

# SELENIUM - LOCATORS

[http://www.tutorialspoint.com/selenium/selenium\\_locators.htm](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/selenium/selenium_locators.htm)

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Locating elements in Selenium WebDriver is performed with the help of `findElement` and `findElements` methods provided by `WebDriver` and `WebElement` class.

- `findElement` returns a `WebElement` object based on a specified search criteria or ends up throwing an exception if it does not find any element matching the search criteria.
- `findElements` returns a list of `WebElements` matching the search criteria. If no elements are found, it returns an empty list.

The following table lists all the Java syntax for locating elements in Selenium WebDriver.

| Method               | Syntax  | Description                                  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| By ID                | <code>driver.findElementBy.id( &lt; elementID &gt; )</code>             | Locates an element using the ID attribute    |
| By name              | <code>driver.findElementBy.name( &lt; elementname &gt; )</code>         | Locates an element using the Name attribute  |
| By class name        | <code>driver.findElementBy.className( &lt; elementclass &gt; )</code>   | Locates an element using the Class attribute |
| By tag name          | <code>driver.findElementBy.tagName( &lt; htmltagname &gt; )</code>      | Locates an element using the HTML tag        |
| By link text         | <code>driver.findElementBy.linkText( &lt; linktext &gt; )</code>        | Locates a link using link text               |
| By partial link text | <code>driver.findElementBy.partialLinkText( &lt; linktext &gt; )</code> | Locates a link using the link's partial text |
| By CSS               | <code>driver.findElementBy.cssSelector( &lt; cssselector &gt; )</code>  | Locates an element using the CSS selector    |
| By XPath             | <code>driver.findElementBy.xpath( &lt; xpath &gt; )</code>              | Locates an element using XPath query         |

## Locators Usage

Now let us understand the practical usage of each of the locator methods with the help of <http://www.calculator.net>

### By ID

Here an object is accessed with the help of IDs. In this case, it is the ID of the text box. Values are entered into the text box using the `sendKeys` method with the help of `IDcdensity`.

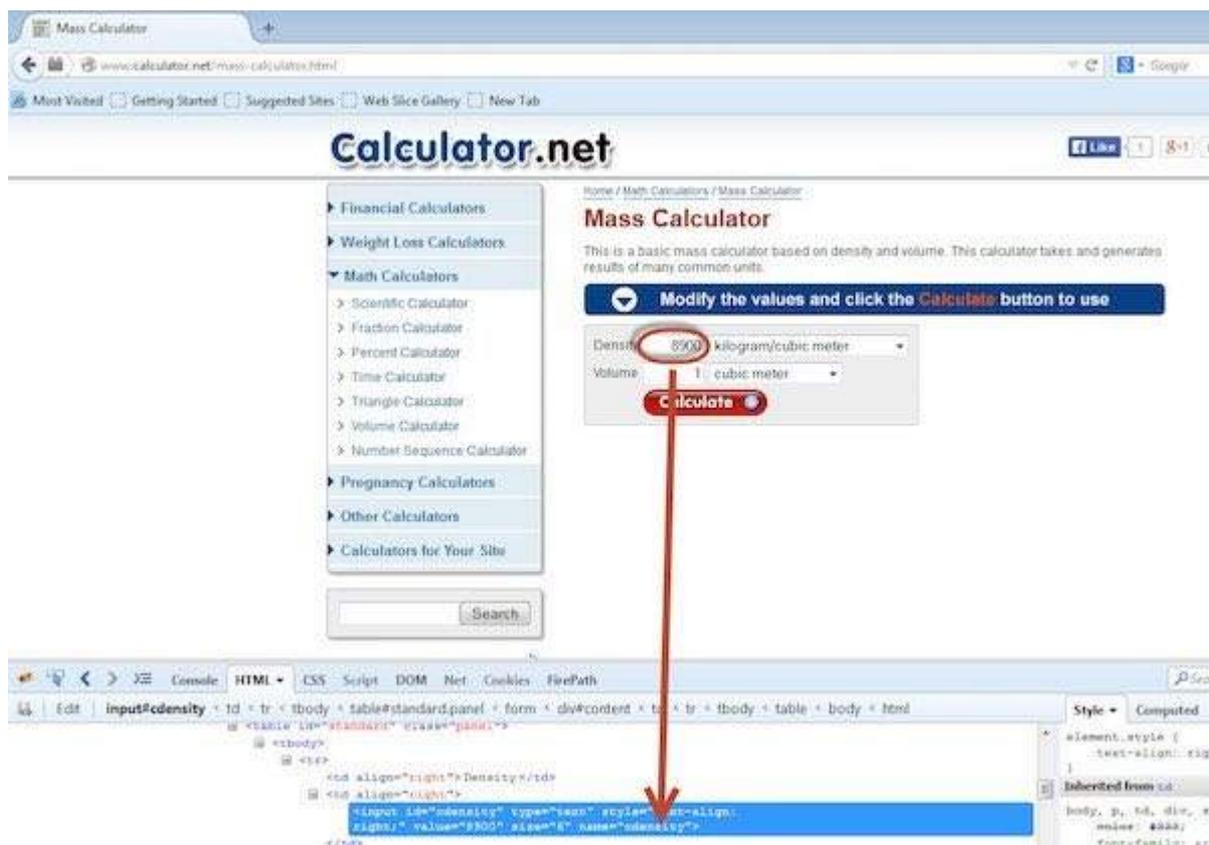




```
driver.findElement(By.id("cdensity")).sendKeys("10");
```

