WRITING PLUGINS

with Vanilla JavaScript

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Writing Plugins

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Intro

In this guide, you'll learn:

- How to write modular code.
- How to scope code so that it can be dropped into any project.
- How to expose public functions and APIs in your plugin.
- How to let users pass in their own options and settings.
- How to make your plugins work with module bundlers like WebPack and Browserify.

A quick word about browser compatibility

This guide makes heavy use of ECMAScript 5 (more commonly known as ES5) methods and APIs.

That generally means browser support begins with IE9 and above. Each function or technique mentioned in this guide includes specific browser support information, as some do provide further backwards compatibility.

Let's get started...

Getting Started

The title of this book is a lie.

By definition, plugins extend the functionality of a library or framework. They're dependent on another body of code to work. jQuery plugins add features to jQuery, for example.

Since we're working with vanilla JS, there are no dependencies. What we're going to write aren't plugins. They're components. They're modules. Standalone pieces of code you can drop in and out of any project.

That said, "plugin" is still the commonly used term, so I'll continue to call what we're writing plugins throughout the guide.

Converting a script to a plugin

To help make the concepts in this guide stick better, we'll be converting a simple accordion script into a plugin.

It uses anchor links with the .accordion-toggle to show and hide content with the .accordion class. The content ID matches the href of the anchor links. It uses a CSS class to toggle content visibility.

HTML

```
<a class="accordion-toggle" href="#content-1">Show More 1
</a>
<div class="accordion" id="content-1">
   Some content...
</div>
<a class="accordion-toggle" href="#content-2">Show More 2
</a>
<div class="accordion" id="content-2">
   Some more content...
</div>
CSS
.accordion {
   display: none;
}
.accordion.active {
   display: block;
}
JavaScript
```js document.addEventListener('click', function (event) {
// Only run if the clicked link was an accordion toggle
```

```
if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-toggle')
) return;
// Get the target content
var content = document.querySelector(event.target.hash);
if (!content) return;
// Prevent default link behavior
event.preventDefault();
// If the content is already expanded, collapse it and qu
it
if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 event.target.classList.remove('active');
 return;
}
// Get all accordion content, loop through it, and close
it
var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.accordion');
for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
}
// Get all toggle links, loop through them, and close the
m
var toggles = document.querySelectorAll('.accordion-toggl
e');
for (var n = 0; n < toggles.length; n++) {</pre>
```

```
toggles[n].classList.remove('active');
}

// Open our target content area and toggle link
content.classList.add('active');
event.target.classList.add('active');

}, false); ``
Alright. Let's get started!
```

# Modular Code

When you're first learning JavaScript, it's common to write your scripts as one long chunk of code.

For example, let's take another look at our accordion script. All of the code is one giant function. Some of the code is repetitive, copy/pasted with one or two tweaks.

```
document.addEventListener('click', function (event) {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion togg
1e
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-togg
le')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 event.target.classList.remove('active');
 return;
```

```
}
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, and cl
ose it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.accordio
n');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Get all toggle links, loop through them, and close
 them
 var toggles = document.querySelectorAll('.accordion-t
oggle');
 for (var n = 0; n < toggles.length; n++) {</pre>
 toggles[n].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add('active');
 event.target.classList.add('active');
}, false);
```

We can make this script easier to debug and maintain, and more DRY (an acronymn for Don't Repeat Yourself), by breaking it up into smaller, more modular parts.

# Modularizing the Code

My approach: anything that's more than a line or two of code gets moved into its own function. Let's modularize our accordion script a little.

### 1. Run our accordion script.

We'll move all of that code into it's own function that we'll call whenever a click event happens.

```
// Run our accordion script
var runAccordion = function () {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion togg
1e
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-togg
le')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
```

```
event.target.classList.remove('active');
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, and cl
ose it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.accordio
n');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Get all toggle links, loop through them, and close
 them
 var toggles = document.querySelectorAll('.accordion-t
oggle');
 for (var n = 0; n < toggles.length; n++) {</pre>
 toggles[n].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add('active');
 event.target.classList.add('active');
};
// Listen for click events
document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion, false);
```

### 2. Check if it's already expanded.

Next, we'll move the code to check if our content is already expanded into it's own function, isActive().

Currently, if the content is already open, we return afterwards to stop our script. That won't work with our code in it's function (we'll only be ending our new modular function, not runAccordion).

Instead, if the content *is* expanded, we'll return true. When we run isActive(), we'll set it as a variable. If it returns true, we'll return inside runAccordion().

```
// Check if the target content is already active
var isActive = function (content, toggle) {
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 toggle.classList.remove('active');
 return true;
 }
};

// Run our accordion script
var runAccordion = function () {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion togg
le
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-togg
le')) return;

// Get the target content
```

```
var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 var expanded = isActive(content, event.target);
 if (expanded) return;
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, and cl
ose it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.accordio
n');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Get all toggle links, loop through them, and close
 them
 var toggles = document.querySelectorAll('.accordion-t
oggle');
 for (var n = 0; n < toggles.length; n++) {</pre>
 toggles[n].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add('active');
```

```
event.target.classList.add('active');
};

// Listen for click events
document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion, false);
```

### 3. Close all accordions.

Finally, we'll move our code to close all accordions and accordion toggles into their own function, closeAccordions().

We'll pass in either the appropriate selector as an argument, and let the function do the heavy lifting. This let's us remove some repeated code from our script.

