

Lesson 03.03

Login Form

event object

event.preventDefault()

hiding DOM elements with display='none'

We have a Login form that we will make work in an emulation scenario. The html and css for the form are all ready.

Open the html page in the browser to have a look at the form. It doesn't work yet--that's our job to write the code to make it work.

How the log in works:

- The user will enter a username and password
- The user clicks the LOGIN button to call the login() function
- The function gets the values inputted in the username and password fields
- The entered values are compared to the "real" username and password
- If they both match, we get a welcome message and the form elements disappear
- If either the username or password are wrong. we get a 'login failed' message

There are several DOM elements that we need in our login function:

1. Get the logging button and save it as an object:

```
let loginBtn = document.getElementById('login-btn');
```

2. Make the button clickable to call the login function:

```
loginBtn.addEventListener('click', login);
```

3. Get the 'Please Log In' heading, since we will hide it on login success:

```
let plsLogin = document.getElementById('pls-login');
```

4. Get the username and password input boxes:

```
let userBox = document.getElementById('username');  
let pswdBox = document.getElementById('password');
```

This login form doesn't have a database connection to look up a real username and password, so we will hard-code our username and password:

5. Hard-code the "correct" username and password:

```
let correctUser = "joe";  
let correctPswd = "abc";
```

6. Get the response element, which is where the output goes:

```
let response = document.getElementById('response');
```

event.preventDefault() When a button inside a form is clicked, it reloads the page by default. This is to export the form variables to a server-side processing script. But since we don't have server connectivity, are just hard-coding the username and password. We don't want to reload, because doing so will clear the input boxes. So to prevent that default behavior, we call the `event.preventDefault()`.

event object

The `event` object is default parameter that is there even if you don't add it as a parameter. The default name is `event`, but you can rename the event object anything you like; `evt` and `e` are the most commonly used aliases.

7. Write the function, passing in the **event** argument and calling the **event.preventDefault()** method:

```
function login(event) {  
    event.preventDefault();  
}
```

8. Get the inputted `username` and `password`. These are the `value` properties of their respective input objects. We just need the values--not the whole objects.

```
function login(event) {  
    event.preventDefault();  
    let inputtedUser = userBox.value;  
    let inputtedPswd = pswdBox.value;  
}
```

9. Compare the entered username and password to the "correct" values. Since there are two conditions to evaluate, use the `&&` operator:

```
function login(event) {
    event.preventDefault();
    let inputUser = userBox.value;
    let inputPswd = pswdBox.value;

    if(inputUser === correctUser && inputPswd === correctPswd) {
    }

} // end login function
```

10. If login was successful, output the welcome message and hide the form elements by setting their **display** property to **none**:

```
function login(event) {

    event.preventDefault();

    let inputUser = userBox.value;
    let inputPswd = pswdBox.value;

    if(inputUser === correctUser && inputPswd === correctPswd) {
        response.style.fontSize = '1.5em';
        response.textContent = 'Welcome, ' + correctUser;
        userBox.style.display = "none"; // hide username field
        pswdBox.style.display = "none"; // hide password field
        loginBtn.style.display = "none"; // hide Log In button
        plsLogin.style.display = "none"; // hide Please Log In
    }

} // end login function
```

11. Add an **else** part to run if either the username or password are incorrect:

```
    } else {
        response.textContent = "Log in failed. Try again.";
    }

} // end login function
```

leaving out event.preventDefault()

If you omit **event.preventDefault()**, the form won't work because the page will reload, which will reset the username and password fields.

12. Comment out the **event.preventDefault()**, reload the page and log in again. You will see the page flash as it reloads and the form fields will be reset.

```
function login(event) {  
    // event.preventDefault();  
}
```

END Lesson 03.03

NEXT: Lesson 03.04