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Typing Enter/Return key in Selenium

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I'm looking for a quick way to type and Enter or Return key in Selenium. Unfortunately the form I'm trying to test (not my own code so I can't modify) doesn't have a Submit button. When working with it manually, I just type `ENTER` or `RETURN`. I need to know how to do that with the Selenium `type` command as there is no button to click.

[selenium](#) [automation](#) [automated-tests](#) [keypress](#) [enter](#)

edited Jul 31 '17 at 4:24

[Michael](#)

736 3 10

asked Oct 27 '09 at 6:32

[croixhaug](#)

1,122 3 10 12

- 2 This might help [asynchrony.blogspot.com/2008/11/...](#) – [Jonathan Parker](#) Oct 27 '09 at 6:38
- thanks, that was exactly what I needed! – [croixhaug](#) Oct 27 '09 at 6:46
- @croixhaug: What are you using? Selenium RC or WebDriver (Selenium 2)? What about language? Java? C#? or what? – [Ripon Al Wasim](#) Jan 24 '13 at 8:10
- @RiponAlWasim, in 2009 (when the question was asked) there were no WebDriver. Also the answers for both have been here for a while... – [Alex Okrushko](#) Jan 31 '13 at 22:14
- @AlexOkrushko: yes, you are right – [Ripon Al Wasim](#) Feb 1 '13 at 5:32

26 Answers

```
import org.openqa.selenium.Keys  
  
WebElement.sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);
```

the import statement is for Java, for other languages it is maybe a different, for example python: from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys

edited Nov 4 '12 at 9:48

[Ralph](#)

83.6k 34 214 318

- 3 +1 - that's what I needed – [Denis Kniazhev](#) Oct 6 '11 at 8:20
- 17 I believe that it's moved. from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys ([stackoverflow.com/questions/5503489/...](#)) – [James Broadhead](#) Jan 18 '12 at 17:06
- 2 I know that return is different than enter, but how is Keys.ENTER different? (I would think that Keys.RETURN would simply make it more obvious that it is a bot doing the action?) – [NoBrainer](#) Sep 21 '12 at 18:00
- 1 @NoBrainer: Quick look at imported file will answer your question: RETURN = '\ue006' ENTER = '\ue007' . But why? Some relic or OS differences. – [omikron](#) Jan 22 '14 at 15:10
- 2 @NoBrainer: Enter and Return are different keys, have a look at the image of this wikipedia article: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enter_key](#) – [Ralph](#) Oct 4 '15 at 9:52

JAVA

```
driver.findElement(By.id("Value")).sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);  
  
OR,  
  
driver.findElement(By.id("Value")).sendKeys(Keys.ENTER);
```

PYTHON

OR,

```
driver.find_element_by_name("Value").send_keys(Keys.ENTER)
```

OR,

```
element = driver.find_element_by_id("Value")
element.send_keys("keysToSend")
element.submit()
```

RUBY

```
element = @driver.find_element(:name, "value")
element.send_keys "keysToSend"
element.submit
```

OR,

```
element = @driver.find_element(:name, "value")
element.send_keys "keysToSend"
element.send_keys: return
```

OR,

```
@driver.action.send_keys(:enter).perform
@driver.action.send_keys(:return).perform
```

C#

```
driver.FindElement(By.Id("Value")).SendKeys(Keys.Return);
```

OR,

```
driver.FindElement(By.Id("Value")).SendKeys(Keys.Enter);
```

edited Jul 28 '17 at 15:56

answered Feb 28 '14 at 9:37



[Prashanth Sams](#)

5,756 6 42 63

1 submit saved the day where nothing else worked! Thank you!!! – [Javier C. H.](#) Nov 14 '17 at 2:09

Now that Selenium 2 has been released, it's a bit easier to send an Enter key, since you can do it with the `send_keys` method of the `selenium.webdriver.remote.webelement.WebElement` class (this example code is in Python, but the same method exists in Java):

```
>>> from selenium import webdriver
>>> wd = webdriver.Firefox()
>>> wd.get("http://localhost/example/page")
>>> textbox = wd.find_element_by_css_selector("input")
>>> textbox.send_keys("Hello World\n")
```

answered Apr 11 '11 at 17:17



[Eli Courtwright](#)

107k 53 189 240

When writing HTML tests, the ENTER key is available as `sendKeys(Keys.ENTER)`.

