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TESTING TOOLS

Unveiling the Power of Browser DevTools in Software Quality Assurance

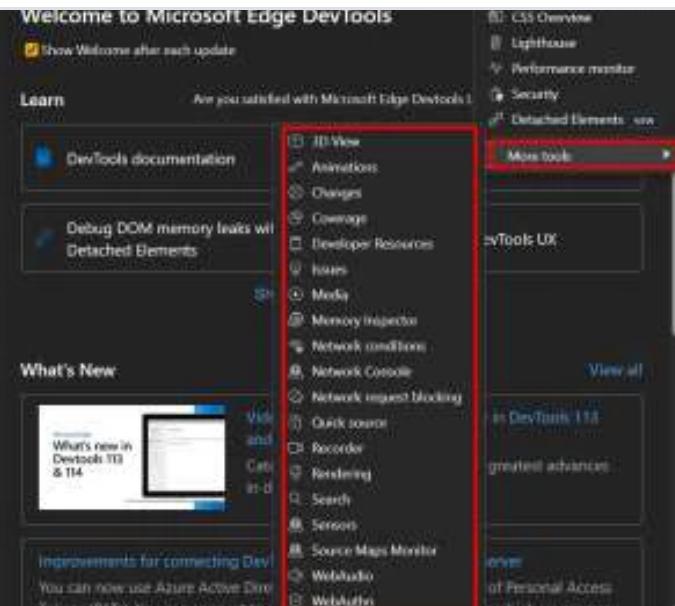
Romi Ahsan 06 Mar 2024 5 613 1

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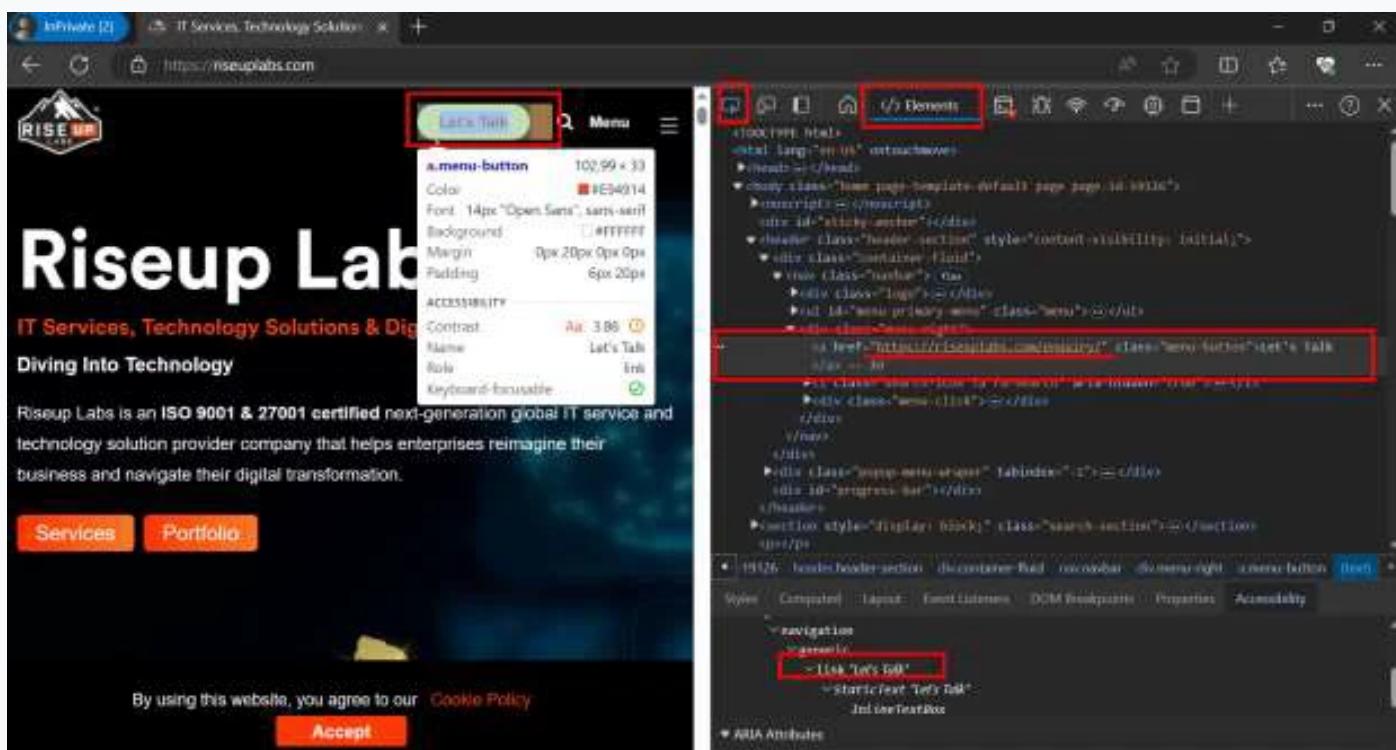


In the landscape of Software Quality Assurance, Chrome Developer Tools (DevTools) emerge as indispensable aids, enriching various testing types—API, UI, Accessibility, and Web Responsive Testing.

