JavaScript Events

HTML DOM Event Object

« Previous

Next Reference »

Event Object

The event object gives you information about an event that has occurred.

The Event object represents the state of an event, such as the element in which the event occurred, the state of the keyboard keys, the location of the mouse, and the state of the mouse buttons.

Events are normally used in combination with functions, and the function will not be executed before the event occurs!

Event Handlers

New to HTML 4.0 was the ability to let HTML events trigger actions in the browser, like starting a JavaScript when a user clicks on an HTML element. Below is a list of the attributes that can be inserted into HTML tags to define event actions.

IE: Internet Explorer, **F:** Firefox, **O:** Opera, **W3C:** W3C Standard.

Attribute	The event occurs when	IE	F	0	W3C
<u>onblur</u>	An element loses focus	3	1	9	Yes
<u>onchange</u>	The content of a field changes	3	1	9	Yes
<u>onclick</u>	Mouse clicks an object	3	1	9	Yes
<u>ondblclick</u>	Mouse double-clicks an object	4	1	9	Yes
onerror	An error occurs when loading a document or an image	4	1	9	Yes
onfocus	An element gets focus	3	1	9	Yes
onkeydown	A keyboard key is pressed	3	1	No	Yes
<u>onkeypress</u>	A keyboard key is pressed or held down	3	1	9	Yes
<u>onkeyup</u>	A keyboard key is released	3	1	9	Yes
<u>onmousedown</u>	A mouse button is pressed	4	1	9	Yes
<u>onmousemove</u>	The mouse is moved	3	1	9	Yes
onmouseout	The mouse is moved off an element	4	1	9	Yes
<u>onmouseover</u>	The mouse is moved over an element	3	1	9	Yes

onmouseup	A mouse button is released	4	1	9	Yes
<u>onresize</u>	A window or frame is resized	4	1	9	Yes
<u>onselect</u>	Text is selected	3	1	9	Yes
<u>onunload</u>	The user exits the page				

onblur Event

The onblur event occurs when an object loses focus.

Syntax

onchange Event

Definition and Usage

The onchange event occurs when the content of a field changes.

Syntax

onchange="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

onclick Event

Definition and Usage

The onclick event occurs when an object gets clicked.

Syntax

onclick="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<a>, <address>, <area>, <b>, <bdo>, <big>, <blockquote>, <body>, <button>, <caption>, <cite>, <code>, <dd>>, <dir>>, <dir>>, <dl>>, <dt>>, <em>, <fieldset>, <form>, <h1> to <h6>, <hr>>, <ir>, <ir>,
```

ondblclick Event

Definition and Usage

The ondblclick event occurs when an object gets double-clicked.

Syntax

ondblclick="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<a>, <address>, <area>, <b>, <bdo>, <big>, <blockquote>, <body>, <button>, <caption>, <cite>, <code>, <dd>, <dfn>, <div>, <dl>, <dt>, <em>, <fieldset>, <form>, <h1> to <h6>, <hr>, <ii>, <iing>, <iinput>, <kbd>, <label>, <legend>, , <map>, <object>, , , , , <samp>, <select>, <small>, <span>, <strong>, <sub>, <sup>, , , , <textarea>, <tfoot>, , <thead>, , <tt>, , <var>

Field1: <input type="text" id="field1" value="Hello World!" /> <br/> <br/> <br/> Field2: <input type="text" id="field2" /> <br/> <
```

```
Click the button to copy the content of Field1 to Field2.

<br/>
<button
ondblclick="document.getElementById('field2').value=document.getElementById('field1').value">Copy Text</button>

</body>
</html>
```

onerror Event

Definition and Usage

The onerror event is triggered when an error occurs loading a document or an image.

Syntax

onerror="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<img>, <object>, <style>
<html>
<body>
<img src="image.gif" onerror="alert("The image could not be loaded.')" />
In this example we refer to an image that does not exist, therefore we will get the alert box.
</body>
</html>
```

onfocus Event

Definition and Usage

The onfocus event occurs when an object gets focus.

Syntax

onfocus="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<a>, <acronym>, <address>, <area>, <b>, <bdo>, <big>, <blockquote>, <button>,
<caption>, <cite>, <dd>, <del>, <dfn>, <div>, <dl>, <dt>, <em>, <fieldset>, <form>,
<frame>, <frameset>, <h1> to <h6>, <hr>, <i>, <iframe>, <img>, <input>, <ins>,
<kbd>, <label>, <legend>, , <object>, , , , <q>, <samp>, <select>,
<small>, <span>, <strong>, <sub>, <sup>, , , >, <textarea>, <tfoot>,
, <thead>, , <tt>, , <var>
<html>
<head>
<script type="text/javascript">
function setStyle(x)
document.getElementById(x).style.background="yellow";
</script>
</head>
<body>
First name: <input type="text" onfocus="setStyle(this.id)" id="fname" />
<br/>br />
Last name: <input type="text" onfocus="setStyle(this.id)" id="lname" />
</body>
</html>
```

onkeydown Event

Definition and Usage

The onkeydown event occurs when a keyboard key is pressed.