```
items[1].classList.remove('active');
 }
};
// Run our accordion script
var runAccordion = function () {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion togg
1e
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-togg
le')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 var expanded = isActive(content, event.target);
 if (expanded) return;
 // Close all accordion content and toggles
 closeAccordions('.accordion');
 closeAccordions('.accordion-toggle');
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add('active');
```

```
event.target.classList.add('active');
};

// Listen for click events
document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion, false);
```

While our script is actually a few lines longer (mostly due to inline comments and documentation), it's now more readable, and less us quickly scan runAccordion() to understand how the script works.

# Scoping Our Code

The biggest issue with our new, modular script is that all of our code is in the global scope.

If another script has functions named isActive() or closeAccordions(), for example, they'll conflict with our functions in unexpected ways.

We want to pull our code out of the global scope. The simplest way to do that is by wrapping it in an IIFE, or Immediately Invoked Function Expression.

```
;(function (window, document, undefined) {
 'use strict';

 // Code goes here...
})(window, document);
```

An IIFE is an unnamed function that runs immediately. By wrapping you code in a function, you keep it out of the global scope.

You'll notice I'm also including use strict; in my IIFE. This tells browsers to be less forgiving with bugs and errors, which sounds like a bad thing but helps us write better code.

Here's what our script looks like now.

```
· / function / window document undefined)
```

```
, (Tunction (William, accument, unactinea))
 'use strict';
 // Check if the target content is already active
 var isActive = function (content, toggle) {
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 toggle.classList.remove('active');
 return true;
 }
 };
 // Close all accordions or accordion toggles
 var closeAccordions = function (selector) {
 var items = document.querySelectorAll(selector);
 for (var i = 0; i < items.length; i++) {</pre>
 items[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 };
 // Run our accordion script
 var runAccordion = function () {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion
toggle
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-
toggle')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target
```

```
.hash);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse i
t and quit
 var expanded = isActive(content, event.target);
 if (expanded) return;
 // Close all accordion content and toggles
 closeAccordions('.accordion');
 closeAccordions('.accordion-toggle');
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add('active');
 event.target.classList.add('active');
 };
 // Listen for click events
 document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion, fals
e);
})(window, document);
```

As soon as this loads on the page, it will run.

# **Initializing Your Plugin**

You may not always want your code to run as soon as it's loaded. You may want to explicitly initialize by doing something like this:

```
accordion.init();
```

You might also want to be able to run some of the other functions on demand, not just when the script normally runs them. For example, you might want to be able to open an accordion, or close all accordions and toggles, from another script.

```
accordion.closeAccordions();
```

This can make your plugin so much more flexible and future-friendly. On several of my scripts, I often get requests for features that don't exist in the core plugin. Through these public functions, many of the requested features can be bolted on without having to touch the core plugin code at all.

To implement these features, we'll use what's known as a Revealing Module Pattern.

# The Revealing Module Pattern

With a revealing module pattern, you assign an IIFE to a named function.

```
var myPlugin = (function () {
 'use strict;'

 // Your code...
})();
```

Inside the IIFE, we'll create an object. Any functions want to use outside of the plugin we'll be assigned as keys in the object, which we'll return at the end of the plugin.

```
var myPlugin = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // Public APIs
 var publicAPIs = {};
 // Private function
 // This can only be run inside of the accordion() fun
ction
 var someFunction = function () {
 // Do stuff...
 };
 // Public function
 // This can be run from other scripts
 publicAPIs.publicFunction = function () {
 // Do other stuff.
 };
 // Return our public APIs
 return publicAPIs;
})();
```

Converting our Accordion Plugin to a Revealing Module Pattern Let's convert our accordion plugin to a revealing module pattern. For our purposes, we want to:

- 1. Initialize our plugin before running it, which we'll do by moving our event listener into a public init() function.
- 2. Make closeAccordions() a public API. For this, we'll:
  - Rename closeAccordions() to closeItems().
  - Create a new closeAccordions() function that calls
     closeItems() with the selectors for our content and toggles.
  - Call publicAPIs.closeAccordions() in runAccordion().

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'

 // Public APIs
 var publicAPIs = {};

 // Check if the target content is already active
 var isActive = function (content, toggle) {
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 toggle.classList.remove('active');
 return true;
 }
 };

// Close all items with a matching selector
```

```
var closeItems = function (selector) {
 var items = document.querySelectorAll(selector);
 for (var i = 0; i < items.length; i++) {</pre>
 items[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 };
 // Close all accordions and toggles
 publicAPIs.closeAccordions = function () {
 closeItems('.accordion');
 closeItems('.accordion-toggle');
 }
 // Run our accordion script
 var runAccordion = function () {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion
toggle
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-
toggle')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target
.hash);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse i
+ and ani+
```

```
с ани читс
 var expanded = isActive(content, event.target);
 if (expanded) return;
 // Close all accordion content and toggles
 publicAPIs.closeAccordions();
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add('active');
 event.target.classList.add('active');
 };
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function () {
 // Listen for click events
 document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion,
false);
 };
 // Return our public APIs
 return publicAPIs;
})();
```

One thing you might notice is that we're using our own public methods inside private ones—for example, when we run publicAPIs.closeAccordions() inside runAccordion().

