The onreadystatechange is a property of the XHR object

The onreadystatechange is an event handler

events are 'things' fired inside a browser

as a coder, you can create code that runs when an event is fired – this is known as an event handler

The onreadystatechange is a property of the XHR object

The onreadystatechange is an event handler

The onreadystatechange event handler is called whenever the readyState attribute changes

XHR.onreadystatechange = callback;

The callback is the function to be executed when the readyState changes

The onreadystatechange is supported in all browsers

Theoretically, the onreadystatechange event should be fired every time the readyState property changes.

But most browsers do not fire this event when the readyState changes to 0 or 1. So in reality, you'll only see this fired 3 times

The onreadystatechange is supported in all browsers

Since then, a number of additional on* event handler properties have been implemented in various browsers

onload

Onerror

Onprogress