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# Browser Dev Tools Cheat Sheet

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In order to address some browser issues reports by users of web applications it becomes necessary to use the **Dev Tools** build into the browser.

Dev Tools can be executed by pressing the **F12** key. The GUI for Dev tools varies from one browser to another.

Often the Dev Tools can uncover some issues on how the browser and the web application interact. The Web Tools provide a way to vide the JavaScript and CSS errors that can't be seen normally.



The DevTools **F12** will appear slightly different depending on the browser you are using.

This document will be available via the <https://tinyurl.com/y7kspwj8> link.

The PDF version of this document is available at the link below.

[Dev Tools Cheatsheet PDF](#)

## Console

One of the most powerful features for debugging a web app is the **Console**. In some cases there are errors and warning that can't be seen without the Dev-Tools console.

## Chrome Browser

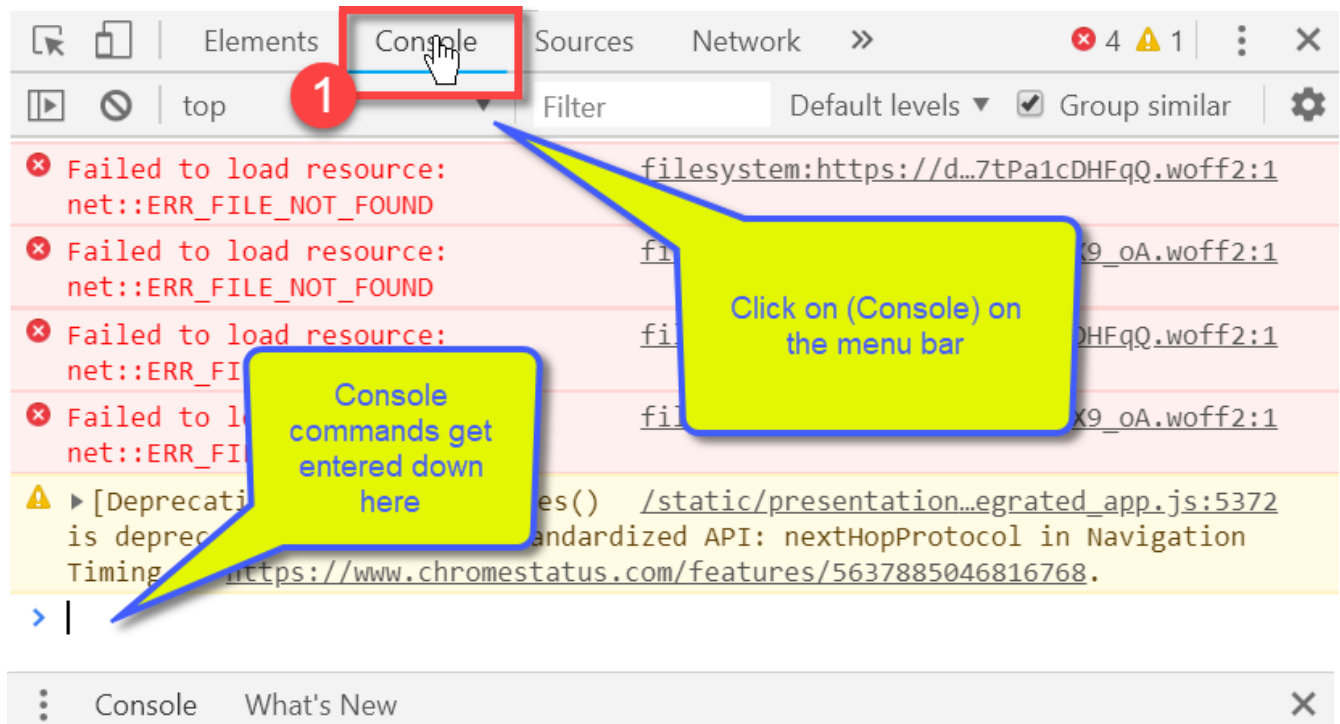


Figure 1. Chrome Dev Tools

# Internet Explorer (not Edge)

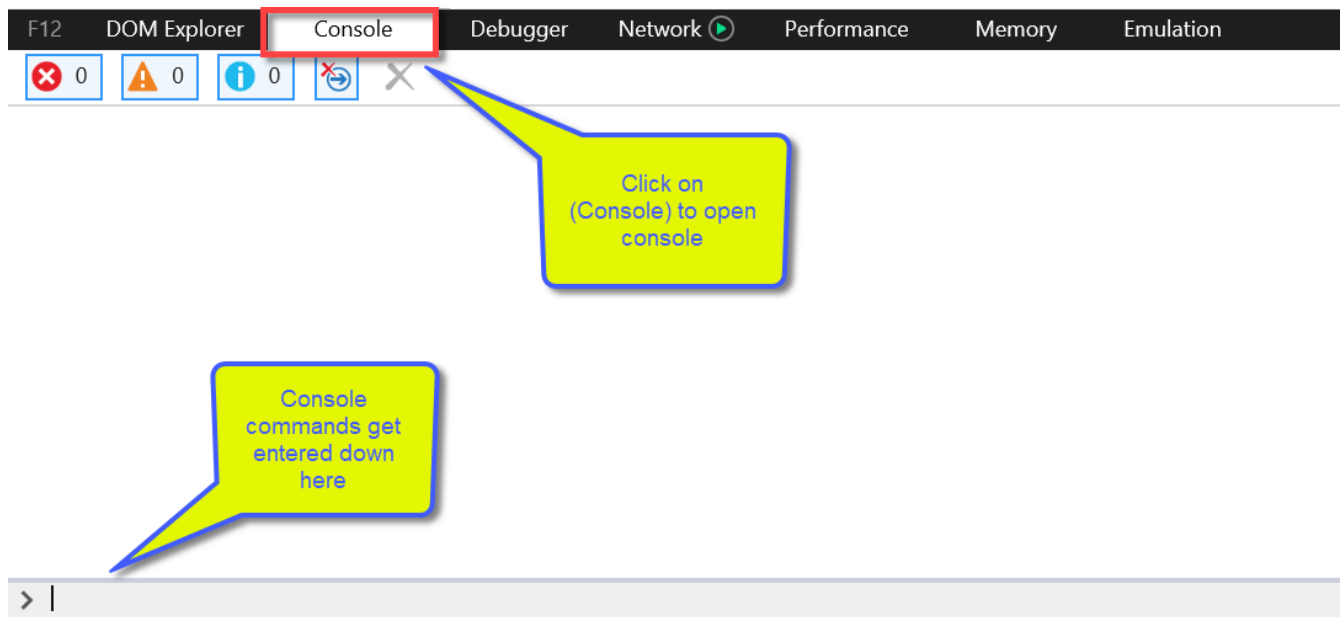


Figure 2. Internet Explorer Dev Tools (Not Edge)

# Microsoft Edge (Not Internet Explorer)



Figure 3. Edge (Not Internet Explorer) Dev Tools

## Writing to the console

Use the `console.log()` method for any basic logging to the console. It takes one or more expressions as parameters and writes their current values to the console, concatenating multiple parameters into a space-delimited line.

## Browser Versions

The browser version can often have an impact on how a web page performs and displays.

