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OR

Cross-Browser Javascript XML Parsing [closed]

Are there any cross-browser / cross-platform ways to parse XML files in Javascript?

[javascript](#)[xml](#)[cross-browser](#)[cross-platform](#)

edited Feb 25 '16 at 10:13



[John Slegers](#)

20.3k ● 9 ● 111 ● 104

asked Oct 31 '11 at 3:29



[Jake M](#)

5,451 ● 32 ● 113 ● 211

closed as off-topic by [Andrew Barber](#) Mar 17 '14 at 15:49

This question appears to be off-topic. The users who voted to close gave this specific reason:

- "Questions asking us to **recommend or find a tool, library or favorite off-site resource** are off-topic for Stack Overflow as they tend to attract opinionated answers and spam. Instead, [describe the problem](#) and what has been done so far to solve it." – Andrew Barber

If this question can be reworded to fit the rules in the [help center](#), please [edit the question](#).

2 look at stackoverflow.com/questions/649614/xml-parsing-in-javascript – [Milan Jaric](#) Oct 31 '11 at 3:35

No way this question should be closed by given reasons, even on first unedited version of question. I just called a reopen to have the right fate tho this question: open or closed by reasonable cause. –

[Andre Figueiredo](#) Mar 21 at 14:18

3 Answers

The following will work in all major browsers, including IE 6:

```
var parseXml;

if (typeof window.DOMParser != "undefined") {
    parseXml = function(xmlStr) {
        return ( new window.DOMParser() ).parseFromString(xmlStr, "text/xml");
    };
} else if (typeof window.ActiveXObject != "undefined" &&
    new window.ActiveXObject("Microsoft.XMLDOM")) {
    parseXml = function(xmlStr) {
        var xmlDoc = new window.ActiveXObject("Microsoft.XMLDOM");
        xmlDoc.async = "false";
        xmlDoc.loadXML(xmlStr);
        return xmlDoc;
    };
} else {
    throw new Error("No XML parser found");
}
```

Example usage:

```
var xml = parseXml("<foo>Stuff</foo>");
alert(xml.documentElement.nodeName);
```

Live demo:

<http://jsfiddle.net/3s7Ly/1/>

edited Sep 15 '15 at 23:46



[alexlur](#)

55 ● 2 ● 8

answered Oct 31 '11 at 9:38



[Tim Down](#)

219k ● 49 ● 344 ● 434

- 2 This works, except in IE9 in standards mode. In IE9 standards mode to correct the issue, you just need to reform your initial if statement to be something like: if (window.DOMParser && typeof XMLDocument !== "undefined") – [GotDibbs](#) Aug 21 '12 at 16:09

@GotDibbs: Really? The above example works fine for me in IE 9 standards. – [Tim Down](#) Sep 7 '12 at 14:50

Yep. Not sure if there's some other setting getting in the way here, but the moment I go into the dev toolbar and switch the browser mode to IE9 and document mode to IE9 standards it bombs without that additional check. – [GotDibbs](#) Sep 7 '12 at 15:06

1 @GotDibbs: I know it's been a while, but here's a jsFiddle that works fine for me in IE 9 standards mode: jsfiddle.net/3s7Ly/1 – Tim Down May 14 '13 at 9:53

@TimDown: If it is a working version, would you mind editing that into your answer? – nhahtdh Jul 15 '15 at 7:45

Consider using [jQuery.parseXML](#) .

edited Oct 31 '11 at 6:47



Awais Qarni

7,077 ● 16 ● 56 ● 106

answered Oct 31 '11 at 4:53



Alexei Levenkov

77.7k ● 6 ● 67 ● 115

2 jQuery.parseXml can be pretty slow. I would suggest looking at the post from @TimDown – GotDibbs Aug 21 '12 at 16:08

7 Maybe it was a year ago, but looking at the source code of jQuery (code.jquery.com/jquery-1.9.1.js), I fail to see the difference from the TimDown's answer (omitting some error-handling logic). – Zotov Feb 9 '13 at 8:15

If you need to parse large XML documents that you may not be able to completely hold in memory, consider using a SAX style parser like this one: <https://github.com/isaacs/sax-js/>

edited Jan 8 '15 at 15:23



Janus Troelsen

11.6k ● 4 ● 82 ● 131

answered Sep 11 '12 at 21:57