



# Online Resources

The following online resources represent a starting point for learning more about jQuery, JavaScript, and web development in general beyond what is covered in this book. There are far too many sources of quality information on the Web for this appendix to approach anything resembling an exhaustive list. Furthermore, while other print publications can also provide valuable information, they are not noted here.

## jQuery documentation

These resources offer references and details on the jQuery library itself.

### Official jQuery documentation

The documentation on [jquery.com](http://jquery.com) includes the full jQuery API, tutorials, getting started guides, and more: <http://docs.jquery.com/>.

### jQuery API browser

In addition to the HTML version at [docs.jquery.com](http://docs.jquery.com), the API is available via a convenient browser application: <http://api.jquery.com/>.

### Adobe AIR jQuery API Viewer

*Remy Sharp* has packaged the jQuery API into an Adobe AIR application for offline viewing. A Flash AIR installer available at <http://api.jquery.com/> is the recommended method of installing the viewer. It is also available for direct download at the following address: <http://remysharp.com/downloads/jquery-api-browser.air.zip>.

## JavaScript reference

These sites offer references and guides to JavaScript as a language in general, rather than jQuery in particular.

### Mozilla Developer Center

This site has a comprehensive JavaScript reference, a guide to programming with JavaScript, links to helpful tools, and more: <http://developer.mozilla.org/en/docs/JavaScript/>.

### Client-Side JavaScript Reference

This online book provided by Sun is "a reference manual for the JavaScript language, including both core and client-side JavaScript for version 1.3": <http://docs.sun.com/source/816-6408-10/contents.htm>.

### MSDN Reference

The **Microsoft Developer Network (MSDN)** JScript Reference provides descriptions of the full set of functions, objects, and so on. It's especially helpful for understanding Microsoft's implementation of the ECMAScript standard in Internet Explorer:

[http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/x85xxsf4\(VS.71\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/x85xxsf4(VS.71).aspx).

Additionally, the MSDN, HTML, and DHTML reference provides descriptions of collections, events, constants, methods, objects, and properties in the DHTML Object Model. As with the JScript Reference, it can be especially useful for cases in which Internet Explorer deviates from the standard or Internet Explorer's interpretation of an ambiguous specification differs from that of other major browsers:

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms533050%28VS.85%29.aspx>.

### Dev.Opera

While focused primarily on its own browser platform, Opera's site for web developers includes a number of useful articles on JavaScript:

<http://dev.opera.com/articles/>.

### Quirksmode

*Peter-Paul Koch's* Quirksmode site is a terrific resource for understanding differences in the way browsers implement various JavaScript functions, as well as many CSS properties: <http://www.quirksmode.org/>.

## JavaScript Toolbox

Matt Kruse's JavaScript Toolbox offers a large assortment of homespun JavaScript libraries, as well as sound advice on JavaScript best practices and a collection of vetted JavaScript resources elsewhere on the Web:  
<http://www.javascripttoolbox.com/>.

## comp.lang.javascript FAQ

This page includes a very lengthy list of questions frequently asked on the *comp.lang.javascript* Usenet group, along with answers and links to further information: <http://www.jibbering.com/faq/>.

## JavaScript code compressors

When putting the finishing touches on a site, it is often advisable to minify the JavaScript code. This process reduces download time for all users of the site, especially when coupled with server-side compression.

### JSMin

Created by *Douglas Crockford*, JSMin is a filter that removes comments and unnecessary whitespaces from JavaScript files. It typically reduces file size by half, resulting in faster downloads, especially when combined with server-based file compression. Some web sites host the tool to allow users to minify their code by pasting it into a textarea. JSMin can be downloaded as an MS-DOS .exe file or as source code written in a variety of programming languages:  
<http://www.crockford.com/javascript/jsmin.html>.

### YUI Compressor

The YUI Compressor is "designed to be 100% safe and yield a higher compression ratio than most other tools". As of version 2.0, it is also able to minify CSS files. It requires Java version 1.4 or greater: <http://developer.yahoo.com/yui/compressor/>.

### Google Closure Compiler

This new service from Google performs a similar compression to JSMin, and in some tests has been found to achieve a higher degree of compression. The compiler is available as both a standalone application and an on-demand API.

This tool also integrates a JavaScript syntax checker that warns of possible errors and code defects: <http://code.google.com/closure/compiler/>.

## Packer

This JavaScript compressor/obfuscator by *Dean Edwards* was used to compress the source code of previous versions of jQuery. The tool is available as a web-based tool or as a free download. The resulting code is very efficient in file size at a cost of a small increase in execution time. Although it is no longer officially recommended, it may be a legitimate option when server-side file compression is not available:

<http://dean.edwards.name/packer/>

<http://dean.edwards.name/download/#packer>

## JavaScript code decompressors

It may be necessary at times to reverse the results of minification or compression/obfuscation in order to debug or learn from the code. The following online tools can help.

### Pretty Printer

This tool prettifies JavaScript that has been compressed, restoring line breaks and indentation where possible. It provides a number of options for tailoring the results:

<http://www.prettyprinter.de/>.

### JavaScript beautifier

Similar to Pretty Printer, this tool unpacks compressed or minified code to make it much more readable. In addition to the web-based version, the JavaScript beautifier is available as a command-line tool using the Rhino JavaScript engine and as an add-on to the Fiddler web debugging proxy for Windows: <http://jsbeautifier.org/>.