# Chrome Version

Display the current version information about Chrome.



This is entered in as a URL, **not** a F12 DevTool command.

```
chrome://device
```

```
Google Chrome: 69.0.3497.100 (Official Build) (64-bit) (cohort: Stable)
Revision: 8920e690dd011895672947112477d10d5c8afb09-refs/branch-heads/3497@{#948}
OS: Windows
JavaScript: V8 6.9.427.23
Flash: 31.0.0.108
C:\Users\jschust2\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User
Data\PepperFlash\31.0.0.108\pepflashplayer.dll
User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36
(KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/69.0.3497.100 Safari/537.36
Command Line: "C:\Program Files
(x86)\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" --flag-switches-
begin --flag-switches-end
Executable Path: C:\Program Files (x86)\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe
Profile Path: C:\Users\jschust2\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User
Data\Profile 1
```

Figure 4. Example Chrome Version

# Internet Explorer Version

Some issues are caused by the wrong version of Internet Explorer being used.

This is done from the DevTools F12 menu.

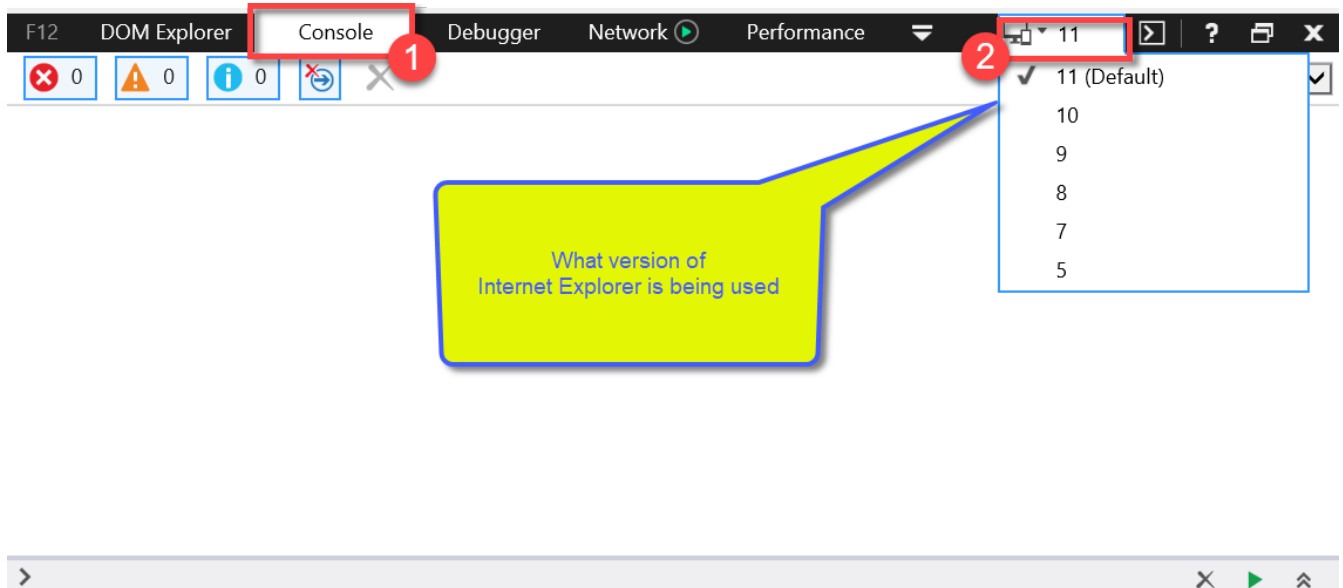


Figure 5. Ineternet Explorer Version

You can change the Version of the IE browser by selecting one from the list. The Internet Explorer Version will temporarily be set to that version.

This great for testing if the IE browser version is the issue.

## Edge Version (Emulation)

The newer Microsoft Edge browser has an **Emulation** feature from the menu that lets you emulate many different browsers.

This is done from the DevTools **F12** menu.

