

How to bring focus to a window in jquery?

Asked 15 years, 9 months ago Modified 11 years ago Viewed 32k times



9



I am trying to bring focus to window using jquery. The window is popup initiated through a button click on the parent page. I have some ajax calls going on in the child window, so data is being updated. My issue is that if the user clicks on the parent window and hides the child behind it, i would like to bring that child window back to the forefront if there is a data update.

inside `$(document).ready` I wire up these events:

```
$(window).blur(function(){
    WindowHasFocus =false;
}).focus(function(){
    WindowHasFocus =true;
});
```

Then, if data is updated, I call this function:

```
function FocusInput(){
    if(!WindowHasFocus){
        $(window).focus();
    }
}
```

This works as expected in IE8, but in FireFox(and all other browsers) the Blur event nevers seem to fire if I click the parent window. Any suggestions/ideas on how achieve this?

update:

Total facepalm moment: In FireFox: * Tools * Options... * Content tab * Advanced button next to "Enable JavaScript" * check the box named "Raise or Lower Windows"

javascript

jquery

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edited Mar 26, 2009 at 14:35

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asked Mar 25, 2009 at 21:37



Mike_G

16.5k ● 15 ● 71 ● 103

Put your answer in a separate answer so we can upvote it and get the question off the Unanswered list. – Sarel Botha Mar 26, 2009 at 21:04

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Total facepalm moment: In FireFox:

- Tools
- Options...
- Content tab
- Advanced button next to "Enable JavaScript"
- check the box named "Raise or Lower Windows"

This is turned off by default and must be enabled. And also, i assumed that since it didnt work in Chrome, that Safari would be the same, but you know what they say about "assuming" (it works in Safari, but not Chrome).

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answered Mar 27, 2009 at 12:26



Mike_G

16.5k ● 15 ● 71 ● 103



2



If there is not a strong reason for having two separate windows then it would be better use "modal boxes", there are plenty of examples out there and jquery plugins to achieve that. An example of such a plugin:

<http://www.84bytes.com/2008/06/02/jquery-modal-dialog-boxes/>

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answered Mar 25, 2009 at 21:58



Miquel

4,829 ● 3 ● 21 ● 19

cant use a modal, it has to be a separate window. – Mike_G Mar 25, 2009 at 22:01

- 1 In that case try to call the focus from the parent window: `url='someUrl'`
`newWin=window.open(url,"helpWin","features"); ... newWin.window.focus()` – Miquel Mar 25, 2009 at 22:09

One strong reason is security: the parent window may be regular `http` and need to open a window that's `https`. – JohnK Mar 8, 2014 at 18:35



2



You're absolutely correct. In FF, it seems as though it does fire the event, but at that same time, it seems like it doesn't register the element as being focused. Therefore the blur event can never be fired. Not sure I'm even explaining that correctly... The following code says it all.

In this example, the box is hidden by default, but is displayed via the focus event listener. In IE 8, if you click the main window, it still fires blur, but in FF it doesn't:

```
<html>
<head>

</head>
<body>
    <div id="hiddenWin" style="width: 100px; height: 100px; background-color:
    Black; display: none;"></div>

    <script type="text/javascript"
    src="http://jqueryjs.googlecode.com/files/jquery-1.3.2.min.js"></script>
    <script type="text/javascript">
        var something = 12;
        something += 4;

        $(document).ready(function()
        {

            $("#hiddenWin").focus(function()
            {
                $(this).show();
            }
            ).blur(function()
            {
                $(this).hide();
            }
            )

            $("#hiddenWin").focus();

        }
        );
    </script>

</body>
</html>
```

For your need, would it be feasible to setup an overlay background? Something that is a fixed position @ top:0 and left:0 which takes up the whole screen and has a z-index that is less than your popup. That way, when they click the overlay, it will steal focus and then you can hide everything...? IDK, just a suggestion. I'll keep messing around and see if I can figure it out. Good question. +1

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answered Mar 25, 2009 at 22:38



regex

3,601 ● 5 ● 33 ● 42

no, the idea is to let the person browse the website and only bring the child window to the front when there has been a data update. – [Mike_G](#) Mar 26, 2009 at 12:14

found it...im an idiot: In FireFox: * Tools * Options... * Content tab * Advanced button next to "Enable JavaScript" * check the box named "Raise or Lower Windows" – [Mike_G](#) Mar 26, 2009 at 14:36



1

It seems like you shouldn't care to know when your window got blurred. When your data updates, your window is either not in focus, in which case you want to focus it, or it is already in focus, and focusing it again doesn't hurt you any.



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answered Mar 25, 2009 at 21:54



[levik](#)

117k ● 28 ● 75 ● 92



well, the reasoning is that the child window has an text input, and i do not want focus to be taken away from that. But in any case, `$(window).focus()` does not seem to do anything in FF. – [Mike_G](#) Mar 25, 2009 at 21:58

1 Did you try just doing `window.focus()` without the jquery call? – [levik](#) Apr 8, 2010 at 4:04



0

Yeah the modal thing is probably the way to go but sometimes you just need to do it the way you want to do it.

I would use plain old JavaScript. Name the window and the bring it into focus.



```
function showImageWindow(imageURL)
{
    var imageWindow =
window.open(imageURL, "My_Window", "width=1000px,height=1000px,menubar=0,titlebar=0");
    imageWindow.focus();
}
```



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answered Nov 26, 2013 at 14:18



[Mr.Black](#)

465 ● 5 ● 9