You might also notice that we're running a private method —closeItems()—inside our public publicAPIs.closeAccordions() method.

This approach is extremely flexible, letting you expose only the functions you want to for public use.

To use the our plugin, you would now run accordion.init(). You can also close all accordions dynamically from any other script by running accordion.closeAccordions().

# Cutting the Mustard

If you're using any functions that are only supported by modern browsers, it's a good idea to check that they're support (an approach known as "cutting the mustard") before initializing your plugin.

In the example below, we're checking for event listener and querySelector support.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // ...
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function () {
 // Feature test
 var supports = 'querySelector' in document && 'ad
dEventListener' in window;
 if (!supports) return;
 // Listen for click events
 document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion,
false);
 };
 // ...
})();
```

# Adding an initialization class

One little thing I like to do in my plugins is add an initialization class. This is a class that gets added to the <html> element after the plugin has initialized. I can hook into in my CSS to make style changes based on

whether or not a plugin is running.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // ...
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function () {
 // Feature test
 var supports = 'querySelector' in document && 'ad
dEventListener' in window;
 if (!supports) return;
 // Listen for click events
 document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion,
false);
 // Add our initialization class
 document.documentElement.className += ' .js-accor
dion';
 };
 // ...
})();
```

# **User Options**

To make your plugin for flexible, it's a good idea to let users configure options. Looking at our accordion script, we might want to let users:

- Change the selectors for our accordions and toggles.
- Change the class that get's added and removed to something other than .active (to avoid conflicts with other styles).
- Run callback functions before and after our accordions toggle.

# Setting up defaults

Someone using your plugin shouldn't have to configure every options. In fact, it should work out-of-the-box without any configuration at all.

The first thing we need to do is setup defaults. We'll create a defaults object to hold these values.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // Public APIs
 var publicAPIs = {};
 // Defaults
 var defaults = {
 // Selectors
 selectorToggle: '.accordion-toggle',
 selectorContent: '.accordion',
 // Classes
 toggleClass: 'active',
 contentClass: 'active',
 init: 'js-accordion',
 // Callbacks
 before: function () {},
 after: function () {}
 };
 // ...
})();
```

# Passing in options

Next, we want to provide a way for plugin users to pass in their own options that override our defaults. We'll add an options argument to our init() function.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // Public APIs
 var publicAPIs = {};
 // Defaults
 var defaults = {
 // Selectors
 selectorToggle: '.accordion-toggle',
 selectorContent: '.accordion',
 // Classes
 toggleClass: 'active',
 contentClass: 'active',
 init: 'js-accordion',
 // Callbacks
 before: function () {},
 after: function () {}
 };
```

```
// ...
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function (options) {
 // Feature test
 var supports = 'querySelector' in document && 'ad
dEventListener' in window;
 if (!supports) return;
 // Listen for click events
 document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion,
false);
 // Add our initialization class
 document.documentElement.className += ' .js-accor
dion';
 };
 // Return our public APIs
 return publicAPIs;
})();
```

# Merging user options with defaults

Now, we need a way to merge our user's options with the default values. First, we'll create a variable called settings. Next, we'll use my extend() helper function <sup>1</sup> to merge the user options and defaults and

assign them to the settings variable.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // Variables
 var publicAPIs = {}; // Our public APIs
 var settings; // Settings
 // Defaults
 var defaults = {
 // Selectors
 selectorToggle: '.accordion-toggle',
 selectorContent: '.accordion',
 // Classes
 toggleClass: 'active',
 contentClass: 'active',
 init: 'js-accordion',
 // Callbacks
 before: function () {},
 after: function () {}
 };
 /**
 * Merge two or more objects together.
 * @param {Boolean} deep If true, do a deep (or
required mores continuall
```

```
recursive) merge [optionar]
 * @param {Object} objects The objects to merge to
gether
 * @returns {Object} Merged values of defaul
ts and options
 */
 var extend = function () {
 // Variables
 var extended = {};
 var deep = false;
 var i = 0;
 var length = arguments.length;
 // Check if a deep merge
 if (Object.prototype.toString.call(arguments[0]
) === '[object Boolean]') {
 deep = arguments[0];
 i++;
 }
 // Merge the object into the extended object
 var merge = function (obj) {
 for (var prop in obj) {
 if (Object.prototype.hasOwnProperty.call
(obj, prop)) {
 // If deep merge and property is an o
bject, merge properties
 if (deep && Object.prototype.toStrin
g.call(obj[prop]) === '[object Object]') {
```