## By Name

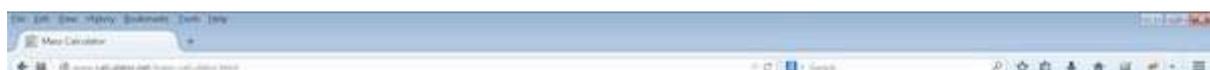
Here an object is accessed with the help of names. In this case, it is the name of the text box. Values are entered into the text box using the sendkeys method with the help of ID*cdensity*.



```
driver.findElement(By.name("cdensity")).sendKeys("10");
```

## By Class Name

Here an object is accessed with the help of Class Names. In this case, it is the Class name of the WebElement. The Value can be accessed with the help of the getText method.





```
List<WebElement> byclass = driver.findElements(By.className("smalltext smtb"));
```

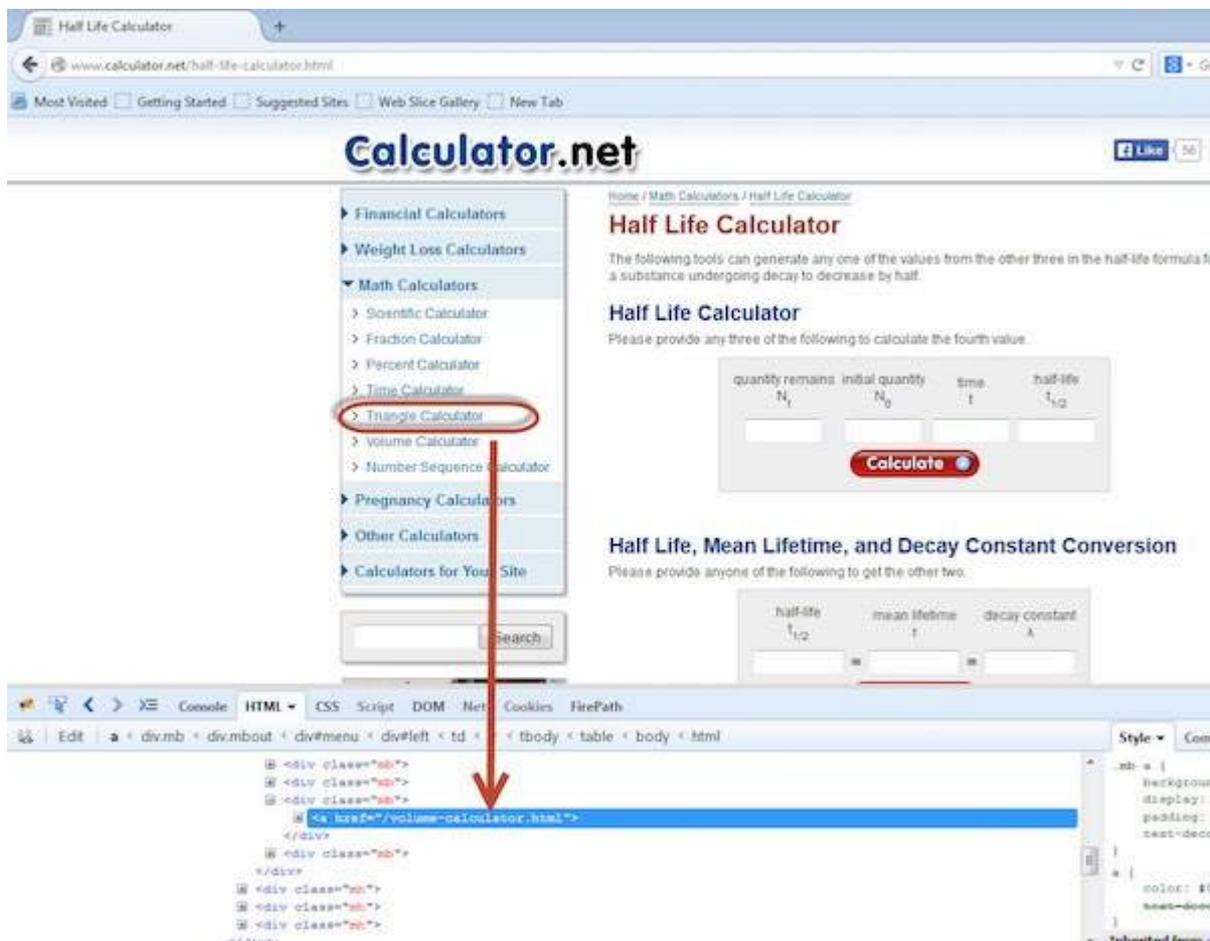
## By Tag Name

The DOM Tag Name of an element can be used to locate that particular element in the WebDriver. It is very easy to handle tables with the help of this method. Take a look at the following code.

```
WebElement table = driver.findElement(By.id("calctable"));
List<WebElement> row = table.findElements(By.tagName("tr"));
int rowcount = row.size();
```

## By Link Text

This method helps to locate a link element with matching visible text.



```
driver.findElement(By.linkText("Volume")).click();
```

## By partial link text

This methods helps locate a link element with partial matching visible text.

The screenshot shows the Calculator.net website. In the left navigation menu, the 'Volume Calculator' link is highlighted with a red circle. A red arrow points from this link to the DOM tree in the browser's developer tool. The DOM tree shows the following structure:

```
<div class="mb">  
  <div class="mb">  
    <div class="mb">  
      <a href="/volume-calculator.html">  
    </div>  
  </div>  
</div>
```

```
driver.findElement(By.partialLinkText("Volume")).click();
```

## By CSS

The CSS is used as a method to identify the webobject, however NOT all browsers support CSS identification.

```
WebElement loginButton = driver.findElement(By.cssSelector("input.login"));
```

## By XPath

XPath stands for XML path language. It is a query language for selecting nodes from an XML document. XPath is based on the tree representation of XML documents and provides the ability to navigate around the tree by selecting nodes using a variety of criteria.



```
driver.findElement(By.xpath("//*[ @id='content']/table[1]/tbody/tr/td/table/tbody/tr[2]/td[1]/input")).sendKeys("100");
```

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