Cheatography

XPath Cheat Sheet Cheat Sheet

by BenHuf via cheatography.com/163984/cs/34359/

XPath

nodename	Selects all nodes with the name "*nodename*"
/	Selects from the root node
//	Selects nodes in the document from the current node that match the selection no matter where they are
.	Selects the current node
..	Selects the parent of the current node
@	Selects attributes

Wildcards and Multiple Paths

*	Matches any element node
@*	Matches any attribute node
node()	Matches any node of any kind
|	Place between paths to select several paths
/bookstore/*	Selects all the child element nodes of the bookstore element
//*	Selects all elements in the document
//title[@*]	Selects all title elements which have at least one attribute of any kind
//book/title | //book/price	Selects all the title AND price elements of all book elements
//title | //price	Selects all the title AND price elements in the document

Wildcards and Multiple Paths (cont)

/bookstore/book/title | //price	Selects all the title elements of the book element of the bookstore element AND all the price elements in the document

Location Step Examples

The syntax for a location step is:

```
axisname::nodetest[predicate]
```

child::book	Selects all book nodes that are children of the current node
attribute::lang	Selects the lang attribute of the current node
child::*	Selects all element children of the current node
attribute::*	Selects all attributes of the current node
child::text()	Selects all text node children of the current node
child::node()	Selects all children of the current node
descendant::book	Selects all book descendants of the current node
ancestor::book	Selects all book ancestors of the current node
ancestor-or-self::book	Selects all book ancestors of the current node - and the current node as well if it is a book node
child::*/child::price	Selects all price grandchildren of the current node

XPath Operators

|	Computes two node-sets	//book | //cd
+	Addition	6 + 4
-	Subtraction	6 - 4
*	Multiplication	6 * 4
div	Division	8 div 4
=	Equal	price=9.80
!=	Not equal	price!=9.80
<	Less than	price<9.80
<=	Less than or equal to	price<=9.80
>	Greater than	price>9.80
>=	Greater than or equal to	price>=9.80
or	or	price=9.80 or price=9.70
and	and	price>9.00 and price<9.90
mod	Modulus	5 mod 2

Predicates

/bookstore/book[1]	Selects the first book element that is the child of the bookstore element.
/bookstore/book[last()]	Selects the last book element that is the child of the bookstore element
/bookstore/book[last()-1]	Selects the last but one book element that is the child of the bookstore element

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Predicates (cont)

/bookstore/book[position()<3]	Selects the first two book elements that are children of the bookstore element
//title[@lang]	Selects all the title elements that have an attribute named lang
//title[@lang='en']	Selects all the title elements that have a "lang" attribute with a value of "en"
/bookstore/book[price>35.00]	Selects all the book elements of the bookstore element that have a price element with a value greater than 35.00
/bookstore/book[price>35.00]/title	Selects all the title elements of the book elements of the bookstore element that have a price element with a value greater than 35.00

Note: In IE 5,6,7,8,9 first node is[0], but according to W3C, it is [1]. To solve this problem in IE, set the SelectionLanguage to XPath.

In JavaScript: xml.setProperty("SelectionLanguage","XPath");

XPath Examples

bookstore	Selects all nodes with the name "bookstore"
/bookstore	Selects the root element bookstore
bookstore/book	Selects all book elements that are children of bookstore
//book	Selects all book elements no matter where they are in the document
bookstore//book	Selects all book elements that are descendant of the bookstore element, no matter where they are under the bookstore element
//@lang	Selects all attributes that are named lang
/bookstore/book/title	Selects all title nodes that are descendants of book that are descendants of bookstore
/bookstore/book[1]/title	Selects the title of the first book node under the bookstore element
/bookstore/book/price[text()]	Selects the text from all bookstore/book/price nodes
/bookstore/book[price>35]/price	Selects all the bookstore/book/price nodes with a price greater than 35

Note: If the path started with a slash (/) it always represents an absolute path to an element!

XPath Axes

ancestor	Selects all ancestors of the current node
ancestor-or-self	Selects all ancestors of the current node and the current node itself
attribute	Selects all attributes of the current node
child	Selects all children of the current node
descendant	Selects all descendants of the current node
descendant-or-self	Selects all descendants of the current node and the current nod itself
following	Selects everything in the document after the closing tag of the current node
following-sibling	Selects all siblings after the current node
namespace	Selects all namespace nodes of the current node
parent	Selects the parent of the current node
preceding	Selects all nodes that appear before the current node in the document, except ancestors, attribute nodes, and namespace nodes
preceding-sibling	Selects all siblings before the current node
self	Selects the current node