## (X)HTML reference

The jQuery library is at its best when working with properly formatted semantic HTML and XHTML documents. The resource below provides assistance with these markup languages.

### W3C Hypertext Markup Language Home Page

The **World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)** sets the standard for (X)HTML, and the HTML home page is a great launching point for its specifications and guidelines:

<http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/>.

Additionally, the new HTML5 Editor's Draft contains information about the upcoming version of the HTML specification: <http://dev.w3.org/html5/spec/Overview.html>.

## CSS reference

The effects and animations we have seen time and again all rely on the power of Cascading Stylesheets. To incorporate the visual flourishes we desire in our sites, we may need to turn to these CSS resources for guidance.

### W3C Cascading Style Sheets Home Page

The W3C's CSS home page provides links to tutorials, specifications, test suites, and other resources: <http://www.w3.org/Style/CSS/>.

### Mezzoblue CSS Crib Sheet

*Dave Shea* provides this helpful CSS Crib Sheet in an attempt to make the design process easier, and provides a quick reference to check when you run into trouble: <http://mezzoblue.com/css/cribsheet/>.

### Position Is Everything

This site includes a catalog of CSS browser bugs along with explanations of how to overcome them: <http://www.positioniseverything.net/>.

## Useful blogs

New techniques and features are always being developed and introduced for any living technology. Staying on top of innovations can be made easier by checking in with these sources of web development news from time to time.

### The jQuery blog

*John Resig* and other contributors to the official jQuery blog post announcements about new versions and other initiatives among the project team, as well as occasional tutorials and editorial pieces: <http://blog.jquery.com/>.

### Learning jQuery

*Karl Swedberg* runs this blog for jQuery tutorials, techniques, and announcements. Guest authors include jQuery team members *Mike Alsup* and *Brandon Aaron*: <http://www.learningjquery.com/>.

### jQuery for Designers

This blog by *Remy Sharp* offers a number of tutorials and screencasts aimed primarily at designers who want to leverage the power of jQuery: <http://jqueryfordesigners.com/>.

## Ajaxian

This frequently-updated blog begun by *Dion Almaer* and *Ben Galbraith* provides a tremendous amount of news and features and the occasional tutorial about JavaScript: <http://ajaxian.com/>.

## John Resig

The creator of jQuery, *John Resig*, discusses advanced JavaScript topics on his personal blog: <http://ejohn.org/>.

## JavaScript Ant

This site contains a repository of articles pertaining to JavaScript and its usage in modern web browsers, as well as an organized list of JavaScript resources found elsewhere on the Web: <http://javascriptant.com/>.

## Robert's talk

*Robert Nyman* writes about developing for the Internet, especially client-side scripting: <http://www.robertnyman.com/>.

## Snook

*Jonathan Snook*'s general programming/web-development blog has a number of useful articles on advanced JavaScript and CSS techniques: <http://snook.ca/>.

## Paul Irish

*Paul Irish* writes about jQuery, JavaScript, and cutting-edge web development topics: <http://paulirish.com/>.

## NCZOnline

The blog of *Nicholas C. Zakas* contains reviews and articles on web site performance, JavaScript, and other web-related topics: <http://www.nczonline.net/blog/>.

## I Can't

Three sites by *Christian Heilmann* provide blog entries, sample code, and lengthy articles related to JavaScript and web development:

<http://icant.co.uk/>

<http://www.wait-till-i.com/>

<http://www.onlinetools.org/>

## DOM scripting

*Jeremy Keith's* blog picks up where the popular DOM scripting book leaves off—a fantastic resource for unobtrusive JavaScript: <http://domscripting.com/blog/>.

## Steve Souders

Author of the acclaimed books *High Performance Websites* and *Even Faster Websites* Steve Souders posts the results of his research on performance-related issues on his web site: <http://www.stevesouders.com/blog/>.

## As days pass by

*Stuart Langridge* experiments with advanced use of the browser DOM: <http://www.kryogenix.org/code/browser/>.

## A List Apart

*A List Apart* explores the design, development, and meaning of web content with a special focus on web standards and best practices: <http://www.alistapart.com/>.

# Web development frameworks using jQuery

As developers of open source projects become aware of jQuery, many are incorporating the JavaScript library into their own systems. The following is an abbreviated list of these adopters:

CouchDB: <http://couchdb.apache.org/>

Digitalus CMS: <http://code.google.com/p/digitalus-cms/>

DotNetNuke: <http://www.dotnetnuke.com/>

Drupal: <http://drupal.org/>

DutchPIPE: <http://dutchpipe.org/>

ExpressionEngine: <http://expressionengine.com/>

Hpricot: <http://wiki.github.com/hpricot/hpricot>

JobberBase: <http://www.jobberbase.com/>

Laconica: <http://laconi.ca/>

Piwik: <http://piwik.org/>

Plone: <http://plone.org>

Pommo: <http://pommo.org/>

simfony: <http://www.symfony-project.org/>

SPiP: <http://www.spip.net/>

Textpattern: <http://www.textpattern.com/>

Trac: <http://trac.edgewall.org/>

WordPress: <http://wordpress.org/>

Z-Blog: <http://www.rainbowsoft.org/zblog>

For a more complete list, visit the *Sites Using jQuery* page at:  
[http://docs.jquery.com/Sites\\_Using\\_jQuery](http://docs.jquery.com/Sites_Using_jQuery).