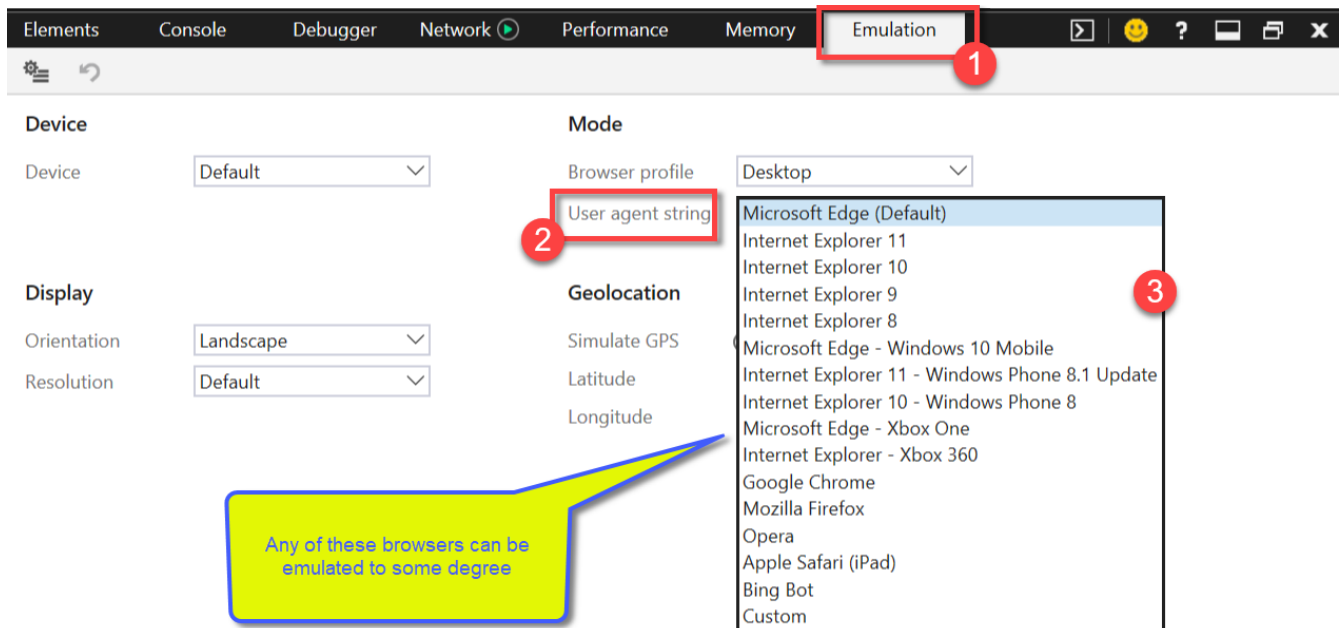


Figure 6. Edge Version (Emulation)

## Command Menu

Many of the commands for the Dev tools can be quickly access via the Google Chrome Command Menu.

A description of the Chrome Devtools protocol with commands is available [at this link](#).

## Google Chrome Browser

Press **Ctrl+Shift+P** for the Command Menu, then scroll up and down list for the command you need.

