

Breaking Javascript

Events

by Shaun Kriel

What is an Event in JavaScript ?

An **event** is like a signal that something has happened on your web page — like a **mouse click**, a **keypress**, or a **page load**.

JavaScript lets us **"listen"** for these events and respond when they happen.



```
element.addEventListener('click', function() {...})
```

```
element.addEventListener('keydown', function(e) {...})
```

```
element.addEventListener('load', function() {...})
```

Types of 'events':

- Event Listeners
- Event Objects
- Event Keycodes
- Form Submission
- Event Delegation

- Mouse Events
- Keyboard Events
- Input Events
- Event Bubbling
- Window Events

Event Listeners

This is how we tell JavaScript to “watch” for a specific event.

```
<body>
  <h1>Event Listeners</h1>
  <button id="myButton">Click Me!</button>

  <script src="script.js"></script>
</body>
```

```
// event listeners
const button = document.getElementById('myButton');

button.addEventListener('click', function () {
  alert('Button was clicked!');
});
```

Event Listeners

Click Me!



This page says

Button was clicked!

OK

Explanation:

- `getElementById('myButton')` finds the button in the HTML.
- `addEventListener('click', function() {...})` tells the browser: "When this button is clicked, run this code."
- `alert('Button was clicked!')` shows a pop-up.

Mouse Events

Mouse events happen when you use the mouse - click, move, hover

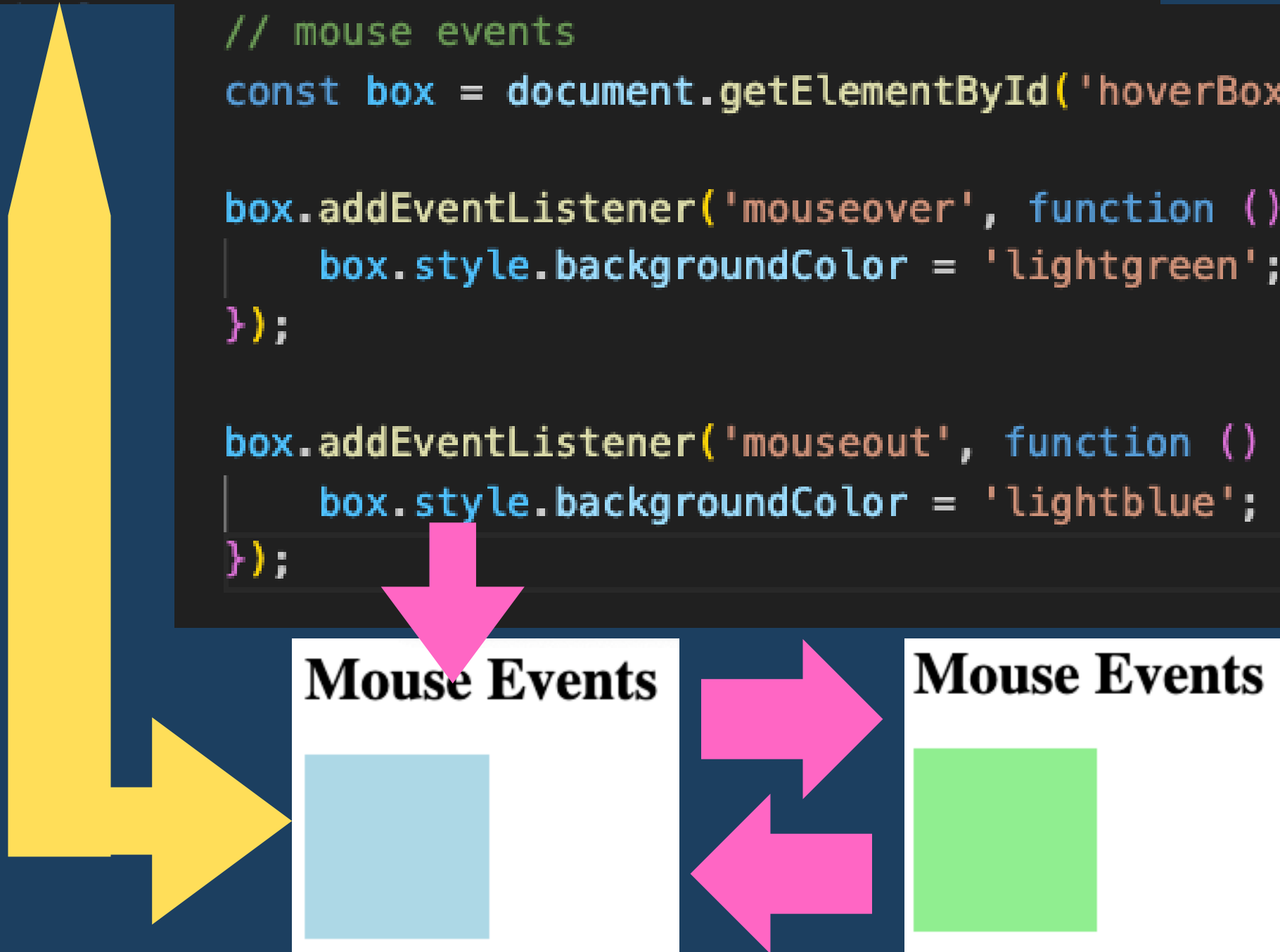
```
<body>
  <h1>Mouse Events</h1>
  <div id="hoverBox" style="width: 100px; height: 100px;
background-color: lightblue ;"></div>

  <script src="script.js"></script>
</body>
```

```
// mouse events
const box = document.getElementById('hoverBox');

box.addEventListener('mouseover', function () {
  box.style.backgroundColor = 'lightgreen';
});

box.addEventListener('mouseout', function () {
  box.style.backgroundColor = 'lightblue';
});
```



