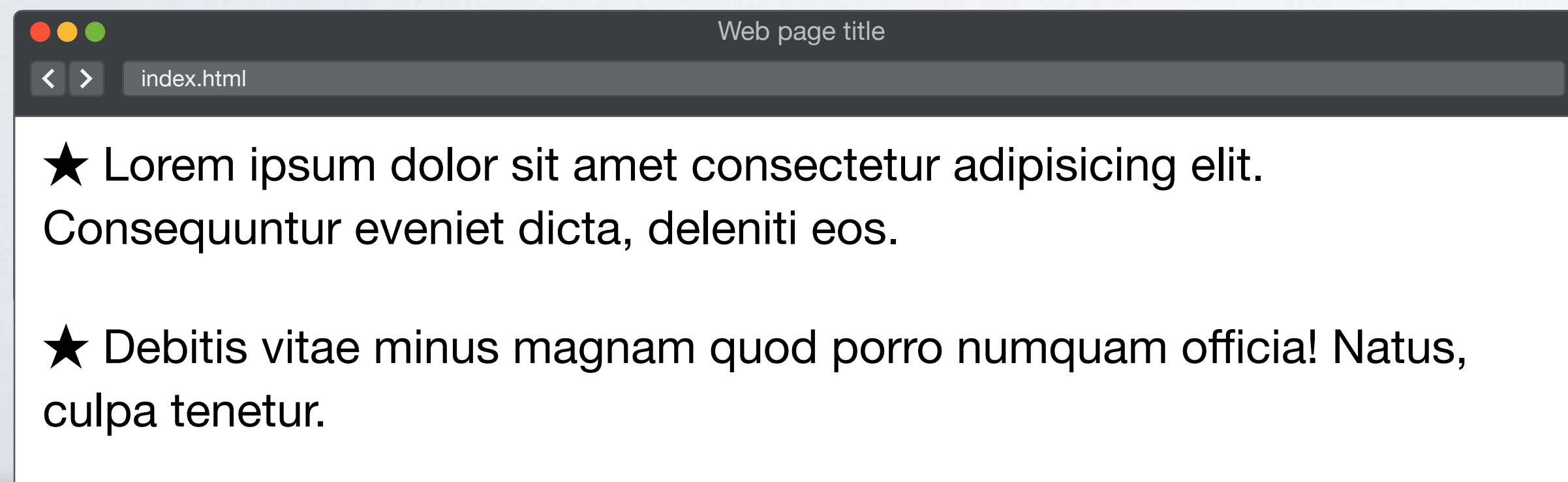
```
<body>
<p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur
adipisicing elit. Consequuntur eveniet dicta,
deleniti eos.</p>
```

```
<p>Debitis vitae minus magnam quod porro
numquam officia! Natus, culpa tenetur.</p>
</body>
```

## CSS

```
p::before { content: "★"; }
```

## Browser





# PSEUDO-ELEMENTS / BEFORE

## HTML

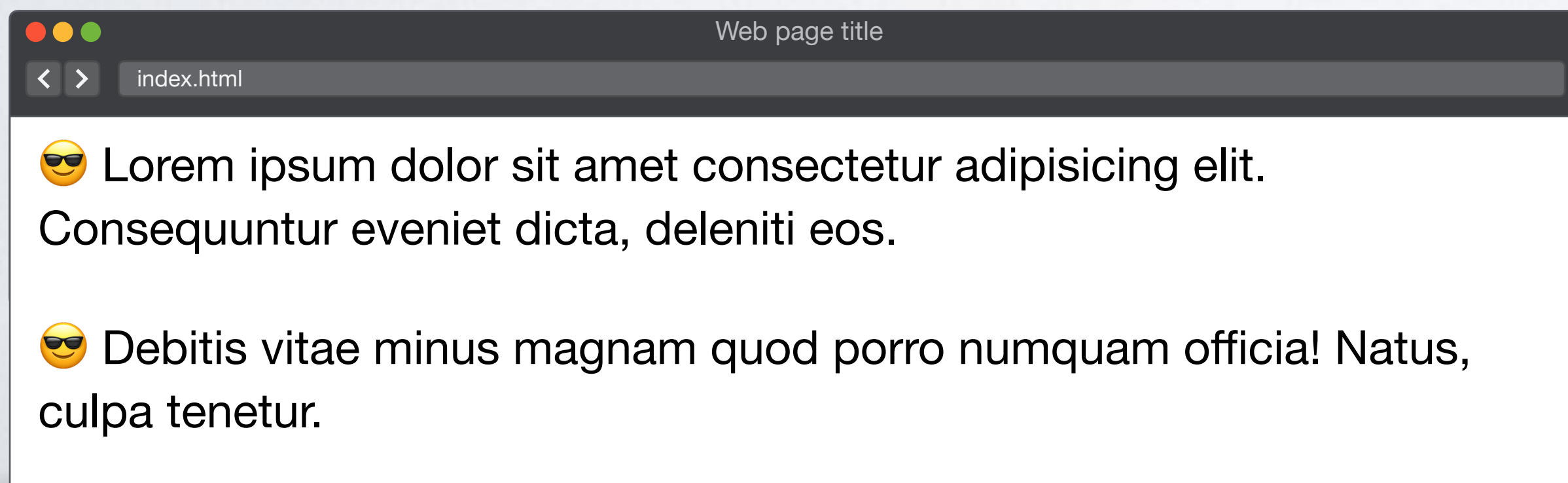
```
<body>  
<p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur  
adipisicing elit. Consequuntur eveniet dicta,  
deleniti eos.</p>
```

```
<p>Debitis vitae minus magnam quod porro  
numquam officia! Natus, culpa tenetur.</p>  
</body>
```