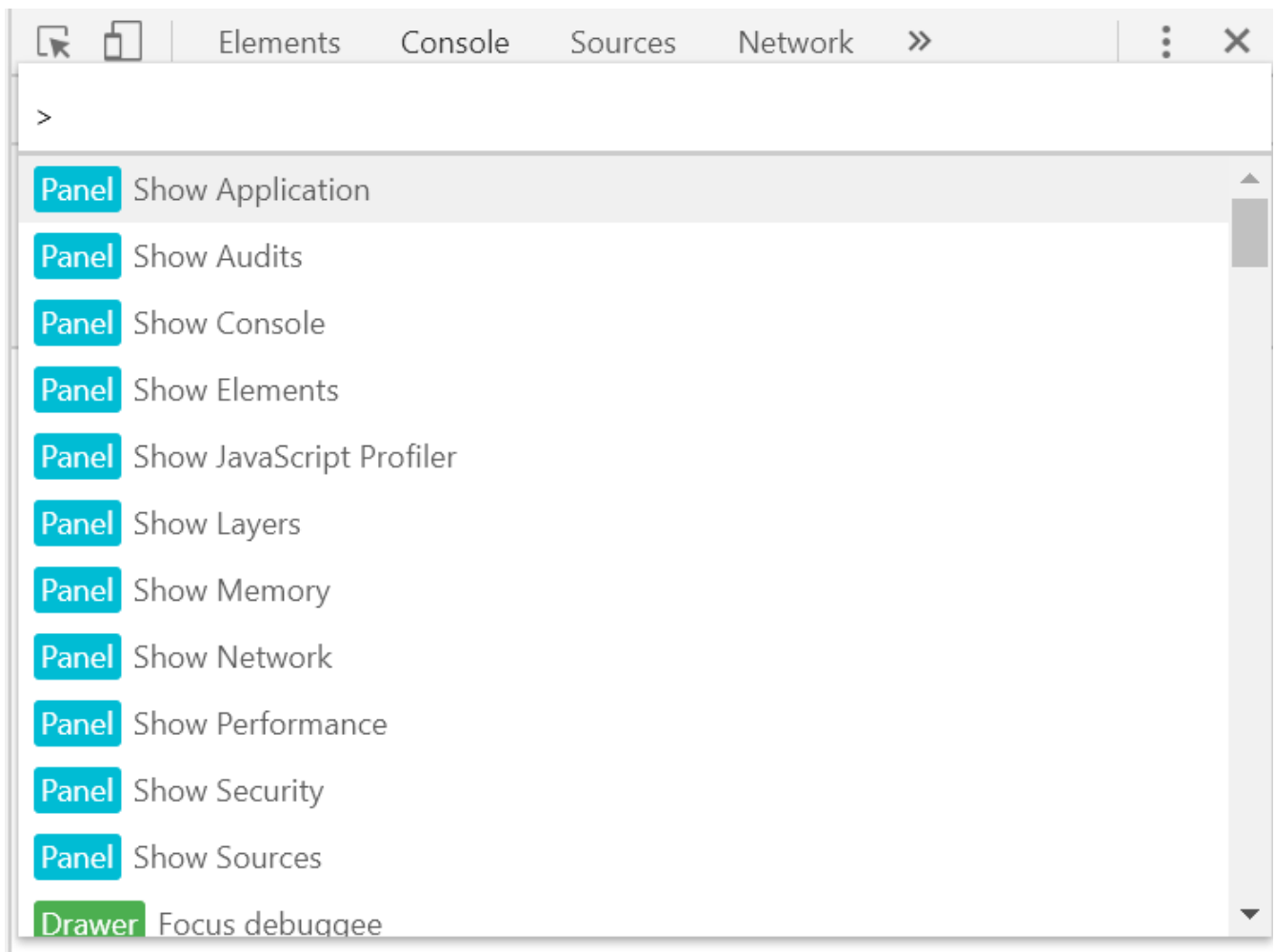


Figure 7. Example Command Menu

## DevTool Commands

Here is a list of the DevTool commands that have proven useful for debugging browser issues.

[Clear Console](#) - Clear off console

[Current Date/Time](#) - Display timestamp for testing

[Display Body DOM](#) - Display properties of body of web page

[Network Panel Description](#) - What do columns mean?

[Reload Page](#) - Reload the last page

[Save Console to file](#) - Save content of the log to a file

[Sources](#) - Look at the source code

---

## Clear Console

Clear the console out to start a new test.

```
clear()
```

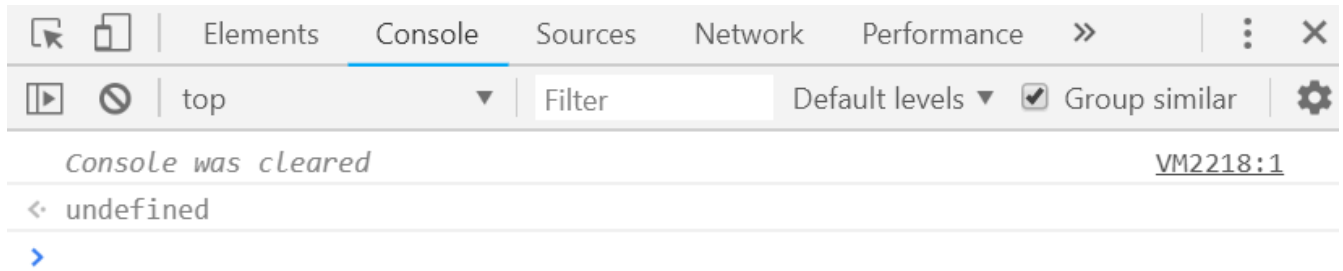


Figure 8. Example Clear Console

## Current Date/Time

### Current Date / Time

Sometimes it is good to get a date and time stamp in the console for timestamp to work. This example also shows how the **group** can be used to make the format look professional.

```
console.group("Testing Timestamp");
console.log("Phoenix Workgroup Test");
now = new Date();
console.log( now );
console.groupEnd();
```

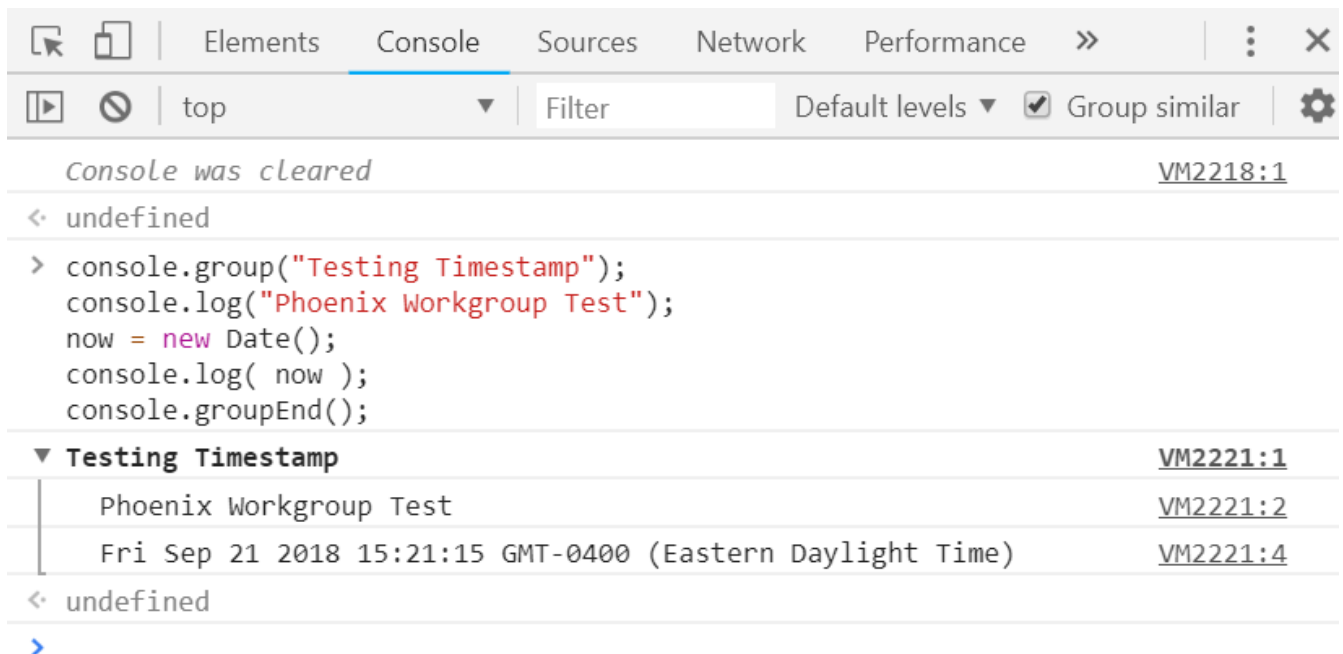


Figure 9. Example Timestamp



# Display Body DOM

Displays expandable list of the body of the web page.