Explanation:

- When the mouse moves over the box **“mouseover”**, it turns green.
- When the mouse leaves the box **“mouseout”**, it turns blue again.

Event Object

When an event happens, JS automatically gives us an **event object** with lots of details (which button was clicked, which key was pressed).

```
<body>
  <h1>Event Object</h1>
  <button id="infoButton">Show Event Info</button>

  <script src="script.js"></script>
</body>
```

```
// Event Object
const infoButton = document.getElementById('infoButton');

infoButton.addEventListener('click', function (event) {
  console.log(event);
});
```

Event Object

Show Event Info

```
script.js:5
PointerEvent {isTrusted: true, po
interId: 1, width: 1, height: 1,
pressure: 0, ...}
>
```

Explanation:

- The event object contains info like the **event type (click)**, where it happened, and more.
- **console.log(event)** shows all that info in the Console (**right-click → Inspect → Console**).

Keyboard Events

You can listen for when a user **presses** or **releases** a key.

```
<body>
  <h1>Keyboard Events</h1>
  <input type="text" id="keyInput" placeholder="Type something...">

  <script src="script.js"></script>
</body>
```

```
// keyboard events
let input = document.getElementById('keyInput');

input.addEventListener('keydown', function () {
  console.log('A key was pressed!');
});
```

Keyboard Events

number of
characters incl
spaces

13 A key was pressed!

(right-click → Inspect → Console).

Explanation:

- keydown runs as soon as a key is pressed.
- Try typing — every key press shows a message in the console.

Event Keycodes

You can find **which key** was pressed using `event.key` or `event.keyCode`.

```
<body>
  <h1>Event Keycodes</h1>
  <input type="text" id="detectKey" placeholder="Press Enter">

  <script src="script.js"></script>
</body>

// event keycodes
let detectKey = document.getElementById('detectKey');

detectKey.addEventListener('keydown', function (event) {
  if (event.key === 'Enter') {
    alert('You pressed Enter');
  }
});
```

Event Keycodes

This page says

You pressed Enter

OK

Explanation:

- `event.key` gives the name of the key.
- If the user presses **Enter**, it shows an **alert**.

Input Events

Input events happen when a user **types** or **edits** an input field.

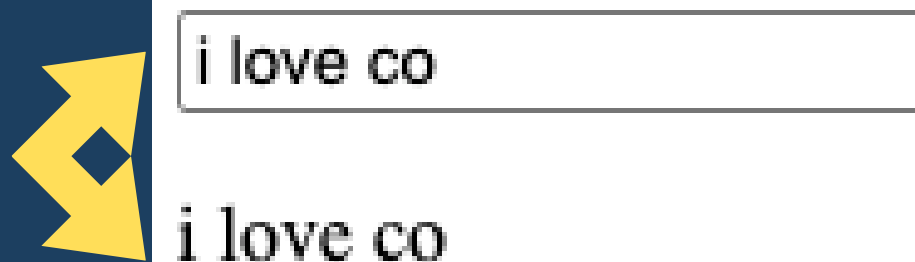
```
<body>
  <h1>Input Events</h1>
  <input type="text" id="liveInput" placeholder="Type here...">
  <p id="outputText"></p>

  <script src="script.js"></script>
</body>

// input events
let liveInput = document.getElementById('liveInput');
let outputText = document.getElementById('outputText');

liveInput.addEventListener('input', function () {
  outputText.textContent = liveInput.value;
});
```

Input Events



Explanation:

- As the user **types**, the text below **updates live**.
- **input event** fires whenever the **input field** changes.

Form Submission

When you submit a form, an event happens, you can catch it to **prevent page** reload and **handle data**.

```
<body>
  <h1>Form Submission</h1>
  <form id="myForm">
    <input type="text" id="name" placeholder="Enter your name">
    <button type="submit">Submit</button>
  </form>

  <script src="script.js"></script>
</body>
```

```
// form submission
let myForm = document.getElementById('myForm');

myForm.addEventListener('submit', function (event) {
  event.preventDefault(); // stop page to reload
  alert('Form submitted: ' + document.getElementById('name').value);
});
```

Form Submission

This page says

Form submitted: Stinky Pete

OK

Explanation:

- **event.preventDefault()** stops the page from refreshing.
- You can access form data and do whatever you want!

