

The `beforeUpdate` function schedules work to happen immediately before the DOM is updated. `afterUpdate` is its counterpart, used for running code once the DOM is in sync with your data.

Together, they're useful for doing things imperatively that are difficult to achieve in a purely state-driven way, like updating the scroll position of an element.

This [Eliza](#) chatbot is annoying to use, because you have to keep scrolling the chat window. Let's fix that.

```
let div;
let autoscroll;

beforeUpdate(() => {
  autoscroll = div && (div.offsetHeight + div.scrollTop) > (div.scrollHeight -
20);
});

afterUpdate(() => {
  if (autoscroll) div.scrollTo(0, div.scrollHeight);
});
```

Note that `beforeUpdate` will first run before the component has mounted, so we need to check for the existence of `div` before reading its properties.