Remember to open up the single line is result for all properties.

```
console.dir(document.body)
```

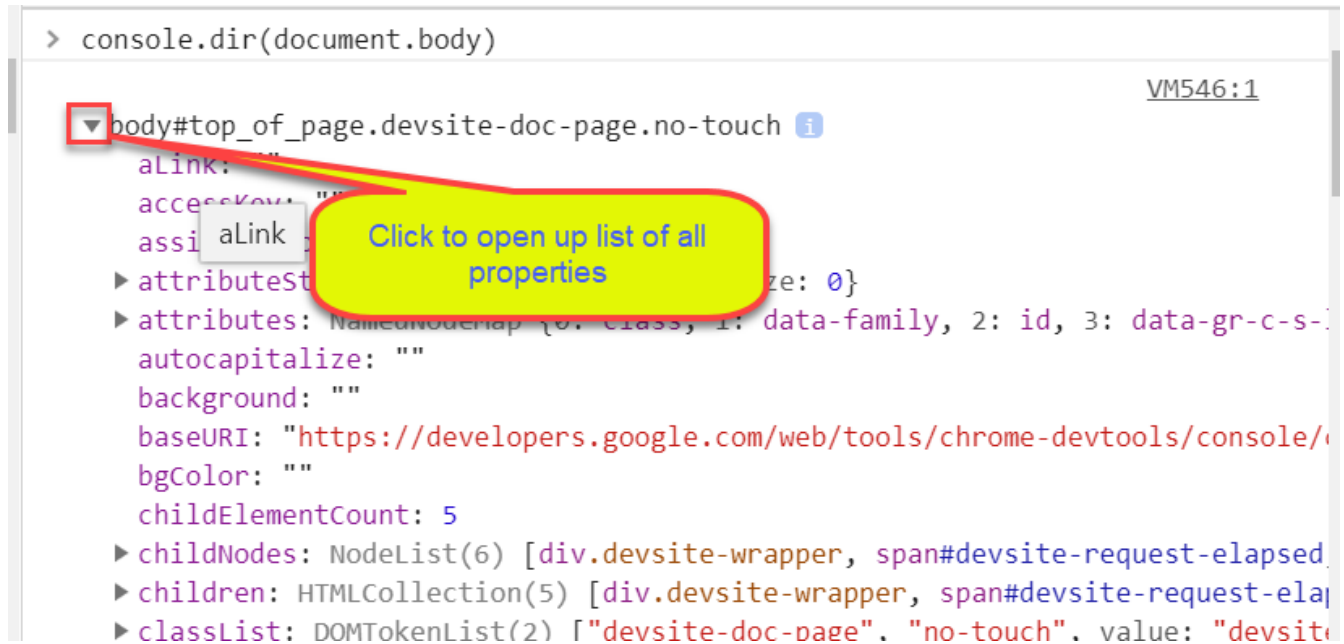


Figure 10. Example document.body properties

## Network Panel Description

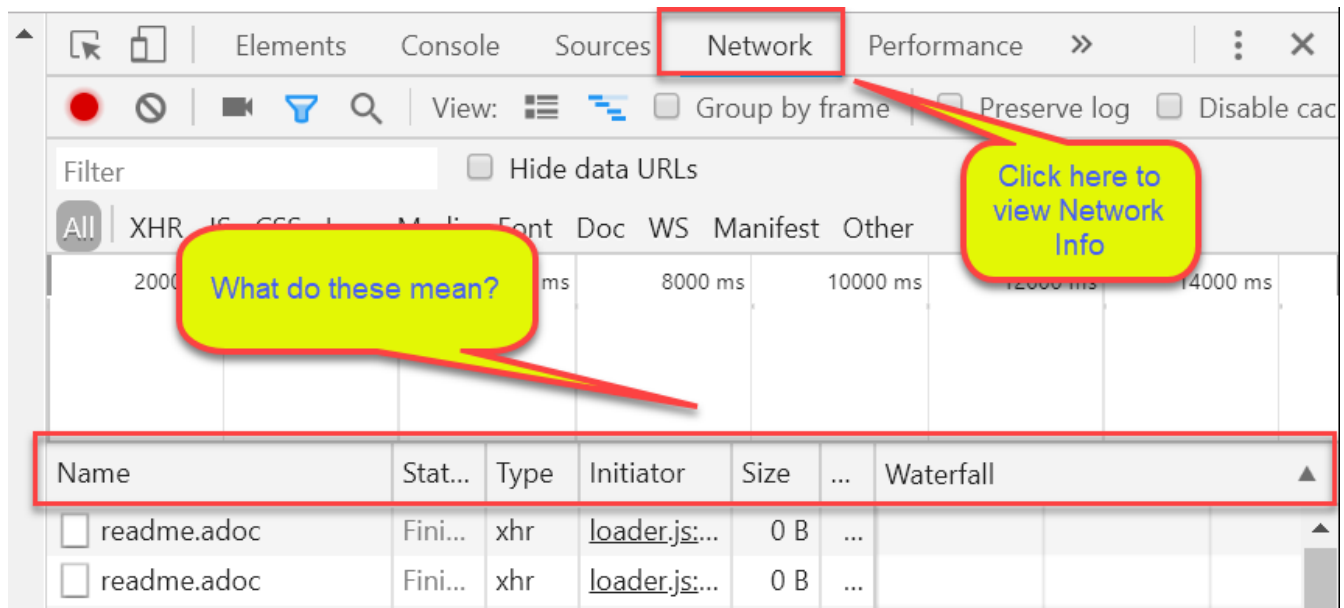


Figure 11. Network Tab

What do columns in the Network Panel mean?