Event Bubbling

Event bubbling means events start from the **deepest** element and **bubble** up to the top.

```
<h1>Event Bubbling</h1>
<div id="outerDiv" style="padding:20px;
  background-color:■ lightgrey; max-width: 200px;">
  Outer Div
  <div id="innerDiv" style="padding:20px;
    background-color:■ lightcoral; max-width: 200px;">
    Inner Div
  </div>
</div>
```

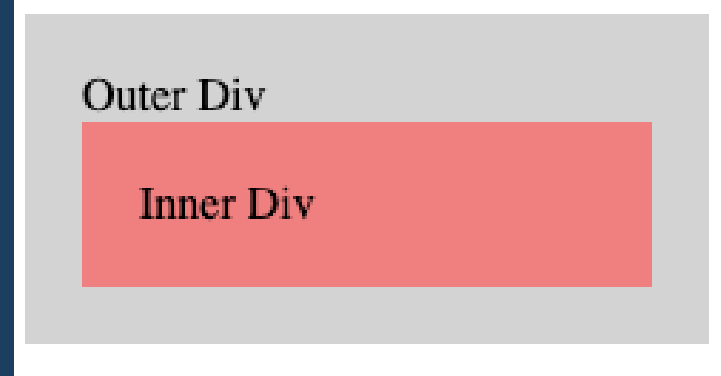
```
// event bubbling
let outer = document.getElementById('outerDiv');
let inner = document.getElementById('innerDiv');

inner.addEventListener('click', function () {
  alert('Inner Div clicked!');
});
outer.addEventListener('click', function () {
  alert('Outer Div clicked');
});
```

Explanation:

- Click the **Inner Div** → first **Inner** alert shows, then **Outer**.
- Because the event bubbles up through the elements.

Event Bubbling



Event Delegation

Instead of putting a listener on **every child** element, you can listen on the **parent** and check what was clicked.

```
<h1>Event Delegation</h1>
<ul id="itemList">
  <li>Item 1</li>
  <li>Item 2</li>
  <li>Item 3</li>
</ul>
```

```
// event delegation
let list = document.getElementById('itemList');

list.addEventListener('click', function (event) {
  if (event.target.tagName === 'LI') {
    alert('You clicked: ' + event.target.textContent);
  }
});
```

Event Delegation

- Item 1
- Item 2
- Item 3



This page says

You clicked: Item 1

OK

This page says

You clicked: Item 3

OK

Explanation:

- Only one listener on the ul.
- **event.target** is the exact item clicked (**li**).
- **Saves memory** when you have lots of elements!

Window Events

Window events happen to the **whole browser window**-triggered by actions related to the browser window (like resizing or scrolling).

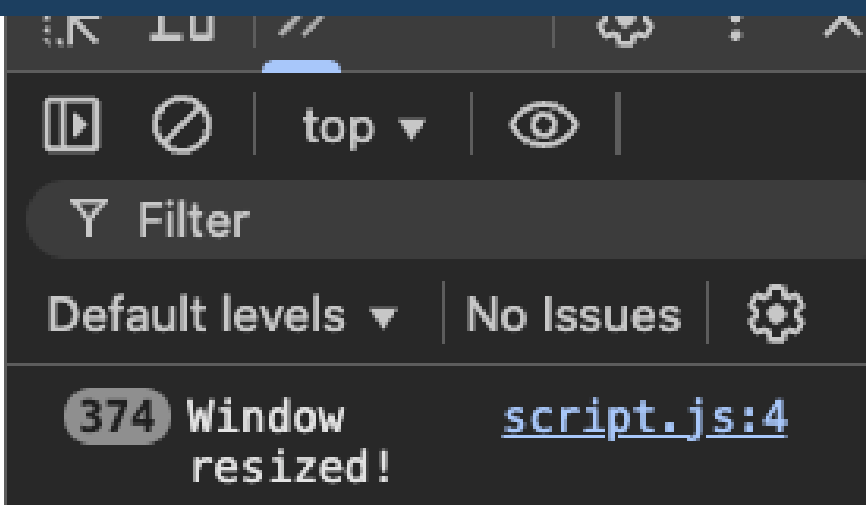
```
<h1>Window Events</h1>
```

```
<script src="script.js"></script>
```

```
// window events
```

```
window.addEventListener('resize', function () {  
  console.log('Window resized!');  
});
```

Window Events



Common window events:

- **load**: fires when the whole page has loaded
- **resize**: fires when the window is resized
- **scroll**: fires when the user scrolls in the document
- **beforeunload**: fires before user leaves the page

Explanation:

- When you resize the **browser window**, a message appears in the console.