```
extended[prop] = extend(true, ex
tended[prop], obj[prop]);
 } else {
 extended[prop] = obj[prop];
 }
 }
 }
 };
 // Loop through each object and conduct a merge
 for (; i < length; i++) {</pre>
 var obj = arguments[i];
 merge(obj);
 }
 return extended;
 };
 // ...
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function (options) {
 // Feature test
 var supports = 'querySelector' in document && 'ad
dEventListener' in window;
 if (!supports) return;
 // Merge user options with the defaults
 settings = extend(defaults, options || {});
```

You may notice that we pass options *or* an empty object when merging with the defaults (options | | {}). If the user doesn't provide any options at all, the options value will be null and cause an error, so we provide an empty object as a fallback.

### Reference our merged settings

Finally, we need to reference our new merged settings variable through the script.

Since our selectors may not be a class, we can no longer rely on classList.contains() to check if an accordion toggle as clicked. We need to use matches() instead. Browser support for this one is a bit

flakey, so we should include a polyfill.<sup>2</sup>

We also now need to pass a class into the closeItems() function, since the active class could vary between accordion toggles and content.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // Element.matches() polyfill
 if (!Element.prototype.matches) {
 Element.prototype.matches =
 Element.prototype.matchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.mozMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.msMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.oMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.webkitMatchesSelector | |
 function(s) {
 var matches = (this.document | | this.owne
rDocument).querySelectorAll(s),
 i = matches.length;
 while (--i >= 0 \&\& matches.item(i) !== th
is) {}
 return i > -1;
 };
 }
 // Variables
 var publicAPIs = {}; // Our public APIs
 var settings; // Settings
```

```
// Defaults
 var defaults = {
 // Selectors
 selectorToggle: '.accordion-toggle',
 selectorContent: '.accordion',
 // Classes
 toggleClass: 'active',
 contentClass: 'active',
 init: 'js-accordion',
 // Callbacks
 before: function () {},
 after: function () {}
 };
 /**
 * Merge two or more objects together.
 * @param {Boolean} deep If true, do a deep (or
recursive) merge [optional]
 * # @param {Object} objects The objects to merge to
gether
 * @returns {Object} Merged values of defaul
ts and options
 */
 var extend = function () {
 // Variables
 var extended = {};
```

```
var deep = false;
 var i = 0;
 var length = arguments.length;
 // Check if a deep merge
 if (Object.prototype.toString.call(arguments[0]
) === '[object Boolean]') {
 deep = arguments[0];
 i++;
 }
 // Merge the object into the extended object
 var merge = function (obj) {
 for (var prop in obj) {
 if (Object.prototype.hasOwnProperty.call
(obj, prop)) {
 // If deep merge and property is an o
bject, merge properties
 if (deep && Object.prototype.toStrin
g.call(obj[prop]) === '[object Object]') {
 extended[prop] = extend(true, ex
tended[prop], obj[prop]);
 } else {
 extended[prop] = obj[prop];
 }
 }
 }
 };
```

```
// Loop through each object and conduct a merge
 for (; i < length; i++) {</pre>
 var obj = arguments[i];
 merge(obj);
 }
 return extended;
 };
 // Check if the target content is already active
 var isActive = function (content, toggle) {
 if (content.classList.contains(settings.contentC
lass)) {
 settings.before(content, toggle);
 content.classList.remove(settings.contentClas
s);
 toggle.classList.remove(settings.toggleClass)
;
 settings.after(content, toggle);
 return true;
 }
 };
 // Close all items with a matching selector
 var closeItems = function (selector, activeClass) {
 var items = document.querySelectorAll(selector);
 for (var i = 0; i < items.length; i++) {</pre>
 items[i].classList.remove(activeClass);
 }
```

```
};
 // Close all accordions and toggles
 publicAPIs.closeAccordions = function () {
 closeItems(settings.selectorContent, settings.con
tentClass);
 closeItems(settings.selectorToggle, settings.togg
leClass);
 }
 // Run our accordion script
 var runAccordion = function () {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion
toggle
 if (!event.target.matches(settings.selectorToggl
e)) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target
.hash);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse i
t and quit
 var expanded = isActive(content, event.target);
 if (expanded) return;
```

```
// Run our callback before
 settings.before(content, event.target);
 // Close all accordion content and toggles
 publicAPIs.closeAccordions();
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add(settings.contentClass);
 event.target.classList.add(settings.toggleClass);
 // Run our callback after
 settings.after(content, event.target);
 };
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function (options) {
 // Feature test
 var supports = 'querySelector' in document && 'ad
dEventListener' in window:
 if (!supports) return;
 // Merge user options with the defaults
 settings = extend(defaults, options | | {});
 // Listen for click events
 document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion,
false);
 // Add our initialization class
 the second of th
```

```
document.documentElement.className += ' + settl
ngs.init;
};

// Return our public APIs
return publicAPIs;

})();
```

## Initializing the plugin with options

Now we're ready to initialize our plugin with user options. Here's an example.

```
accordion.init({
 toggleSelector: '[data-accordion-toggle]',
 contentClass: 'is-open',
 after: function (content, toggle) {
 console.log(content);
 console.log(toggle);
 }
});
```

# Destroying the Plugin Initialization

Sometimes, it's helpful to provide a way for users to destroy your plugin after it's been initialized.

This becomes a public function users can run that resets the settings variable, removes any event listeners, and restores any changes you've made to their original state.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // ...
 publicAPIs.destroy = function () {
 // Only run if settings is set
 if (!settings) return;
 // Remove event listener
 document.removeEventListener('click', runAccordio
n, false);
 // Remove the initialization class
 document.documentElement.classList.remove(setting
s.init);
 // Reset settings
 settings = null;
 };
 // ...
})();
```

For good measure, you should also call it whenever you run your publicAPIs.init() function.