Understanding Chrome DevTools...



- **Elements Panel: Dissecting Web Elements for Robust QA** The Elements panel serves as a virtual X-ray into the anatomy of web elements, offering QA engineers a pivotal toolkit for meticulous inspection and manipulation. Imagine validating a web form's functionality. Using this panel, I easily identify and modify elements, such as input fields or buttons, ensuring they respond accurately to user interactions. For instance, let's consider a scenario where a form submission fails unpredictably. By inspecting elements, I discern issues, verify assigned attributes, and swiftly rectify discrepancies, ensuring seamless user experiences.



- **Network Panel: Illuminating Web Performance Insights** In the realm of performance analysis, the Network panel stands as a beacon, shedding light on HTTP calls, their attributes, and load times. For instance, while testing an e-commerce site, monitoring network requests uncovers potential bottlenecks, such as slow-loading images affecting the user experience. By analyzing these requests, I pinpoint inefficiencies and work

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://riseuplabs.com/gaming/bionic-race>. The page features a cartoon robot character and a checkered flag. The developer tools Network tab is open, showing a list of requests. Several fields in the Network tab are highlighted with red boxes: 'Request URL' (https://hostfile-cwng.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/...), 'Method' (GET), 'Status Code' (200 OK), 'Headers' (Content-Type, Content-Length, Accept-Encoding, X-CSRF-TOKEN, Authorization, accept, origin, Cache-Control, X-Requested-With), and 'Access-Control-Allow-Methods' (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE, OPTIONS). The Network tab also shows '115 requests' and '642 kB transferred - 11.5 M'.

- **Screenshot Tool:** The screenshot tool is not just a visual archive; it can also be used as a communication catalyst within QA teams. When performing cross-browser testing, capturing discrepancies in layout or rendering via screenshots can aid in precise bug reporting and help expedite issue resolution. For example, when comparing rendered elements between browsers, a screenshot vividly portrays the differences, facilitating clearer communication and quicker resolutions within the team.

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Edge DevTools context menu over a link on the Bionic Race game page. The menu items include 'Link', 'Analyze', 'Save as', 'Print', 'Create JS Code for this page', 'Read later', 'Translate to English', 'Share', and 'Web capture'. The 'Web capture' option is highlighted with a red box. The main page content includes a scoreboard, social sharing icons, and a 'More Games' section.

- **Geolocation Tool:** Verifying Location-Dependent Functionality Consider a scenario where a travel application requires accurate location tracking. The geolocation tool becomes instrumental in simulating diverse locations, rigorously testing functionalities reliant on

The screenshot shows a web browser window for the game "Bionic Race". The main content area displays a list of players and their scores. On the right side, there is a "Settings" sidebar with a "Custom locations" tab selected. This tab contains a table of coordinates for various cities:

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Region
Berlin	52.52007	13.40654	Europe/Berlin
London	51.507351	-0.122758	Europe/London
Moscow	55.755208	37.6173	Europe/Moscow
Mountain View	37.389052	-122.088031	America/Los_Angeles
Mumbai	19.0195006	72.877095	Asia/Kolkata
San Francisco	37.774829	-122.419418	America/Los_Angeles
Shanghai	31.230416	121.473701	Asia/Shanghai
Singapore	1.355352	103.813303	Asia/Singapore
Tokyo	35.689493	139.761705	Asia/Tokyo