## CSS

```
p::before { content: "😎"; }
```

## Browser



# PSEUDO-ELEMENTS / BEFORE

## HTML

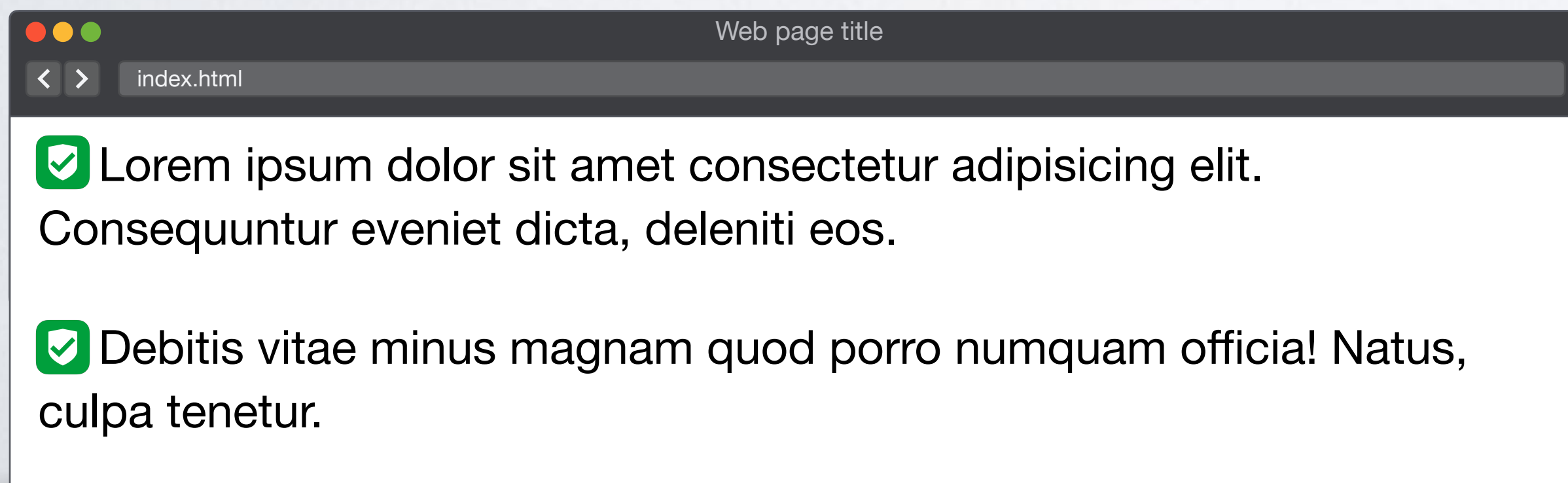
```
<body>  
<p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur  
adipisicing elit. Consequuntur eveniet dicta,  
deleniti eos.</p>
```

```
<p>Debitis vitae minus magnam quod porro  
numquam officia! Natus, culpa tenetur.</p>  
</body>
```

## CSS

```
p::before { content: url(image.png); }
```

## Browser



## Pseudo-elements

::first-letter

::first-line

::before

**::after**



# PSEUDO-ELEMENTS / AFTER

Describes generated content after an element's content.

```
Syntax selector::after {style properties}
```

```
p::after {content: "✓"}
```

---

With this code all paragraphs are finished with ✓.