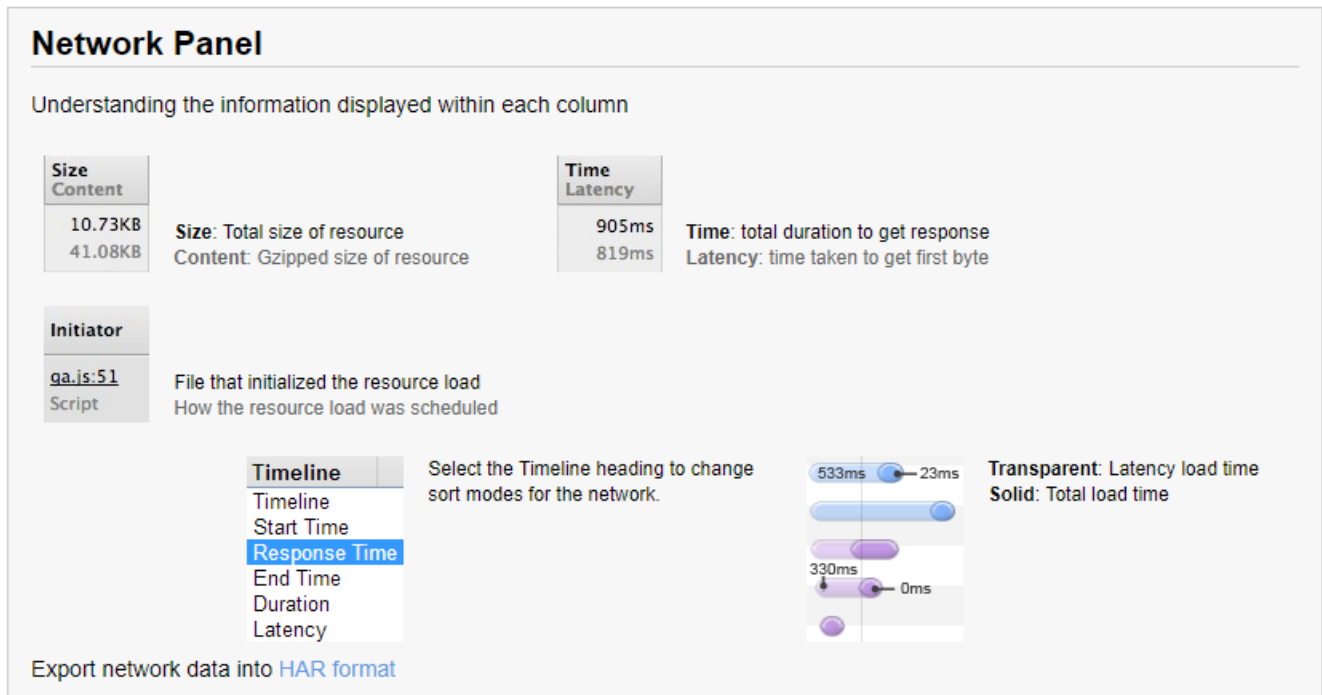


Figure 12. Network Panel Description

## Reload Page

Sometime it is necessary to reload the page. (ie: update network info).

Press the **F5**

## Save Console to file

Save the content of the console to a file.



This is done inside of the active console window.

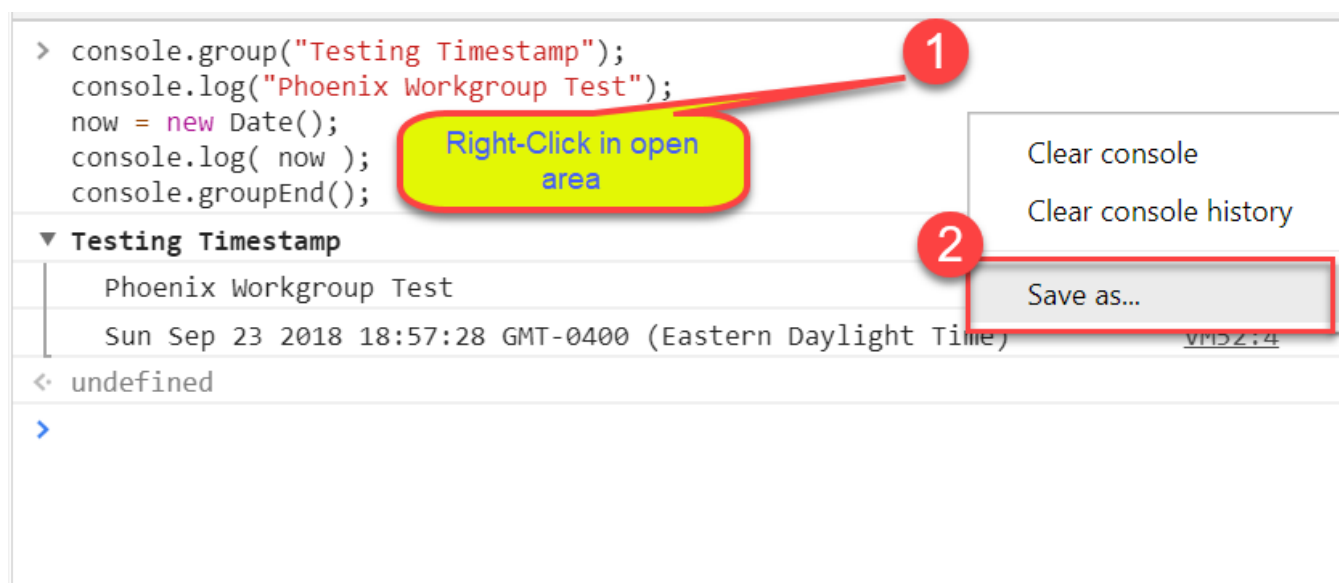


Figure 13. Save console to file

```

1 console.group("Testing Timestamp");
2 console.log("Phoenix Workgroup Test");
3 now = new Date();
4 console.log( now );
5 console.groupEnd();
6 VM52:1 Testing Timestamp
7 VM52:2 Phoenix Workgroup Test
8 VM52:4 Sun Sep 23 2018 18:57:28 GMT-0400 (Eastern Daylight Time)
9 undefined
10

```

Figure 14. Example Saved Console Log

## Sources

By clicking on the Sources menu item you can view a list of most of the source files for the website.