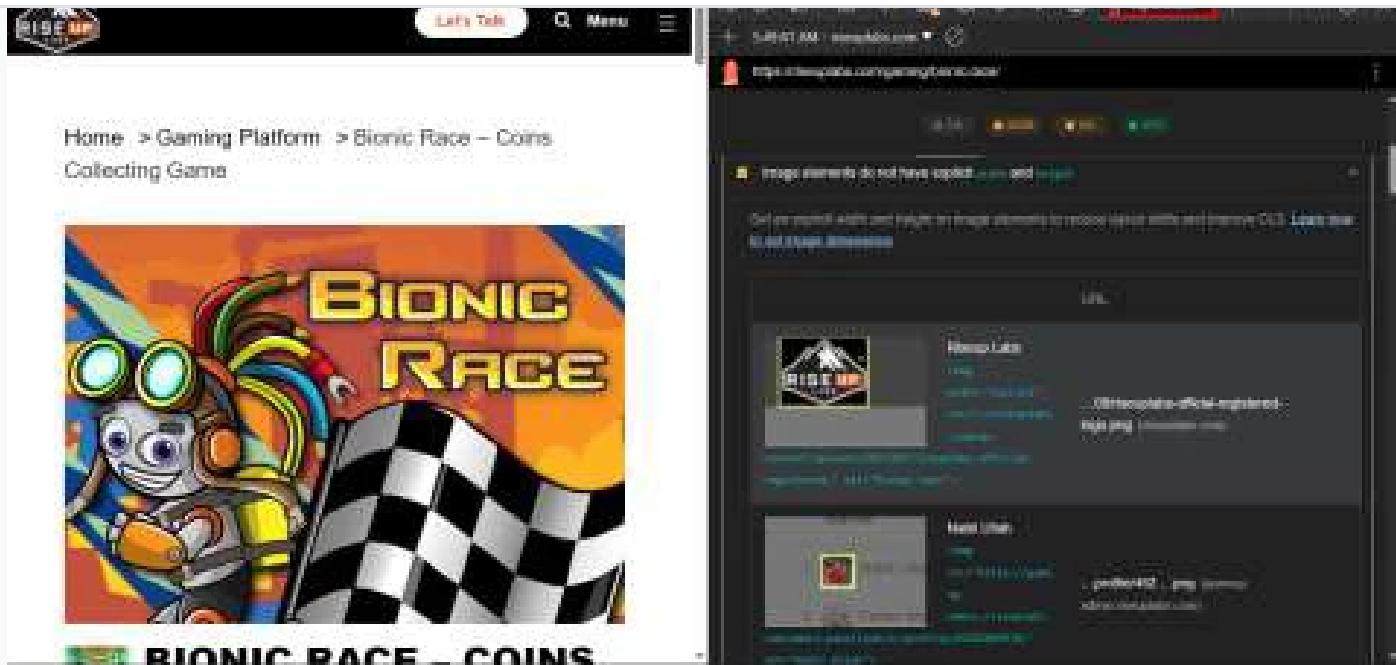
- **CSS Overview Tool:** Streamlining UI Precision In UI testing, the CSS Overview tool is akin to a magnifying glass, swiftly identifying styling inconsistencies across web elements. Suppose a button's color contrast fails accessibility standards. This tool expedites the process by providing a holistic view of CSS attributes, allowing prompt adjustments to align with accessibility guidelines, and ensuring an inclusive user experience.

The screenshot shows the same game website as before, but now with the "CSS Overview" panel open. The panel has a red box around its title bar. It contains instructions for using the tool:

- 1 Capture an overview of your page's CSS
- 2 Identify potential CSS improvements (e.g. low contrast issues, unused declarations, color or font mismatches)
- 3 Locate the affected elements in the Elements panel

Below these steps is a "Capture overview" button with a red box around it. Further down, there is a "Preview feature" section with a message: "Our team is actively working on this feature and we would love to know what you think. Send us your feedback." There are also links for "Video and documentation" and "Feedback".

- **Lighthouse Tool:** Elevating Accessibility and Performance Let's consider auditing a news website for accessibility. Lighthouse has become my trusty companion, meticulously scanning the site, and evaluating contrast ratios, alt attributes, and semantic HTML usage. The generated report not only pinpoints accessibility gaps but also offers actionable insights, ensuring compliance with accessibility standards and improving user accessibility.



Leveraging DevTools for Effective Testing

Chrome DevTools aren't just an ensemble of features; they epitomize precision and efficiency in the QA realm. From meticulous UI scrutiny to holistic performance optimizations and accessibility assessments, these tools are invaluable assets for elevating software quality.

In the dynamic arena of software testing, Chrome DevTools stand as pillars of strength. Their multifaceted functionalities streamline testing processes, instill confidence in software quality, and foster an environment of continual improvement.

For any QA professional seeking to fortify their testing prowess, Chrome DevTools is not just a recommendation but a necessity. Embrace these tools, delve into their depths, and witness the transformative impact they bring to your testing endeavors.

****Happy testing****

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