

# Selenium How To Find An Element In Shadow DOM

In this session, we are going to start by locating an element in the Shadow DOM without using Selenium findElement method. I am going to use the same book [application](#) from our Introduction and find this search field.

Inspect. We are not able to locate this search field from the Elements tab because the search field is in a Shadow DOM. Do you see how the id attribute has a value of input? If this were the original DOM, we could use xpath or cssSelector to find this element. For cssSelector, start with the tag name input then id # and the value input. Did not find it. Remove the input tag name and still no success. For xpath, we write //input[@id='input'] and once again we are not able to find the search field.

In our diagram, the search field would be an element in the 1<sup>st</sup> Shadow DOM. Now, let us write our code to find the search field. The setUp method is pre-written for Chrome and it loads the book application. The tearDown method is commented out to quit the driver.

```
public class ShadowDOM {  
  
    WebDriver driver;  
  
    @BeforeMethod  
    public void setUp () {  
        WebDriverManager.chromedriver().setup();  
        driver = new ChromeDriver();  
        driver.manage().window().maximize();  
        driver.get("https://books-pwakit.appspot.com/");  
    }  
  
    @AfterMethod  
    public void tearDown () { //driver.quit();  
    }  
}
```

Our method is @Test public void findShadowDOMWithoutSeleniumFindElement () { } We have 3 steps to find an element in the Shadow DOM. 1<sup>st</sup> we // Provide Access So The Driver Can Execute JavaScript 2<sup>nd</sup> is to // Execute JavaScript To Return A WebElement 3<sup>rd</sup> we // Perform An Action On The WebElement

```
@Test
public void findShadowDOMWithoutSeleniumFindElement () {
    // Provide Access So The Driver Can Execute JavaScript
    |
    // Execute JavaScript To Return A WebElement

    // Perform An Action On The WebElement
}
```

JavaScriptExecutor is an interface with jsExecutor; as the reference; JavaScriptExecutor indicates that a driver can execute JavaScript, providing access to the mechanism.

```
org.openqa.selenium
public interface JavascriptExecutor
```

Indicates that a driver can execute JavaScript,  
providing access to the mechanism to do so.

Because of cross domain policies browsers enforce your script execution may fail unexpectedly and without adequate error messaging. This is particularly pertinent when creating your own XHR request or when trying to access another frame. Most times when troubleshooting failure it's best to view the

So we convert to = (JavaScriptExecutor) from the driver; At this point, the driver has access to execute JavaScript.

Now, that we have access the jsExecutor. will execute the Script("");The executeScript method executes JavaScript. I want you to notice 2 things in this intellisense. #1 Within the script, we use document to refer to the current document and #2 If the script has a return value, then the following steps will be taken. Our test will return an HTML element, so this method returns a WebElement.

```
org.openqa.selenium.JavascriptExecutor  
public abstract Object executeScript(String script,  
                                   Object... args)
```

**Executes JavaScript** in the context of the currently selected frame or window. The script fragment provided will be executed as the body of an anonymous function.

Within the script, use `document` to refer to the current document. Note that local variables will not be available once the script has finished executing, though global variables will persist.

If the script has a return value (i.e. if the script contains a return statement), then the following steps will be taken:

- For an HTML element, this method returns a `WebElement`

To sum up the information from intellisense, our `executeScript` method will “return a `WebElement` and use `document`”. Since the script returns a `WebElement`, we cast `(WebElement)` then assign it to `WebElement` with a name like `bookSearchField =`. To complete this script, we need the path from JavaScript.

Go back to our AUT. I’m going to show you 2 more ways for finding this path but for now let’s just keep it simple and we right click the element, select Copy, Copy JS path. That’s it. Go back to our code and Paste the script. This is the path for our `bookSearchField` and the script returns a `WebElement`, `document` represents our web page, `querySelector` allows us to find the book-app element using `cssSelector`, `shadowRoot` is a property representing the shadow root element. Finally, we have the `querySelector` to find the search field element using `cssSelector` hashtag `#input`.