```
var accordion = (function () {
 'use strict;'
 // ...
 publicAPIs.destroy = function () {
 // Only run if settings is set
 if (!settings) return;
 // Remove event listener
 document.removeEventListener('click', runAccordio
n, false);
 // Remove the initialization class
 document.documentElement.classList.remove(setting
s.init);
 // Reset settings
 settings = null;
 };
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function (options) {
 // Feature test
 var supports = 'querySelector' in document && 'ad
dEventListener' in window;
 if (!supports) return;
 // Doctron and provious initializations
```

```
publicAPIs.destroy();

// Merge user options with the defaults
settings = extend(defaults, options || {});

// Listen for click events
document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion,

false);

// Add our initialization class
document.documentElement.className += ' ' + setti

ngs.init;
};

// ...
})();
```

# Universal Module Definition (UMD)

If you want your plugin to work with RequireJS, Node, WebPack, Browserify, and other module bundlers, you should use a Universal Module Definition (UMD) pattern.

UMD merges two differing approaches to modules—AMD and CommonJS—with the global variable technique you use for revealing module patterns.

Replace myPlugin with the name of the global variable you want to use. In UMD, window becomes root. It's helpful to set window as a variable to avoid messing that up.

```
(function (root, factory) {
 if (typeof define === 'function' && define.amd) {
 define([], factory(root));
 } else if (typeof exports === 'object') {
 module.exports = factory(root);
 } else {
 root.myPlugin = factory(root);
 }
})(typeof global !== 'undefined' ? global : this.window |
 this.global, function (root) {
 'use strict';

 // Redefine window
 var window = root;

 // Your code...
});
```

## The accordion plugin as UMD

```
(function (root, factory) {
 if (typeof define === 'function' && define.amd) {
 define([], factory(root));
 } else if (typeof exports === 'object') {
 module.exports = factory(root);
}
```

```
} else {
 root.accordion = factory(root);
 }
})(typeof global !== 'undefined' ? global : this.window |
this.global, function (root) {
 'use strict';
 // Element.matches() polyfill
 if (!Element.prototype.matches) {
 Element.prototype.matches =
 Element.prototype.matchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.mozMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.msMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.oMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.webkitMatchesSelector | |
 function(s) {
 var matches = (this.document | | this.owne
rDocument).querySelectorAll(s),
 i = matches.length;
 while (--i >= 0 \&\& matches.item(i) !== th
is) {}
 return i > -1;
 };
 }
 // Variables
 var window = root; // Redefine window
 var publicAPIs = {}; // Our public APIs
```

- -

```
var settings; // Settings
 // Defaults
 var defaults = {
 // Selectors
 selectorToggle: '.accordion-toggle',
 selectorContent: '.accordion',
 // Classes
 toggleClass: 'active',
 contentClass: 'active',
 init: 'js-accordion',
 // Callbacks
 before: function () {},
 after: function () {}
 };
 /**
 * Merge two or more objects together.
 * @param {Boolean} deep If true, do a deep (or
recursive) merge [optional]
 * # @param {Object} objects The objects to merge to
gether
 * @returns {Object} Merged values of defaul
ts and options
 */
 var extend = function () {
 // Variables
```

```
var extended = {};
 var deep = false;
 var i = 0;
 var length = arguments.length;
 // Check if a deep merge
 if (Object.prototype.toString.call(arguments[0]
) === '[object Boolean]') {
 deep = arguments[0];
 i++;
 }
 // Merge the object into the extended object
 var merge = function (obj) {
 for (var prop in obj) {
 if (Object.prototype.hasOwnProperty.call
(obj, prop)) {
 // If deep merge and property is an o
bject, merge properties
 if (deep && Object.prototype.toStrin
g.call(obj[prop]) === '[object Object]') {
 extended[prop] = extend(true, ex
tended[prop], obj[prop]);
 } else {
 extended[prop] = obj[prop];
 }
 }
 }
 };
```

```
// Loop through each object and conduct a merge
 for (; i < length; i++) {</pre>
 var obj = arguments[i];
 merge(obj);
 }
 return extended;
 };
 // Check if the target content is already active
 var isActive = function (content, toggle) {
 if (content.classList.contains(settings.contentC
lass)) {
 settings.before(content, toggle);
 content.classList.remove(settings.contentClas
s);
 toggle.classList.remove(settings.toggleClass)
;
 settings.after(content, toggle);
 return true;
 }
 };
 // Close all items with a matching selector
 var closeItems = function (selector, activeClass) {
 var items = document.querySelectorAll(selector);
 for (var i = 0; i < items.length; i++) {</pre>
 items[i].classList.remove(activeClass);
```

```
}
 };
 // Close all accordions and toggles
 publicAPIs.closeAccordions = function () {
 closeItems(settings.selectorContent, settings.con
tentClass);
 closeItems(settings.selectorToggle, settings.togg
leClass);
 }
 // Run our accordion script
 var runAccordion = function () {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion
toggle
 if (!event.target.matches(settings.selectorToggl
e)) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target
.hash);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse i
t and quit
 var expanded = isActive(content, event.target);
 if (expanded) return;
```

```
// Run our callback before
 settings.before(content, event.target);
 // Close all accordion content and toggles
 publicAPIs.closeAccordions();
 // Open our target content area and toggle link
 content.classList.add(settings.contentClass);
 event.target.classList.add(settings.toggleClass);
 // Run our callback after
 settings.after(content, event.target);
 };
 // Initialize our plugin
 publicAPIs.init = function (options) {
 // Feature test
 var supports = 'querySelector' in document && 'ad
dEventListener' in window;
 if (!supports) return;
 // Merge user options with the defaults
 settings = extend(defaults, options || {});
 // Listen for click events
 document.addEventListener('click', runAccordion,
false);
 // Add our initialization class
```

