Advanced topic

I was surprised to find out how little the topic of **DOM objects** vs **JavaScript objects** is covered on the web.

And often, you'll see coders adding their own custom methods and properties to these DOM objects - a practice known known as **"Extending the DOM**". However, what's disturbing is that **downsides of this seemingly useful practice** doesn't seem to be well known.

The lack of information could well explain why there are libraries **out there today (like Prototype JavaScript Library)** that fall into the trap of implementing DOM extensions.

But before I jump ahead of myself, I'd like to explain what DOM objects are, and how the node hierarchy works. This will give you a better **understanding of why DOM extensions are generally not a great idea.**

But wait, there's more

Another huge benefit of learning about the node hierarchy is understanding where the properties you use are coming from. Oftentimes, you'll find yourself in a hole ... knowing how to dig yourself out of this hole is what separates the pros from the rookies.

I can't wait to jump into this section.

Enjoy!