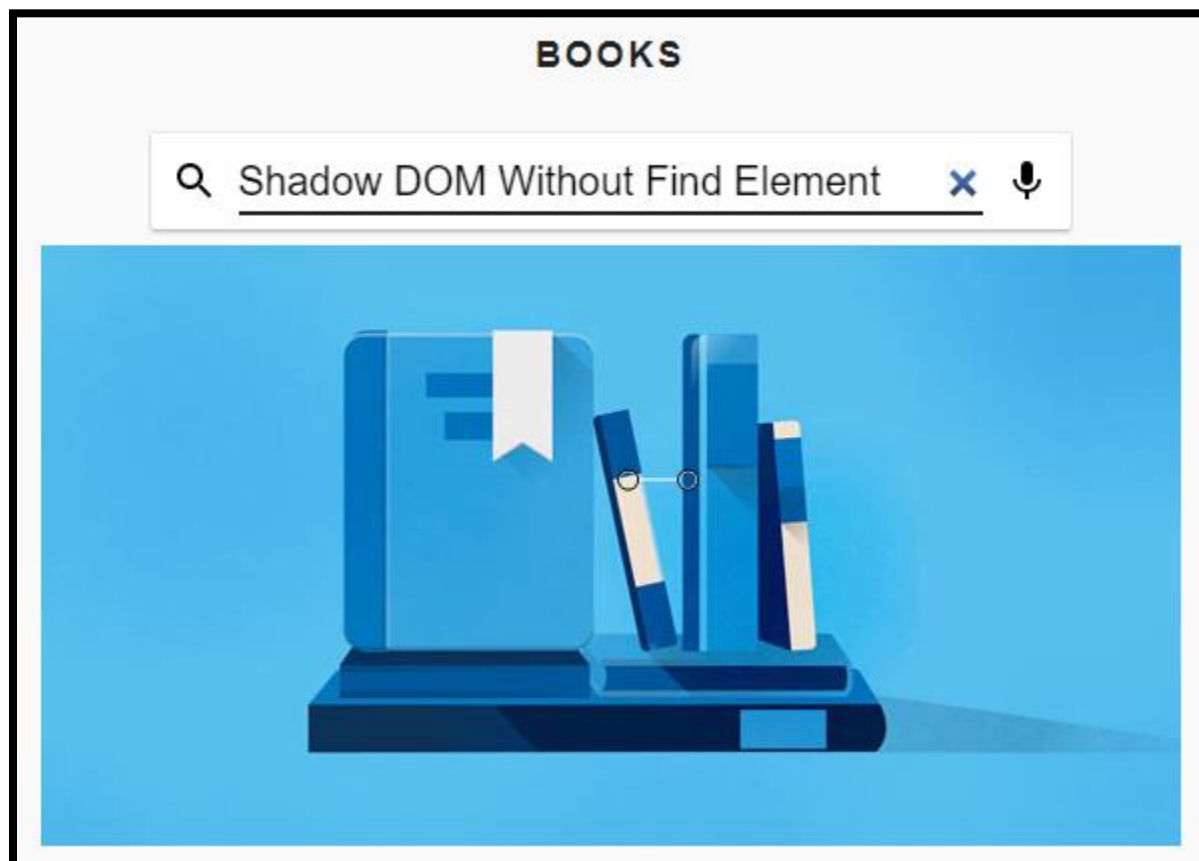
Last step is to perform an action on the `WebElement` by writing `bookSearchField.sendKeys(“Shadow DOM Without Find Element”)`.

```
@Test
public void findShadowDOMWithoutSeleniumFindElement () {
    // Provide Access So The Driver Can Execute JavaScript
    JavascriptExecutor jsExecutor = (JavascriptExecutor) driver;

    // Execute JavaScript To Return A WebElement
    WebElement bookSearchField = (WebElement) jsExecutor.executeScript(
        script: "return document.querySelector(\"body > book-app\") +
                \"shadowRoot.querySelector(\"#input\")\"");

    // Perform An Action On The WebElement
    bookSearchField.sendKeys(...keysToSend: "Shadow DOM Without Find Element");
}
```

Let's Run. Bingo, in the search field we see Shadow DOM Without Using Find Element.



That's it. Thanks for watch and I'll see you in the next session.

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