```
document.documentElement.className += ' ' + setti
ngs.init;
};

// Return our public APIs
return publicAPIs;

});
```

And then you can still just call accordion.init() to initialize it.

# Putting it all together

To make this all tangible, let's work on a project together. We'll take a simple accordion script and convert it into a plugin.

The starter template and complete project code are included in the source code<sup>3</sup> on GitHub.

### **Getting Setup**

Our script includes a small amount of CSS to show and hide content using display: none and display: block. It also includes an event listener and a few modern JavaScript methods.

#### **CSS**

```
.accordion-content {
 display: none;
}
.accordion-content.active {
 display: block;
}
```

### **JavaScript**

```
// Tinton for aliab arranta
```

```
// LISCELL TOT CITCK EVELLS
document.addEventListener('click', function (event) {
 // Only run if the clicked link was an accordion togg
1e
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-togg
le')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, and cl
ose it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.accordio
n-content.active');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
```

```
// Open our target content area
content.classList.add('active');
}, false);
```

#### Markup

```
Show Content<
/a>
<div class="accordion-content" id="content">
 The content
</div>
```

### Planning

Let's take a quick inventory of what we'd like to accomplish.

- 1. Scope our code inside a function wrapper.
- 2. Add an initialization function.
- 3. Modularize our script.
- 4. Add a destroy function to under our initialization.
- 5. Let users pass in options to configure things.
- 6. Add developer hooks.

### Scoping our code

The first thing we want to do is add a functional wrapper around our code to keep it out of the global scope.

To maximize compatibility with module loaders, let's use a UMD wrapper. We'll paste our current code in, and change accordion from the boilerplate to accordion.

```
(function (root, factory) {
 if (typeof define === 'function' && define.amd) {
 define([], factory(root));
 } else if (typeof exports === 'object') {
 module.exports = factory(root);
 } else {
 root.accordion = factory(root);
 }
})(typeof global !== 'undefined' ? global : this.window |
this.global, function (root) {
 'use strict';
 // Redefine window
 var window = root;
 // Listen for clicks on the document
 document.addEventListener('click', function (event) {
 // Bail if our clicked element doesn't have the .
accordion-toggle class
```

```
if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-
toggle')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target
.hash);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse i
t and quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, an
d close it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.acco
rdion-content.active');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Open our target content area
 content.classList.add('active');
 1 401001
```

```
}, laise);
});
```

#### Add an initialization method

Now, let's add an initialization function, so that it only runs if we explicitly call it.

Let's add a placeholder object for our public methods, move our event listener to an .init() method, and return our public methods object.

```
(function (root, factory) {
 if (typeof define === 'function' && define.amd) {
 define([], factory(root));
 } else if (typeof exports === 'object') {
 module.exports = factory(root);
 } else {
 root.accordion = factory(root);
 }
})(typeof global !== 'undefined' ? global : this.window |
 this.global, function (root) {
 'use strict';
 //
 // Variables
 //
 // Variables
 //
 // Variables
 //
 // Variables
 //
 // Variables
```

```
11
 var window = root; // Redefine window
 var publicMethods = {}; // Placeholder for public met
hods
 //
 // Methods
 /**
 * Initialize our script
 */
 publicMethods.init = function () {
 // Listen for clicks on the document
 document.addEventListener('click', function (even
t) {
 // Bail if our clicked element doesn't have t
he .accordion-toggle class
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accord
ion-toggle')) return;
 // Get the target content
```

var content = document.querySelector(event.ta

if (!content) return;

rget.hash);

```
// Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collap
se it and quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it
, and close it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.
accordion-content.active');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Open our target content area
 content.classList.add('active');
 }, false);
 };
 //
 // Return our public methods
 //
```

```
return publicMethods;
});

// Initialize our script
accordion.init();
```

Let's also add an initialization class, and make the CSS that hides our content dependant on it's presence.

### **JavaScript**

```
/**
 * Initialize our script
 */
publicMethods.init = function () {

 // Listen for clicks on the document
 document.addEventListener('click', function (event) {

 // Bail if our clicked element doesn't have the .

accordion-toggle class
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-toggle')) return;

 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.hash);

 if (!content) return:
```

```
// Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse i
t and quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, an
d close it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.acco
rdion-content.active');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Open our target content area
 content.classList.add('active');
 // Add an initialization class
 document.documentElement.className += ' js-accord
ion';
 }, false);
};
```

#### **CSS**

```
.js-accordion .accordion-content {
 display: none;
}
.accordion-content.active {
 display: block;
}
```

### Modularize our script

Next, let's break our script up into some smaller parts.

First, let's pull everything in our event listener our into a standalone function. This will make it possible for us to remove the event listener later. We'll pass in the event as an argument into our function.

```
//
// Methods
//
/**

* Function to run on click

* @param {Event} event The click event
```

```
*/
var clickHandler = function (event) {
 // Bail if our clicked element doesn't have the .acco
rdion-toggle class
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-togg
le')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, and cl
ose it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.accordio
n-content.active');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
```

Then, let's move all of our code that actually toggles visibility into it's own function that we'll call within our clickHandler(). We'll need to pass in the content as an argument.