You can use it with `sendKeys`, here is an example:

```
sendKeys | id=search | ${KEY_ENTER}
```

edited Oct 24 '14 at 19:14

answered Jan 27 '14 at 22:54



[xyz](#)

16.2k 27 87 139



[Maurice Svay](#)

331 3 6

You just do this:

```
final private WebElement input = driver.findElement(By.id("myId"));
input.clear();
input.sendKeys(value); // the value we want to set to input
input.sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);
```

edited Oct 11 '12 at 8:40

answered Oct 11 '12 at 8:32



[Peter O.](#)

19k 9 53 66



[hoang nguyen](#)

772 4 12 20

just out of curiosity, why do you prefer writing 3 lines of code which you can write in a single line – [Shekhar Swami](#)
Apr 13 '16 at 9:44

```
selenium.keyPress("css=input.tagit-input.ui-autocomplete-input", "13");
```

edited Aug 18 '13 at 21:18



alecxe

291k 54 479 697

answered Oct 27 '09 at 18:26



Nirmal Patel

3,729 7 31 51

```
driver.findElement(By.id("Value")).sendKeys(Keys.RETURN); OR
driver.findElement(By.id("Value")).sendKeys(Keys.ENTER);
```

answered Oct 1 '15 at 7:58



Mosam Mehta

1,228 5 15 31

I just like to note that I needed this for my Cucumber tests and found out that if you like to simulate pressing the enter/return key, you need to send the `:return` value and *not* the `:enter` value (see the values described [here](#))

answered Jul 12 '11 at 8:18



Pascal Lindelauf

3,232 3 29 43

This is also true for a GWT input text field. – [joescii](#) Aug 19 '13 at 16:41

For those folks who are using WebDriverJS `Keys.RETURN` would be referenced as

```
webdriver.Key.RETURN
```

A more complete example as a reference might be helpful too:

```
var pressEnterToSend = function () {
  var deferred = webdriver.promise.defer();
  webdriver.findElement(webdriver.By.id('id-of-input-element')).then(function (element)
  {
    element.sendKeys(webdriver.Key.RETURN);
    deferred.resolve();
  });
  return deferred.promise;
};
```

edited Aug 18 '13 at 21:18



alecxe

291k 54 479 697

answered May 17 '13 at 11:15



Greg Stewart

656 7 9

For Selenium RC with Java:

```
selenium.keyPress("elementID", "\13");
```

For Selenium WebDriver(a.k.a. Selenium2) with java:

```
driver.findElement(By.id("elementID")).sendKeys(Keys.ENTER);
```

OR,

```
driver.findElement(By.id("elementID")).sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);
```

Another way to press Enter in WebDriver by using Actions class:

```
Actions action = new Actions(driver);
action.sendKeys(driver.findElement(By.id("elementID")), Keys.ENTER).build().perform();
```

edited Aug 11 '16 at 12:37

answered Apr 7 '15 at 9:48



Ripon Al Wasim

23.1k 27 116 147

```
search = browser.find_element_by_xpath("//*[ @type='text' ]")
search.send_keys(u'\ue007')
```

ENTER = u'\ue007'

refer selenium documentation 'Special Keys'

answered Jan 18 '16 at 7:52



This answer work but accidently voted it down because I used the wrong number. – [Martin Kersten](#) Feb 15 '16 at 8:48

if you are looking for "how to press enter key from keyboard in selenium webdriver(java)", then below code will definitely help you.

```
//assign key board object
Keyboard keyboard=((HasInputDevices) driver).getKeyboard();
//enter a key
keyboard.pressKey(Keys.ENTER);
```

answered May 28 '15 at 12:17



1 Could you please elaborate more your answer adding a little more description about the solution you provide? – [abarisone](#) May 28 '15 at 12:20

There are following ways of pressing keys - C#:

```
Driver.FindElement(By.Id("Value")).SendKeys(Keys.Return);
```

OR

```
OpenQA.Selenium.Interactions.Actions action = new
OpenQA.Selenium.Interactions.Actions(Driver);
action.SendKeys(OpenQA.Selenium.Keys.Escape);
```

OR

```
IWebElement body = GlobalDriver.FindElement(By.TagName("body"));
body.SendKeys(Keys.Escape);
```

answered Nov 7 '16 at 11:43



You can use either of `Keys.ENTER` or `Keys.RETURN`. Here are some details :

Usage :

- **Java** (`Keys.ENTER`)

```
//import
import org.openqa.selenium.Keys;
//using Keys.ENTER
driver.findElement(By.id("element_id")).sendKeys(Keys.ENTER);
```

- **Java** (`Keys.RETURN`)

```
//import
import org.openqa.selenium.Keys;
//using Keys.RETURN
driver.findElement(By.id("element_id")).sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);
```

- **Python** (`Keys.ENTER`)

```
#import
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
#using Keys.ENTER
driver.find_element_by_id("element_id").send_keys(Keys.ENTER)
```

- **Python** (`Keys.RETURN`)

```
#import
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
#using Keys.RETURN
driver.find_element_by_id("element_id").send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
```

`Keys.ENTER` and `Keys.RETURN` both are from `org.openqa.selenium.Keys`, which extends `java.lang.Enum<Keys>` and implements `java.lang.CharSequence`

Enum Keys :

`Enum Keys` is the representations of pressable keys that aren't text. These are stored in the Unicode PUA ([Private Use Area](#)) code points, 0xE000-0xF8FF.

Key Codes :



The special `keys codes` for them are as follows :





- **RETURN** = `u'\ue005'`
- **ENTER** = `u'\ue007'`

The implementation of all the `Enum Keys` are handled the same way.

