

# BUG: Internet Explorer Fails to Set the innerHTML Property of the Select Object

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## SYMPTOMS

When you set the **innerHTML** property of the **Select** object, the changes do not take effect correctly.

## RESOLUTION

If you must use **innerHTML**, a workaround is to use a **Div** object to wrap the **SELECT** element and then set the **innerHTML** property for the **Div** object. For example:

```
<html> <head> <title>My Example</title> <script language="Javascript"> var origDivHTML; function init() { origDivHTML = myDiv.innerHTML; } function setValues() { var oldInnerHTML = "your original innerHTML: " + yourDiv.innerHTML; alert(oldInnerHTML); yourDiv.innerHTML = origDivHTML; var curInnerHTML = "your current innerHTML: " + yourDiv.innerHTML; alert(curInnerHTML); } </script> </head> <body onload="init()"> <div id="myDiv"> <select name="firstSelect" size="1"> <option>1111</option> <option>2222</option> <option>3333</option> </select> </div> <div id="yourDiv"> <select name="secondSelect" size="1"> <option>aaaa</option> <option>bbbb</option> <option>cccc</option> </select> </div> <button onclick = "setValues();">click me to set the values</button> </body> </html>
```

Ideally, you should use the **options** collection to add the options of a **SELECT** element. The following code shows three ways to programmatically add options to the **SELECT** element:

```
<HTML> <HEAD> <TITLE></TITLE> </HEAD> <BODY> <script> function fill_select1() { for(var i=0; i < 100; i++) { select1.options[i] = new Option(i,i); } } function fill_select2() { var sOpts = "<SELECT>"; for (var i=0;i<100;i++) { sOpts += '<OPTION VALUE="" + i + ''>' + i + '</OPTION>\n'; } select2.outerHTML = sOpts + "</SELECT>"; } function fill_select3() { for(var i=0; i < 100; i++) { var oOption = document.createElement("OPTION"); oOption.text="Option: " + i; oOption.value=i; document.all.select3.add(oOption) } } </script> <H2>SELECT Box Population</H2> <SELECT id=select1 name=select1></SELECT> <INPUT type="button" value="Populate with options list" id=button1 name=button1 onclick="fill_select1();"><BR><BR> <SELECT id=select2 name=select2></SELECT> <INPUT type="button" value="Populate with outerHTML" id=button2 name=button2 onclick="fill_select2();"><BR><BR> <SELECT id=select3 name=select3></SELECT> <INPUT type="button" value="Populate with using createElement" id=button3 name=button3 onclick="fill_select3();"> </BODY> </HTML>
```

## STATUS

Microsoft has confirmed that this is a bug in the Microsoft products that are listed at the beginning of this article.

## MORE INFORMATION

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

The following sample code illustrates this bug:

```
<html> <head> <script language="JavaScript"> function test() { var objSelect = document.all.idSelect; var strOriginal = objSelect.innerHTML; objSelect.innerHTML = strOriginal; var strNewHTML = objSelect.innerHTML; if (strNewHTML == strOriginal) alert("Test passed."); else alert("Test failed: innerHTML = " + strNewHTML); } </script> </head> <body> <select id="idSelect"> <option value="line1">Option 1</option> <option value="line2">Option 2</option> </select> <input type="button" value="test" onclick="test()" /> </body> </html>
```

## REFERENCES

For more information on the **Select** object, see the following article on the Microsoft Developer Network (MSDN):

[Select-Object](http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dd315291.aspx) (http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dd315291.aspx)

For more information on the **options** collection, see the following article on MSDN:

[Options Collection](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms537472(v=vs.85).aspx) (http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms537472(v=vs.85).aspx)

## Properties

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