



JavaScript `getAttribute()` Method

Summary: in this tutorial, you will learn how to use the JavaScript `getAttribute()` method to get the value of a specified attribute on an element.

Introduction to the JavaScript `getAttribute()` method

To get the value of an attribute on a specified element, you call the `getAttribute()` method of the element:

```
let value = element.getAttribute(name);
```

Parameters

The `getAttribute()` accepts an argument which is the name of the attribute from which you want to return the value.

Return value

If the attribute exists on the element, the `getAttribute()` returns a string that represents the value of the attribute. In case the attribute does not exist, the `getAttribute()` returns `null`.

Note that you can use the `hasAttribute()` method to check if the attribute exists on the element before getting its value.

JavaScript `getAttribute()` method example

Consider the following example:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
```

```
<head>
  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <title>JS getAttribute() Demo</title>
</head>
<body>

  <a href="https://www.javascripttutorial.net"
    target="_blank"
    id="js">JavaScript Tutorial
  </a>

  <script>
    let link = document.querySelector('#js');
    if (link) {
      let target = link.getAttribute('target');
      console.log(target);
    }
  </script>
</body>
</html>
```

Output

```
_blank
```

How it works:

- First, select the link element with the id `js` using the `querySelector()` method.
- Second, get the target attribute of the link by calling the `getAttribute()` of the selected link element.
- Third, show the value of the target on the console window.

The following example uses the `getAttribute()` method to get the value of the `title` attribute of the link element with the id `js` :

```
let link = document.querySelector('#js');
if (link) {
```

```
let title = link.getAttribute('title');
console.log(title);
}
```

Output:

```
null
```

Summary

- Get the value of an attribute of a specified element by calling the `getAttribute()` method on the element.
- The `getAttribute()` returns `null` if the attribute does not exist.

Quiz