Hence these is **No Functional Or Operational** difference while working with either `sendKeys(Keys.ENTER);` Or `WebElement.sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);` through **Selenium**.

Enter Key and Return Key :


On computer keyboards, the  (or the  on Mac OSX) in most cases causes a command line, window form, or dialog box to operate its default function. This is typically to finish an "entry" and begin the desired process, and is usually an alternative to pressing an OK button.

The  is often also referred as the  and they usually perform identical functions; however in some particular applications (mainly page layout)  operates specifically like the **Carriage Return** key from which it originates. In contrast, the  is commonly labelled with its name in plain text on generic PC keyboards.

Wiki References : [Enter Key](#) [Carriage Return](#)

edited Dec 15 '17 at 10:33

answered Dec 15 '17 at 10:10



DebanjanB

16.2k 4 15 43

Could be achieved using Action interface as well, in case of WebDriver -

```
WebElement username = driver.findElement(By.name("q"));
username.sendKeys(searchKey);
Actions action = new Actions(driver);
action.sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);
action.perform();
```

answered Oct 1 '13 at 6:32



anujin


295 7 19 35

Try to use XPATH for searching the element and then, the following code works:

```
driver.findElement(By.xpath("//*[id='txtFilterContentUnit']")).sendKeys(Keys.ENTER);
```


edited Nov 27 '13 at 11:12

answered Nov 27 '13 at 10:42



Abhijeet

19 7



Andre Silva

3,365 9 31 53

If the element has ID, it is better to use ID instead of xpath – [Ripon Al Wasim](#) Apr 7 '15 at 9:38

For RUBY: -

```
driver.find_element(:id,"XYZ").send_keys: return
```


edited Oct 24 '14 at 19:14

answered Apr 11 '14 at 22:15



SoftwareTestingEnthusiast

118 2 3 17



xyz

16.2k 27 87 139

You can try :

```
selenium.keyPress("id=", "\\13");
```

edited Oct 24 '14 at 19:14

answered Jan 22 '14 at 9:51



dexter

3 1



xyz

16.2k 27 87 139

For Selenium WebDriver using xpath (If the key is visible):

```
driver.findElement(By.xpath("xpath of text field")).sendKeys(Keys.ENTER);
```

or,

```
driver.findElement(By.xpath("xpath of text field")).sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);
```

edited May 9 '15 at 22:37

answered Apr 7 '15 at 10:26



[Lonely Neuron](#)
2,040 12 27



[Kumrun Nahar Keya](#)
388 3 16

If you are in this specific situation:

a) want to JUST press the key, but not have a specific webElement to click on

b) you are using Selenium 2 (webdriver)

Then the solution is:

```
Actions builder = new Actions(webDriverInstance);
builder.sendKeys(Keys.RETURN).perform();
```

edited May 12 '15 at 9:32

answered May 12 '15 at 9:07



[Ivo Mitev](#)
1 2

JAVA/JavaScript:

You could probably do it this way also, **non-natively**:

```
public void triggerButtonOnEnterKeyInTextField(String textFieldId, String clickableButId)
{
    ((JavascriptExecutor) driver).executeScript("
elementId = arguments[0];
buttonId = arguments[1];
document.getElementById(elementId)
.addEventListener("keyup", function(event) {
    event.preventDefault();
    if (event.keyCode == 13) {
        document.getElementById(buttonId).click();
    }
});", textFieldId, clickableButId);
}
```

edited Nov 2 '16 at 19:07

answered Oct 29 '16 at 20:39



[djangofan](#)
14.3k 39 140 220

```
object.sendKeys("your message",Keys.ENTER);
```

it works

answered Sep 4 '17 at 11:03



[Sanju Abel](#)
34 5

When You don't want to search any locator, You can use Robot class: eg:

```
Robot robot = new Robot();
robot.keyPress(KeyEvent.VK_ENTER);
robot.keyRelease(KeyEvent.VK_ENTER);
```

answered Nov 10 '17 at 9:49



[Krzysztof Walczewski](#)
143 2 8

```
Actions action = new Actions(driver);
action.sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);
```

edited Dec 15 '17 at 6:37



[iamankalp89](#)
3,088 2 6 27

answered Jan 6 '17 at 16:42



[Jack 666](#)
16 5

To enter keys using selenium First you need to import following library:

```
"import org.openqa.selenium.Keys"
```

then add this code where you want to enter key

```
"WebElement.sendKeys(Keys.RETURN);"
```

You can replace RETURN with any keys from the list according to your requirement

edited Feb 25 at 13:38

answered Aug 22 '16 at 11:49



[DebanjanB](#)

[RNS](#)



16.2k 4 15 43



484 3 14

I had to send enter key in the middle of a text. So I passed the following text to send keys function to achieve `1\n2\n3`

```
1\N{U+E007}2\N{U+E007}3
```

edited Apr 20 '15 at 6:38



Arslan Ali

11.7k 6 32 53

answered Apr 20 '15 at 6:06



Anand

123 1 1 11