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# HTML DOM Accessing Nodes

## Accessing Nodes

DOM is able to access every node in an HTML document in three ways:

- By using the [getElementById](#) method
- By using the [getElementsByTagName](#) method
- By navigating the node tree, using the node relationships

## The getElementById Method

The [getElementById](#) method returns the element with the specified ID.

The script shows how to locate a `<p>` element in the document by using the `getElementById` method. The method [getAttribute](#) of the interface [Element](#), which represents an element in an HTML or XML document, is used to get the value of an attribute in an object.

```
<html>
<body>
  <p ID="first" alt="greeting">
    Hello, World!</p>
  <script type="text/javascript">
    elm = document.getElementById( 'first' );
    document.write( elm.getAttribute( 'alt' ) );
  </script>
</body>
</html>
```

Display the HTML

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## The getElementsByTagName Method

[getElementsByTagName](#) returns all elements with a specified tag name. The method returns a [NodeList](#), which represents an

ordered collection of nodes. The [length](#) property returns the number of items in a NodeList.

```
<html>
<body>
  <p>Paragraph I</p>
  <p>Paragraph II</p>
  <script type="text/javascript">
    elms = document.getElementsByTagName( 'p' );
    document.write( elms.length );
  </script>
</body>
</html>
```

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## Demonstration

The following demonstration shows how the script of HTML and JavaScript is displayed on the Web.

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```
<html>
<head>
  <script type="text/javascript">
    function getElements( ) {
      var x = document.getElementsByTagName("input");
      alert(x.length);
    }
  </script>
</head>
<body>
  <input type="text" size="20" /><br />
  <input type="text" size="20" /><br />
  <input type="text" size="20" /><br /><br />
  <input type="button" onclick="getElements( )"
    value="How many input elements?" />
</body>
</html>
```

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