MDN web docs
moz://a

🔍 **Sign in**

English ▾

Node.nodeType

The read-only **Node.nodeType** property is an integer that identifies what the node is. It distinguishes different kind of nodes from each other, such as `elements`, `text` and `comments`.

Syntax

```
var type = node.nodeType;
```

Returns an integer which specifies the type of the node. Possible values are listed in Node type constants.

Constants

Node type constants

Constant	Value	Description
`Node.ELEMENT_NODE`	1	An `Element` node like `<p>` or `<div>`.
`Node.TEXT_NODE`	3	The actual `Text` inside an `Element` or `Attr`.
`Node.CDATA_SECTION_NODE`	4	A `CDATASection`, such as `<!CDATA[[ … ]]>`.

Constant	Value	Description
Node.PROCESSING_INSTRUCTION_NODE	7	A `ProcessingInstruction` of an XML document, such as `<?xml-stylesheet … ?>`.
Node.COMMENT_NODE	8	A `Comment` node, such as `<!-- … -->`.
Node.DOCUMENT_NODE	9	A `Document` node.
Node.DOCUMENT_TYPE_NODE	10	A `DocumentType` node, such as `<!DOCTYPE html>`.
Node.DOCUMENT_FRAGMENT_NODE	11	A `DocumentFragment` node.

Deprecated node type constants

The following constants have been deprecated and should not be used anymore.

Constant	Value	Description
Node.ATTRIBUTE_NODE	2	An `Attribute` of an `Element`. Attributes no longer implement the `Node` interface as of DOM4.
Node.ENTITY_REFERENCE_NODE	5	An XML Entity Reference node, such as `&foo;`. Removed in DOM4.
Node.ENTITY_NODE	6	An XML `<!ENTITY …>` node. Removed in DOM4.
Node.NOTATION_NODE	12	An XML `<!NOTATION …>` node. Removed in DOM4.

Examples

Different types of nodes

```
1   document.nodeType === Node.DOCUMENT_NODE; // true
2   document.doctype.nodeType === Node.DOCUMENT_TYPE_NODE; // true
3
4   document.createDocumentFragment().nodeType === Node.DOCUMENT_FRAGMENT_NODE
5
6   var p = document.createElement("p");
7   p.textContent = "Once upon a time…";
8
9   p.nodeType === Node.ELEMENT_NODE; // true
10  p.firstChild.nodeType === Node.TEXT_NODE; // true
```

Comments

This example checks if the first node inside the document element is a comment, and displays a message if not.

```
1   var node = document.documentElement.firstChild;
2   if (node.nodeType !== Node.COMMENT_NODE) {
3     console.warn("You should comment your code!");
4   }
```

Specifications

Specification	Status	Comment
DOM The definition of 'Node.nodeType' in that specification.	LS Living Standard	Deprecated `ATTRIBUTE_NODE`, `ENTITY_REFERENCE_NODE` and `NOTATION_NODE` types.
Document Object Model (DOM) Level 3 Core Specification The definition of 'Node.nodeType' in that specification.	Obsolete	No changes.

Specification	Status	Comment
Document Object Model (DOM) Level 2 Core Specification The definition of 'Node.nodeType' in that specification.	Obsolete	No changes.
Document Object Model (DOM) Level 1 Specification The definition of 'Node.nodeType' in that specification.	Obsolete	Initial definition.

Browser compatibility

Update compatibility data on GitHub

nodeType

Chrome	1
Edge	12
Firefox	1
IE	6
Opera	7
Safari	1.1
WebView Android	1
Chrome Android	18
Firefox Android	4
Opera Android	10.1
Safari iOS	1
Samsung Internet Android	1.0

What are we missing?

	Full support
..	

Last modified: Mar 18, 2019, by MDN contributors

Related Topics

Document Object Model

Node

▼ Properties

　　baseURI

　　baseURIObject

　　childNodes

　　firstChild

　　isConnected

　　lastChild

　　localName

　　namespaceURI

　　nextSibling

　　nodeName

　　　　nodePrincipal

　　nodeType

　　nodeValue

　　outerText

　　ownerDocument

　　parentElement

　　parentNode

　　prefix

　　previousSibling

rootNode

textContent

▼ Methods

appendChild()

cloneNode()

compareDocumentPosition()

contains()

getRootNode()

getUserData()

hasChildNodes()

insertBefore()

isDefaultNamespace()

isEqualNode()

isSameNode()

isSupported()

lookupNamespaceURI()

lookupPrefix()

normalize()

removeChild()

replaceChild()

setUserData()

▼ Inheritance:

EventTarget

▼ Related pages for DOM

AbortController

AbortSignal

AbstractRange

Attr

ByteString

CDATASection

CSSPrimitiveValue

CSSValue

CSSValueList

CharacterData

ChildNode

Comment

CustomEvent

DOMConfiguration

DOMError

DOMErrorHandler

DOMException

DOMImplementation

DOMImplementationList

DOMImplementationRegistry

DOMImplementationSource

DOMLocator

DOMObject

DOMParser

DOMPoint

DOMPointInit

DOMPointReadOnly

DOMRect

DOMString

DOMTimeStamp

DOMTokenList

DOMUserData

Document

DocumentFragment

DocumentType

Element

ElementTraversal

Entity

EntityReference

Event

EventTarget

HTMLCollection

MutationObserver

NodeFilter

NodeIterator

NodeList

NonDocumentTypeChildNode

ProcessingInstruction

PromiseResolver

Range

StaticRange

Text

TextDecoder

TextEncoder

TimeRanges

TreeWalker

TypeInfo

USVString

UserDataHandler

XMLDocument

Learn the best of web development

Get the latest and greatest from MDN delivered straight to your inbox.

you@example.com

Sign up now