By clicking on one of the items on the tree the code will be displayed.

## Google Chrome

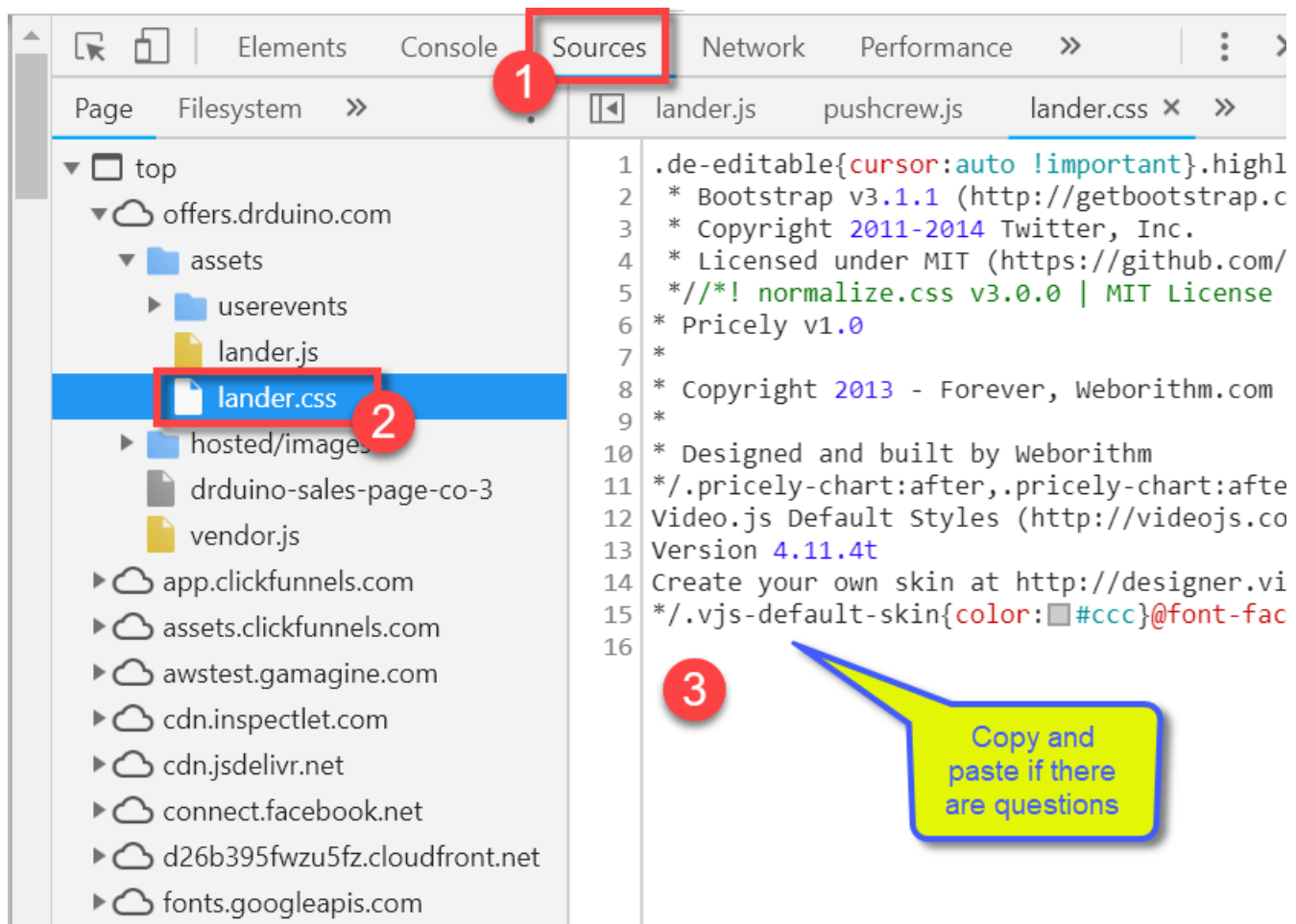
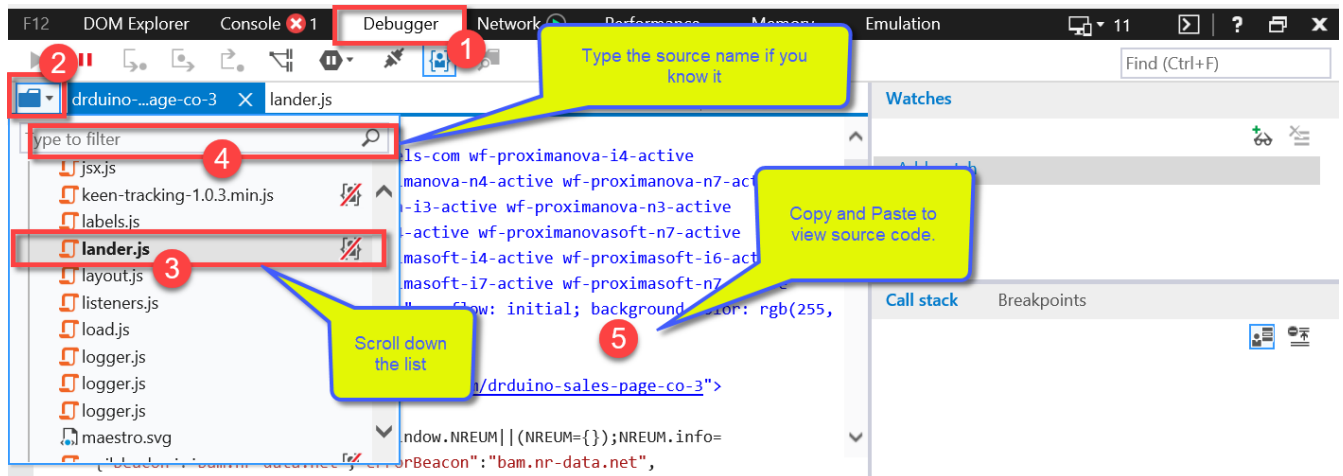
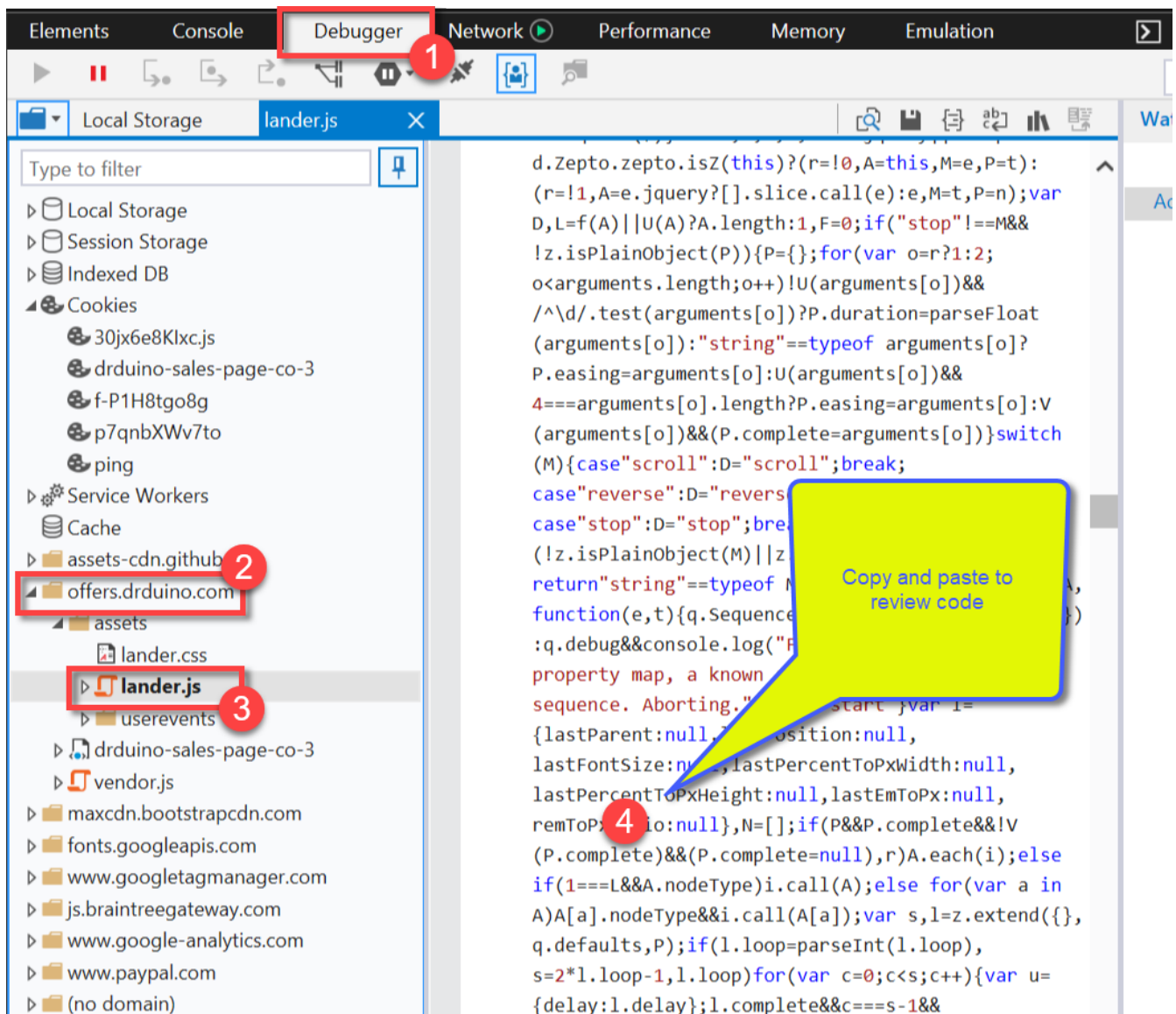


Figure 15. Chrome Sources

## Internet Explorer (Not Edge)



## Edge (Not IE)



# References

There have been many web sites that have contributed to this document.

*Table 1. Contributing references*

Name	URL	Contributes
AntiCode Dev Tools	<a href="http://anti-code.com/devtools-cheatsheet/">http://anti-code.com/devtools-cheatsheet/</a>	Cheat sheet, slow!
Google Web Developer	<a href="https://developers.google.com/web/tools/chrome-devtools/console/console-write">https://developers.google.com/web/tools/chrome-devtools/console/console-write</a>	Basics
Do anything in console	<a href="https://umaar.com/dev-tips/98-command-menu/">https://umaar.com/dev-tips/98-command-menu/</a>	Examples

# Document History

*Table 2. Document History*

Date	Version	Author	Description
10/04/2018	V2.1d	JHRS	Added IE/Edge example Added Source viewing
08/23/2018	V2.1c	JHRS	Updated with Command Menu, better structure
09/21/2018	V2.1b	JHRS	Initial version