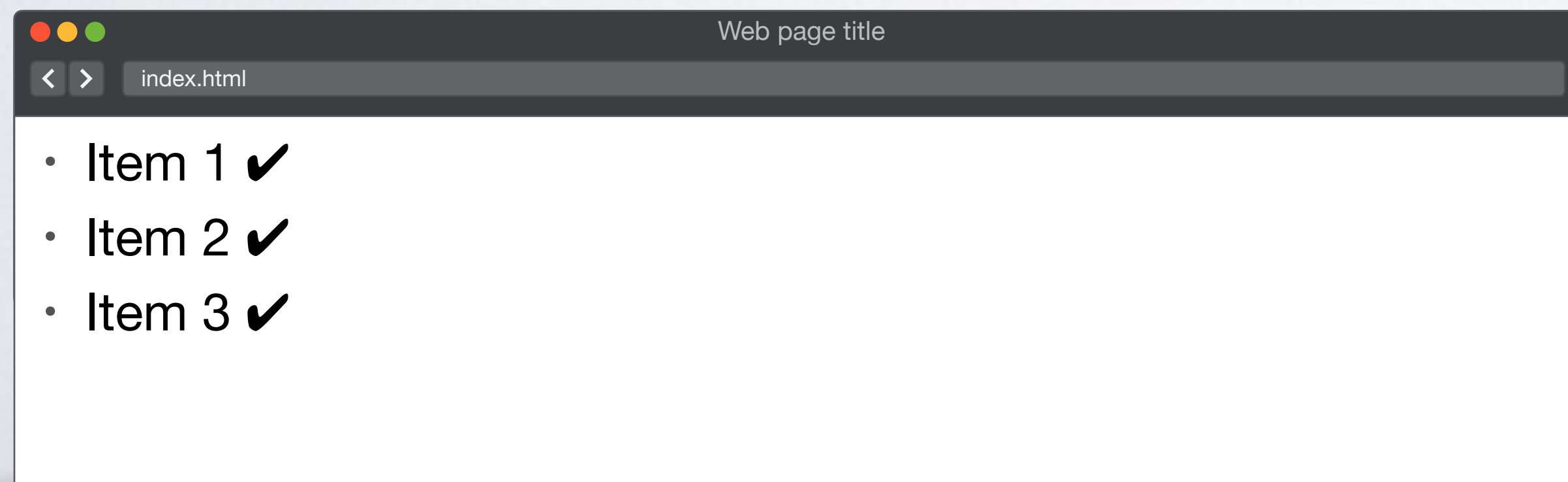
## HTML

```
<body>
<ul>
<li>Item 1</li>
<li>Item 2</li>
<li>Item 3</li>
</ul>
</body>
```