Syntax

onkeydown="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<a>, <acronym>, <address>, <area>, <b>, <bdo>, <big>, <blockquote>, <body>, <but>, <caption>, <cite>, <code>, <dd>, <del>, <dfn>, <div>, <dt>, <em>, <fieldset>, <form>, <h1> to <h6>, <hr>, <ii>, <input>, <kbd>, <label>, <legend>, , <map>, <object>, , , , <q>, <samp>, <select>, <small>, <span>, <strong>, <sub>, <sub>, , , , <textarea>, <tfoot>, , <thead>, , <tu>, <var></tu>
```

onmousemove Event

Definition and Usage

The onmousemove event occurs when the mouse pointer is moved.

Syntax

onmousemove="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<a><address>, <area>, <b>, <bdo>, <big>, <blockquote>, <body>, <button>, <caption>, <cite>, <code>, <dd>, <dfn>, <div>, <dl>, <dt>, <em>, <fieldset>, <form>, <h1> to <h6>, <hr>, <ii>, <img>, <input>, <kbd>, <label>, <legend>, , <map>, , , , , , , , , , , , , <samp>, <select>, <small>, <span>, <strong>, <sub>, <sup>, , , , <textarea>, <tfoot>, , <thead>, , <tt>, , <var>onmousemove="document.images['mousetest" width="234" height="91">
onmousemove="document.images['mousetest']
.src='image_w3default2.gif"">When you move the mouse pointer over this paragraph, the image changes.
</body>
</html>
```

onKeyUp Event

Definition and Usage

The onkeyup event occurs when a keyboard key is released.

Syntax

onkeyup="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<a>, <acronym>, <address>, <area>, <b>, <bdo>, <big>, <blockquote>, <body>,
<button>, <caption>, <cite>, <code>, <dd>>, <dfn>, <div>, <dt>>, <em>,
<fieldset>, <form>, <h1> to <h6>, <hr>, <i>, <input>, <kbd>, <label>, <legend>, ,
<map>, <object>, , , , <q>, <samp>, <select>, <small>, <span>, <strong>,
<sub>, <sup>, , , , <textarea>, <tfoot>, , <thead>, , <tt>,
<var>
<html>
<head>
<script type="text/javascript">
function upper Case(x)
var y=document.getElementById(x).value;
document.getElementById(x).value=y.toUpperCase();
</script>
</head>
<body>
Enter your name: <input type="text" id="fname" onkeyup="upperCase(this.id)" />
</body>
</html>
```

onmouseout Event

Definition and Usage

The onmouseout event occurs when the mouse pointer moves away from a specified object.

Syntax

onmouseout="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

```
<a> <address>, <area>, <b>, <bdo>, <big>, <blockquote>, <body>, <buton>, <caption>, <cite>, <code>, <dd>, <dfn>, <div>, <dl>, <dt>, <em>, <fieldset>, <form>, <h1> to <h6>, <hr>, <i>, <img>, <input>, <kbd>, <label>, <legend>, , <map>, , , , , , <samp>, <select>, <small>, <span>, <strong>, <sub>, <sup>, , , , <textarea>, <tfoot>, , <thead>, , <tt>, , <var><html> <body><img src="image_w3default.gif" name="mousetest" onMouseOver="document.images['mousetest'].src='image_w3default2.gif'" onMouseOut="document.images['mousetest'].src='image_w3default.gif'" width="234" height="91" /> </body> </html>
```

onresize Event

Definition and Usage

The onresize event occurs when a window or frame is resized.

Syntax

```
onresize="SomeJavaScriptCode"

<html>

<body onresize="alert('You have changed the size of the window')">

Try to resize the browser window.
</body>

</html>
```

onselect Event

Definition and Usage

The onselect event occurs when text is selected in a text or textarea field.

Syntax

onselect="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following HTML tags:

onunload Event

Definition and Usage

The onunload event occurs when a user exits a page.

Syntax

onunload="SomeJavaScriptCode"

Supported by the following JavaScript objects:

window

```
<html>
<body onunload="alert('The onunload event was triggered')">
Close the page to trigger the onunload event.
</body>
</html>
```