**Manipulating Elements: Part 1**

Once you've made a selection, the fun begins. You can change, move, remove, and clone elements. You can also create new elements via a simple syntax.

For complete documentation of jQuery manipulation methods, visit <http://api.jquery.com/category/manipulation/>.

**Getting and Setting Information about Elements**

There are any number of ways you can change an existing element. Among the most common tasks you'll perform is changing the inner HTML or attribute of an element. jQuery offers simple, cross-browser methods for these sorts of manipulations. You can also get information about elements using many of the same methods in their getter incarnations. We'll see examples of these throughout this section, but specifically, here are a few methods you can use to get and set information about elements.

**Note**

Changing things about elements is trivial, but remember that the change will affect *all* elements in the selection, so if you just want to change one element, be sure to specify that in your selection before calling a setter method.

**Note**

When methods act as getters, they generally only work on the first element in the selection, and they do not return a jQuery object, so you can't chain additional methods to them. One notable exception is $.fn.text; as mentioned below, it gets the text for all elements in the selection.

$.fn.html

Get or set the html contents.

$.fn.text

Get or set the text contents; HTML will be stripped.

$.fn.attr

Get or set the value of the provided attribute.

$.fn.width

Get or set the width in pixels of the first element in the selection as an integer.

$.fn.height

Get or set the height in pixels of the first element in the selection as an integer.

$.fn.position

Get an object with position information for the first element in the selection, relative to its first positioned ancestor. *This is a getter only.*

$.fn.val

Get or set the value of form elements.

**Example 3.26. Changing the HTML of an element**

$('#myDiv p:first')

.html('New <strong>first</strong> paragraph!');