



# UNOBTRUSIVE JAVASCRIPT

(USING PROTOTYPE AND LOWPRO)

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# What is Unobtrusive JavaScript

Wikipedia Definition:

- ❑ **Progressive enhancement** to support user agents that may not support advanced JavaScript functionality
- ❑ **Separation of functionality** (the "behaviour layer") from a Web page's structure/content and presentation
- ❑ **Best practices** to avoid the problems of traditional JavaScript programming (such as browser inconsistencies and lack of scalability)

# Why use Unobtrusive JavaScript

## The Bad (Obtrusive Way)

```
<li>

<input name="todos[1][complete]" type="hidden" value="0" />
<input id="todos_1_complete" name="todos[1][complete]" type="checkbox" value="1" />
<script type="text/javascript">

  //<![CDATA[

  new Form.Element.EventObserver('todos_1_complete', function(element, value) {new
    Ajax.Request('/todonts/1', {asynchronous:true, evalScripts:true, method:'put',
    onSuccess:function(request){
      var li = element.up('li')
      if(element.checked){
        li.addClassName('complete')
      }else{
        li.removeClassName('complete')
      };
      li.highlight();
    }, parameters:'todo[complete]=' + element.checked + '&authenticity_token=' +
    encodeURIComponent('wNqAr3/4sRWF3QAT//L8gNkO35Re2impKIBkxYQ=')}}})

  //]]>

</script>
<span class="name">Take out Dog</span>

<div class="controls">
  <a href="/todonts/1/edit">Edit</a> | 
  <a href="/todonts/1" onclick="if (confirm('Are you sure you want to remove \'Take out Dog\'?'))
  { var f = document.createElement('form'); f.style.display = 'none';
  this.parentNode.appendChild(f); f.method = 'POST'; f.action = this.href; var m =
  document.createElement('input'); m.setAttribute('type', 'hidden'); m.setAttribute('name', '_method');
  m.setAttribute('value', 'delete'); f.appendChild(m); var s = document.createElement('input');
  s.setAttribute('type', 'hidden'); s.setAttribute('name', 'authenticity_token'); s.setAttribute('value',
  'wNqAr3/4sRWF3QAT//L8gNkO35Re2impKIBkxYQ='); f.appendChild(s); f.submit();
  };return false;">Delete</a>

</div>

</li>
```

## The Good (Unobtrusive Way)

```
<li class="todo" id="todo_1">

  <input name="todos[1][complete]"
    type="hidden" value="0" />

  <input id="todos_1_complete"
    name="todos[1][complete]"
    type="checkbox" value="1" />

  <span class="name">Take out Dog</span>

  <div class="controls">

    <a href="/todos/1/edit">Edit</a> | <a
    href="/todos/1/confirm_delete"
    class="delete">Delete</a>

  </div>

</li>
```

# More Information

- ❑ My Blog: <http://blog.anlek.com>
- ❑ My GitHub: <http://github.com/anlek/>
- ❑ Prototype: <http://www.prototypejs.org/>
- ❑ LowPro: <http://www.danwebb.net/lowpro>
- ❑ Learn more on Unobtrusive Javascript at:  
<https://peepcode.com/products/unobtrusive-prototype-js>