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Uploading files made easy with the .selectFile command

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Uploading files made easy with the .selectFile command

Today we're excited to announce a built-in way for you to select files in an HTML5 input element and simulate dragging files into the browser with the introduction of the .selectFile() command, new in Cypress 9.3.0.

Selecting files in an HTML5 input element

With the new .selectFile() command, you can easily select a fixture file in a form element:

```
cy.get('input[type=file]').selectFile('file.json')
```

Or multiple fixture files, as long as the file input has the multiple property:

```
cy.get('input[type=file]').selectFile(['file.json', 'file2.json'])
```

You can also select a file created dynamically inside of a test, using the new Cypress.Buffer utility, also added in 9.3.0:

```
cy.get('input[type=file]').selectFile({ contents: Cypress.Buffer.from('file contents'), fileName: 'file.txt', lastModified: Date.now(),})
```

Dragging files into the browser

The new .selectFile() command also allows you to simulate dragging and dropping a file over an element, using the drag-drop action:

```
cy.get('input[type=file]').selectFile('file.json', { action: 'drag-drop'})
```

And you can even drop a file over the document:

```
cy.document().selectFile('file.json', { action: 'drag-drop' })
```

Manipulating binary data with Buffer

Cypress now exposes an API for manipulating binary data, similar to the nodejs Buffer class, as Cypress.Buffer.

Not only are instances of Cypress.Buffer accepted by .selectFile() to specify files inline, but the cy.readFile() and cy.fixture() commands yield instances of Cypress.Buffer when the encoding is set to null:

```
cy.readFile('images/logo.png', null).then((file) => {
 // file will be read as a buffer
 // and should look something like this:
```

```
  // Buffer([0, 0, ...])
  expect(Cypress.Buffer.isBuffer(file)).to.be.true
})

cy.fixture('images/logo.png', null).then((logo) => {
  // logo will be read as a buffer
  // and should look something like this:
  // Buffer([0, 0, ...])
  expect(Cypress.Buffer.isBuffer(logo)).to.be.true
})
```

Migrating from the cypress-file-upload plugin

The .selectFile() command replaces the **cypress-file-upload** community plugin by Paul Auramenka, and moving forward we recommend that you update your tests to use the new command.

In order to streamline this process, a comprehensive Migration guide has been written which explains the exact steps you need to take to update existing tests to use .selectFile().

Resources

- .selectFile() API documentation
- Cypress.Buffer API documentation
- Migration guide

We'd like to hear from you!

The Cypress team has been working hard to deliver this improved experience. We're excited to bring new APIs like .selectFile() and Cypress.Buffer to our users, and as always, we're eager to hear your feedback.

You can submit an issue on Github or chat with us on our Discord. Thanks for your support, and happy testing!

-Cypress Team

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