```
//
// Methods
//
/**
```

```
* Toggle accordion content visibility
 * @param {Node} content The content to show or hide
 */
var toggleAccordion = function (content) {
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 if (content.classList.contains('active')) {
 content.classList.remove('active');
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, and cl
ose it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll('.accordio
n-content.active');
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove('active');
 }
 // Open our target content area
 content.classList.add('active');
};
/**
 * Function to run on click
 * # @param {Event} event The click event
 */
var clickHandler = function (event) {
```

```
// Bail if our clicked element doesn't have the .acco
rdion-toggle class
 if (!event.target.classList.contains('accordion-togg
le')) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // Toggle accordion content visibility
 toggleAccordion(content);
};
/**
 * Initialize our script
 */
publicMethods.init = function () {
 // Listen for clicks on the document
 document.addEventListener('click', clickHandler, fals
e);
 // Add an initialization class
 document.documentElement.className += ' js-accordion'
•
```

};

## Add a destroy function

Now we can add a function to destroy our initialization. This is useful when we want to cancel our accordion or reinitialize it with some new options.

This will be a public method, and we'll call it in our initialization method.

```
/**
 * Destroy our script
 */
publicMethods.destroy = function () {
 // Remove our event listener
 document.removeEventListener('click', clickHandler, f
alse);
 // Remove our initialization class
 document.documentElement.classList.remove('js-accordion');
};
/**
```

```
* Initialize our script

*/

publicMethods.init = function () {

 // Destroy any existing initializations
 publicMethods.destroy();

 // Listen for clicks on the document
 document.addEventListener('click', clickHandler, fals
e);

 // Add an initialization class
 document.documentElement.className += ' js-accordion'
;
};
```

If you open up the console tab in developer tools and run accordion.destroy(), all of the hidden content should become visible.

# Add user options

Next, let's add some options that users can configure themselves—things like selectors and initialization classes.

To get started, let's set up our defaults as an object with key/value pairs, and add a null variable to hold our settings globally within our plugin.

```
//
// Variables
//

var window = root; // Redefine window
var publicMethods = {}; // Placeholder for public methods
var settings; // Settings placeholder

// Defaults
var defaults = {
 selectorToggle: '.accordion-toggle',
 selectorContent: '.accordion-content',
 activeClass: 'active',
 initClass: 'js-accordion'
};
```

Now, let's add a function to merge user settings into our defaults.

```
//
// Methods
//

/**

* Merge two or more objects together.

* @param {Boolean} deep If true, do a deep (or recursive) merge [optional]

* @param {Object} objects The objects to merge together

* @returns {Object} Merged values of defaults a
```

```
nd options
var extend = function () {
 // Variables
 var extended = {};
 var deep = false;
 var i = 0;
 var length = arguments.length;
 // Check if a deep merge
 if (Object.prototype.toString.call(arguments[0]) =
== '[object Boolean]') {
 deep = arguments[0];
 i++;
 }
 // Merge the object into the extended object
 var merge = function (obj) {
 for (var prop in obj) {
 if (Object.prototype.hasOwnProperty.call(ob
j, prop)) {
 // If deep merge and property is an objec
t, merge properties
 if (deep && Object.prototype.toString.ca
11(obj[prop]) === '[object Object]') {
 extended[prop] = extend(true, extend
ed[prop], obj[prop]);
 } else {
 extended(nron) = obi(nron).
```

In our publicMethods.init() function, we'll add an argument for options. We'll also merge options into defaults and set them to the settings variable. We'll omit the var before settings to modify our global variable instead of creating a new one.

When merging, we'll pass our options in as options | | {} so that if the user doesn't provide any options, we'll fall back to an empty object. This prevents our extend method from throwing an error.

```
/**
 * Initialize our script
 */
publicMethods.init = function (options) {
 // Destroy any existing initializations
 publicMethods.destroy();
 // Merge options into defaults
 settings = extend(defaults, options || {});
 // Listen for clicks on the document
 document.addEventListener('click', clickHandler, fals
e);
 // Add an initialization class
 document.documentElement.className += ' js-accordion'
;
};
```

We also want to reset the settings variable in our publicMethods.destroy() function. We can use that variable as a test to determine if the script is already initialized or not, and bail if this is the first initialization.

```
/**
 * Destroy our script
 */
publicMethods.destroy = function () {
 // Check if the script is initialized
 if (!settings) return;
 // Remove our event listener
 document.removeEventListener('click', clickHandler, f
alse);
 // Remove our initialization class
 document.documentElement.classList.remove('js-accordi
on');
 // Reset our settings
 settings = null;
};
```

#### Using our settings in the script

Finally, we need to use our merged settings in our script instead of our hand-coded values.