## CSS

```
li::after { content: "✓"; }
```

## Browser



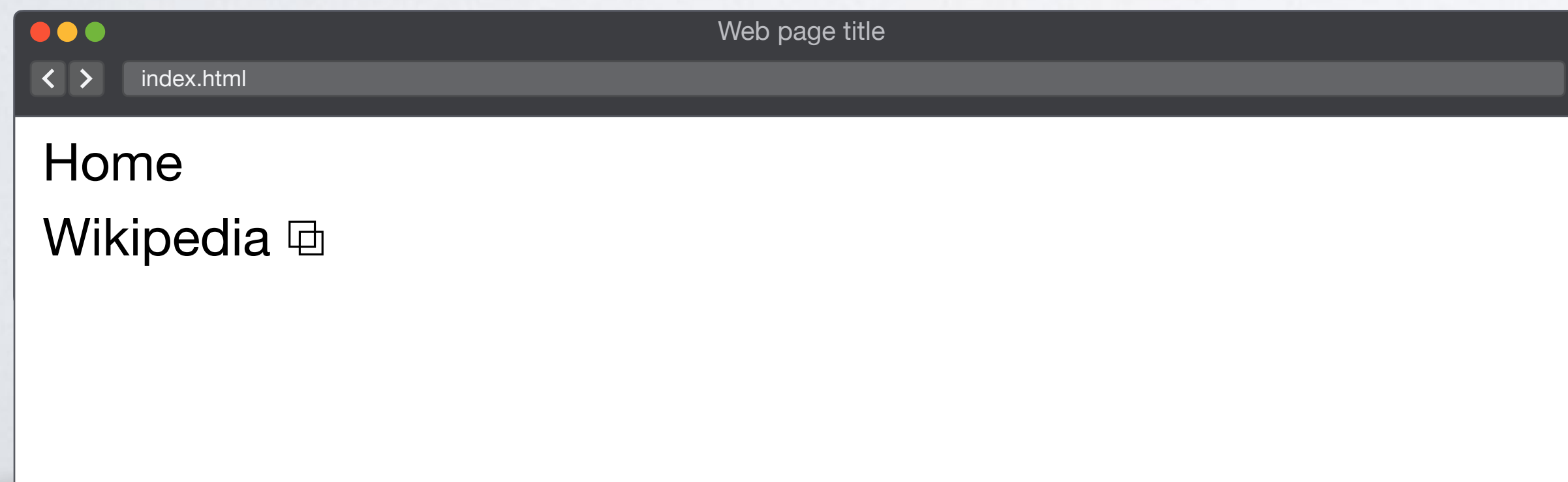
## HTML

```
<body>
<a href="index.html">Home</a>
<br>
<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org" target="_blank">
Wikipedia
</a>
</body>
```

## CSS

```
[target=_blank]::after {
  content: "🔗";
}
```

## Browser





# TOOLS: HTML SYMBOLS

## HTML Symbols - Unicode symbols, entities and codes

☰ List ☰ Grid ☰ Compact 🔍 Search 🖨 Print ⚙ Settings

- Alchemical Symbols
- Alphabet
- Arrow Symbols**
- ASCII Symbols
- Astrological symbols
- Box Drawing
- Braille Patterns
- Computer Symbols
- Coptic Symbols
- Currency Symbols
- Dingbats Symbols
- Games Symbols
- Geometric symbols
- Greek Symbols
- Heart Symbols
- Letterlike Symbols
- Math Symbols
- Miscellaneous Symbols
- Musical Symbols
- Number Symbols
- Ornamental symbols
- Punctuation Symbols
- Religious symbols
- Roman symbols
- Star Symbols
- Unit Symbols

### Arrows with hook

Symbol	HTML Code	HTML Entity	CSS Code	Hex Code	Unicode	Description
↩	&#8617;	&larrhk;	\21A9	&#x21A9;	U+021A9	leftwards arrow with hook
↪	&#8618;	&rarrhk;	\21AA	&#x21AA;	U+021AA	rightwards arrow with hook
↖	&#10531;	&nwarhk;	\2923	&#x2923;	U+02923	north west arrow with hook
↗	&#10532;	&nearhk;	\2924	&#x2924;	U+02924	north east arrow with hook
↘	&#10533;	&searhk;	\2925	&#x2925;	U+02925	south east arrow with hook
↙	&#10534;	&swarhk;	\2926	&#x2926;	U+02926	south west arrow with hook
↩	&#11099;		\2B5B	&#x2B5B;	U+02B5B	backslanted south arrow with hooked tail, sharp rise and fall in tone

### Arrows with tails

Symbol	HTML Code	HTML Entity	CSS Code	Hex Code	Unicode	Description
←	&#8610;	&leftarrowtail;	\21A2	&#x21A2;	U+021A2	leftwards arrow with tail
→	&#8611;	&rightarrowtail;	\21A3	&#x21A3;	U+021A3	rightwards arrow with tail
↑	&#8613;	&UpTeeArrow;	\21A5	&#x21A5;	U+021A5	upwards arrow from bar
↪	&#8614;	&RightTeeArrow;	\21A6	&#x21A6;	U+021A6	rightwards arrow from bar
↓	&#8615;	&mapstodown;	\21A7	&#x21A7;	U+021A7	downwards arrow from bar
↕	&#8616;		\21A8	&#x21A8;	U+021A8	up down arrow with base

