**Easily Create, Read, and Erase Cookies with jQuery**

[Nicholas Cerminara](http://scotch.io/author/nick)  February 14, 2014  [3 Comments](http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery#disqus_thread)

[0](http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery)

[Share](http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery)

[0](https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=Easily+Create%2C+Read%2C+and+Erase+Cookies+with+jQuery&url=http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery&via=scotch_io&related=scotch_io)

[Tweet](https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=Easily+Create%2C+Read%2C+and+Erase+Cookies+with+jQuery&url=http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery&via=scotch_io&related=scotch_io)

[1](https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery)

[Plus](https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery)

[0](http://www.stumbleupon.com/submit?url=http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery&title=Easily+Create%2C+Read%2C+and+Erase+Cookies+with+jQuery" \t "_blank)

[Stumble](http://www.stumbleupon.com/submit?url=http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery&title=Easily+Create%2C+Read%2C+and+Erase+Cookies+with+jQuery" \t "_blank)

I find myself needing to set and read cookies more and more client-side. There’s an array of options to read cookies (like this [plugin](https://github.com/carhartl/jquery-cookie)). Sometimes you don’t need all the features that come with that and want a simple but effective solution.

Here’s 3 JavaScript functions written in jQuery that I like to use to easily and quickly read, create, and erase cookies. I forgot where I found these, but I didn’t write these functions (so I can’t take credit here). Simply add these functions to a JavaScript file to use:

**Oops!** This isn’t with jQuery, it’s with pure JavaScript. jQuery isn’t a required dependency. I must have been tired when I wrote this post.

[**Method 1**](http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery#method-1)

function createCookie(name,value,days) {

if (days) {

var date = new Date();

date.setTime(date.getTime()+(days\*24\*60\*60\*1000));

var expires = "; expires="+date.toGMTString();

}

else var expires = "";

document.cookie = name+"="+value+expires+"; path=/";

}

function readCookie(name) {

var nameEQ = name + "=";

var ca = document.cookie.split(';');

for(var i=0;i < ca.length;i++) {

var c = ca[i];

while (c.charAt(0)==' ') c = c.substring(1,c.length);

if (c.indexOf(nameEQ) == 0) return c.substring(nameEQ.length,c.length);

}

return null;

}

function eraseCookie(name) {

createCookie(name,"",-1);

}

Then in that same JavaScript file with those functions, call them like this:

// Create a Cookie for one week

createCookie('myCookie', 'The value of my cookie...', 7)

// Read the cookie (note this will only work on the page loads after the cookie is created)

var myCookie = readCookie('myCookie');

console.log(myCookie); // Outputs: "The value of my cookie..."

// Erase the cookie (only works on page loads after the cookie was created)

eraseCookie('myCookie')

**[Method 2](http://scotch.io/quick-tips/js/easily-create-read-and-erase-cookies-with-jquery" \l "method-2)**

I've come across a method I like way more by Mozilla. I thought I'd share it below. This is my preferred way of creating, reading, and deleting cookies with JavaScript now.

You can read more about this [here](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/document.cookie) at this excellent resource.

/\*\

|\*|

|\*| :: cookies.js ::

|\*|

|\*| A complete cookies reader/writer framework with full unicode support.

|\*|

|\*| https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/DOM/document.cookie

|\*|

|\*| This framework is released under the GNU Public License, version 3 or later.

|\*| http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0-standalone.html

|\*|

|\*| Syntaxes:

|\*|

|\*| \* docCookies.setItem(name, value[, end[, path[, domain[, secure]]]])

|\*| \* docCookies.getItem(name)

|\*| \* docCookies.removeItem(name[, path], domain)

|\*| \* docCookies.hasItem(name)

|\*| \* docCookies.keys()

|\*|

\\*/

var docCookies = {

getItem: function (sKey) {

return decodeURIComponent(document.cookie.replace(new RegExp("(?:(?:^|.\*;)\\s\*" + encodeURIComponent(sKey).replace(/[\-\.\+\\*]/g, "\\$&") + "\\s\*\\=\\s\*([^;]\*).\*$)|^.\*$"), "$1")) || null;

},

setItem: function (sKey, sValue, vEnd, sPath, sDomain, bSecure) {

if (!sKey || /^(?:expires|max\-age|path|domain|secure)$/i.test(sKey)) { return false; }

var sExpires = "";

if (vEnd) {

switch (vEnd.constructor) {

case Number:

sExpires = vEnd === Infinity ? "; expires=Fri, 31 Dec 9999 23:59:59 GMT" : "; max-age=" + vEnd;

break;

case String:

sExpires = "; expires=" + vEnd;

break;

case Date:

sExpires = "; expires=" + vEnd.toUTCString();

break;

}

}

document.cookie = encodeURIComponent(sKey) + "=" + encodeURIComponent(sValue) + sExpires + (sDomain ? "; domain=" + sDomain : "") + (sPath ? "; path=" + sPath : "") + (bSecure ? "; secure" : "");

return true;

},

removeItem: function (sKey, sPath, sDomain) {

if (!sKey || !this.hasItem(sKey)) { return false; }

document.cookie = encodeURIComponent(sKey) + "=; expires=Thu, 01 Jan 1970 00:00:00 GMT" + ( sDomain ? "; domain=" + sDomain : "") + ( sPath ? "; path=" + sPath : "");

return true;

},

hasItem: function (sKey) {

return (new RegExp("(?:^|;\\s\*)" + encodeURIComponent(sKey).replace(/[\-\.\+\\*]/g, "\\$&") + "\\s\*\\=")).test(document.cookie);

},

keys: /\* optional method: you can safely remove it! \*/ function () {

var aKeys = document.cookie.replace(/((?:^|\s\*;)[^\=]+)(?=;|$)|^\s\*|\s\*(?:\=[^;]\*)?(?:\1|$)/g, "").split(/\s\*(?:\=[^;]\*)?;\s\*/);

for (var nIdx = 0; nIdx < aKeys.length; nIdx++) { aKeys[nIdx] = decodeURIComponent(aKeys[nIdx]); }

return aKeys;

}

};