

Some of the new CSS3 properties haven't yet been finalized (CSS3 is still very much in development) and many of the browsers implemented early versions of these new ideas, and use the -name- prefix (like -webkit-, -moz-, -o-, and -ms-) as a way to say, "This is Mozilla's or Webkit's idea of what the property should be, but it's not written in stone yet." So, to get your CSS to work in multiple browsers, you have to supply all the browser specific versions, plus the version that we think will eventually be the one that gets finalized in the standard.

So, a new property like border-radius has a Webkit version, -webkit-border-radius, and a Mozilla version, -moz-border-radius, and so on.

***Webkit is the browser engine used by Chrome and Safari; Mozilla is the engine used by Firefox. -ms is for IE and -o is for Opera.***

The trick is to put the browser-specific versions above (what we think will be) the actual property name (in the ordering in the CSS rule) so that the browser will use the last one it recognizes, and so will override an older browser-specific implementation with the new, final implementation when it's complete.

Not all properties have implementations in all the browsers yet, and some "final" (or close to final) versions have been implemented in some browsers (for instance, for border-radius, you can use border-radius instead of -webkit-border-radius, and it will work in the most recent version of Safari and in Chrome).