```
/**
 * Toggle accordion content visibility
```

```
* @param {Node} content The content to show or hide
var toggleAccordion = function (content) {
 // If the content is already expanded, collapse it an
d quit
 if (content.classList.contains(settings.activeClass)
) {
 content.classList.remove(settings.activeClass);
 return;
 }
 // Get all accordion content, loop through it, and cl
ose it
 var accordions = document.querySelectorAll(settings.s
electorContent + '.' + settings.activeClass);
 for (var i = 0; i < accordions.length; i++) {</pre>
 accordions[i].classList.remove(settings.activeCla
ss);
 }
 // Open our target content area
 content.classList.add(settings.activeClass);
};
/**
 * Function to run on click
 * # @param {Event} event The click event
```

```
*/
var clickHandler = function (event) {
 // Bail if our clicked element doesn't have the .acco
rdion-toggle class
 if (!event.target.classList.contains(settings.select
orToggle)) return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // Toggle accordion content visibility
 toggleAccordion(content);
};
/**
 * Destroy our script
 */
publicMethods.destroy = function () {
 // Check if the script is initialized
 if (!settings) return;
 // Remove our event listener
 document.removeEventListener('click', clickHandler, f
```

```
alse);
 // Remove our initialization class
 document.documentElement.classList.remove(settings.in
itClass);
 // Reset our settings
 settings = null;
};
/**
 * Initialize our script
 */
publicMethods.init = function (options) {
 // Destroy any existing initializations
 publicMethods.destroy();
 // Merge options into defaults
 settings = extend(defaults, options | | {});
 // Listen for clicks on the document
 document.addEventListener('click', clickHandler, fals
e);
 // Add an initialization class
 document.documentElement.className += ' ' + settings.
initClass;
```

### **Beyond class-based selectors**

The one snag here is with our clickHandler() function. Right now, it relies on classList.contains() to check if the clicked element is one of our accordion toggles.

Our selector is .accordion-toggle. That leading . will cause our if statement to fail, as classList.contains() uses just the class name, not the CSS selector associated with classes. It also doesn't account for other types of selectors, like data attributes
([data-accordion-toggle]) or selectors with multiple classes
(.main .accordion-toggle);

Instead, we want to use .matches(), which will return true whenever the selector(s) would match on the element in question.

```
/**
 * Function to run on click
 * @param {Event} event The click event
 */
var clickHandler = function (event) {
 // Bail if our clicked element doesn't have the .acco
rdion-toggle class
 if (!event.target.matches(settings.selectorToggle))
return;
 // ...
};
```

The .matches() method has spotty browser support, and in some supporting browsers requires a vendor prefix (like webkitMatches()). Fortunately, a simple polyfill extends this to all browsers that support querySelector.

Let's add this globally within our script.

```
if (!Element.prototype.matches) {
 Element.prototype.matches =
 Element.prototype.matchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.mozMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.msMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.oMatchesSelector | |
 Element.prototype.webkitMatchesSelector | |
 function(s) {
 var matches = (this.document || this.ownerDoc
ument).querySelectorAll(s),
 i = matches.length;
 while (--i \ge 0 \&\& matches.item(i) !== this)
{}
 return i > -1;
 };
}
```

### Adding developer hooks

To make our plugin as flexible as possible, we also want to add hooks developers can use to extend functionality.

First, let's make the toggleAccordion() method public, so that users can run it from other scripts. For example, imagine if a user wanted to dynamically open a specific piece of accordion content if a link in the navigation is clicked.

Don't forget to change our function call in the clickHandler()

method.

```
/**
 * Toggle accordion content visibility
 * @param {Node} content The content to show or hide
 */
publicMethods.toggleAccordion = function (content) {
 // ...
};
/**
 * Function to run on click
 * # @param {Event} event The click event
var clickHandler = function (event) {
 // ...
 // Toggle accordion content visibility
 publicMethods.toggleAccordion(content);
};
```

Next, let's add callback functions that can be run before and after accordion content is toggled. These let developers add additional functionality to our plugin without having to touch the core code.

We'll include these as empty functions in our defaults variable, and add them to our clickHandler function. Developers can pass their callbacks in with the options object.

We'll also pass in the toggle element and content area as arguments, for maximum flexibility.

```
// Defaults
var defaults = {
 // Selectors
 selectorToggle: '.accordion-toggle',
 selectorContent: '.accordion-content',
 activeClass: 'active',
 initClass: 'js-accordion',
 // Callbacks
 callbackBefore: function () {},
 callbackAfter: function () {}
};
// ...
/**
 * Function to run on click
 * # @param {Event} event The click event
 */
var clickHandler = function (event) {
```

```
// Bail if our clicked element doesn't have the .acco
rdion-toggle class
 if (!event.target.matches(settings.selectorToggle))
return;
 // Get the target content
 var content = document.querySelector(event.target.has
h);
 if (!content) return;
 // Prevent default link behavior
 event.preventDefault();
 // Run callback before toggling the accordion
 settings.callbackBefore(event.target, content);
 // Toggle accordion content visibility
 publicMethods.toggleAccordion(content);
 // Run callback after toggling the accordion
 settings.callbackAfter(event.target, content);
};
```

And with those last two changes, you've made a plugin that's incredibly flexible and developer-friendly. Congrats!

# About the Author



Hi, I'm Chris Ferdinandi. I help people learn JavaScript.

I love pirates, puppies, and Pixar movies, and live near horse farms in rural Massachusetts. I run Go Make Things with Bailey Puppy, a lab-mix from Tennessee.

#### You can find me:

- On my website at GoMakeThings.com.
- By email at chris@gomakethings.com.
- On Twitter at @ChrisFerdinandi.

- 1. https://github.com/cferdinandi/extend↔
- 2. https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/Element/matches#Polyfill↔
- 3. https://github.com/cferdinandi/writing-plugins-source-code/ $\hookleftarrow$