### Arrows with triangle arrowheads

Symbol	HTML Code	HTML Entity	CSS Code	Hex Code	Unicode	Description
↩	&#129024;		\1F800	&#x1F800;	U+1F800	leftwards arrow with small triangle arrowhead
↪	&#129025;		\1F801	&#x1F801;	U+1F801	upwards arrow with small triangle arrowhead
↪	&#129026;		\1F802	&#x1F802;	U+1F802	rightwards arrow with small triangle arrowhead
↩	&#129027;		\1F803	&#x1F803;	U+1F803	downwards arrow with small triangle arrowhead
↩	&#129028;		\1F804	&#x1F804;	U+1F804	leftwards arrow with medium triangle arrowhead
↪	&#129029;		\1F805	&#x1F805;	U+1F805	upwards arrow with medium triangle arrowhead



# TOOLS: HTML SYMBOLS

HTML Symbols - Unicode symbols, entities and codes

List Grid Compact Search Print Settings

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- Star Symbols
- Unit Symbols

	&#10062;	\274E	&#x274E;	U+0274E	negative squared cross mark
	&#10212;	\27E4	&#x27E4;	U+027E4	white square with leftwards tick
	&#10694;	\29C6	&#x29C6;	U+029C6	squared asterisk
	&#10697; &#x27E4;	\29C9	&#x29C9;	U+029C9	two joined squares
	&#11026;	\2B12	&#x2B12;	U+02B12	square with top half black
	&#11027;	\2B13	&#x2B13;	U+02B13	square with bottom half black
	&#11028;	\2B14	&#x2B14;	U+02B14	square with upper right diagonal half black
	&#11029;	\2B15	&#x2B15;	U+02B15	square with lower left diagonal half black
	&#11034;	\2B1A	&#x2B1A;	U+02B1A	dotted square
	&#11035;	\2B1B	&#x2B1B;	U+02B1B	black large square
	&#11036;	\2B1C	&#x2B1C;	U+02B1C	white large square
	&#11037;	\2B1D	&#x2B1D;	U+02B1D	black very small square
	&#11038;	\2B1E	&#x2B1E;	U+02B1E	white very small square
	&#11194;	\2BBA	&#x2BBA;	U+02BBA	overlapping white squares, pair of bishops
	&#11195;	\2BBB	&#x2BBB;	U+02BBB	overlapping white and black squares, bishops of opposite colour
	&#11196;	\2BBC	&#x2BBC;	U+02BBC	overlapping black squares, bishops of the same colour
	&#11200;	\2BC0	&#x2BC0;	U+02BC0	black square centred
	&#12872;	\3248	&#x3248;	U+03248	circled number ten on black square, speed limit 10 km/h
	&#12873;	\3249	&#x3249;	U+03249	circled number twenty on black square, speed limit 20 km/h
	&#12874;	\324A	&#x324A;	U+0324A	circled number thirty on black square, speed limit 30 km/h
	&#12875;	\324B	&#x324B;	U+0324B	circled number forty on black square, speed limit 40 km/h
	&#12876;	\324C	&#x324C;	U+0324C	circled number fifty on black square, speed limit 50 km/h
	&#12877;	\324D	&#x324D;	U+0324D	circled number sixty on black square, speed limit 60 km/h
	&#12878;	\324E	&#x324E;	U+0324E	circled number seventy on black square, speed limit 70 km/h
	&#12879;	\324F	&#x324F;	U+0324F	circled number eighty on black square, speed limit 80 km/h
	&#13004;	\32CC	&#x32CC;	U+032CC	square hg
	&#13005;	\32CD	&#x32CD;	U+032CD	square erg
	&#13006;	\32CE	&#x32CE;	U+032CE	square ev




W3C Recommendation

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## Selectors Level 3

W3C Recommendation 06 November 2018



**This version:**  
<https://www.w3.org/TR/2018/REC-selectors-3-20181106/>

**Latest version:**  
<https://www.w3.org/TR/selectors-3/>

**Previous version:**  
<https://www.w3.org/TR/2018/PR-selectors-3-20180911/>

**Latest version of Selectors:**  
<https://www.w3.org/TR/selectors/>

**Editor's Draft**  
<https://drafts.csswg.org/selectors-3/>

**Feedback:**  
File an [issue on GitHub](#)

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### Abstract

*Selectors are patterns that match against elements in a tree, and as such form one of several technologies that*

SOURCE: [Selectors Level 3 by W3C.](#)



CSS

CSS FUNDAMENTALS SELECTORS

# Pseudo-element



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