

What is Traversing?

jQuery traversing, which means "move through", are used to "find" (or select) HTML elements based on their relation to other elements. Start with one selection and move through that selection until you reach the elements you desire.

The image below illustrates a family tree. With jQuery traversing, you can easily move up (ancestors), down (descendants) and sideways (siblings) in the family tree, starting from the selected (current) element. This movement is called traversing - or moving through - the DOM.

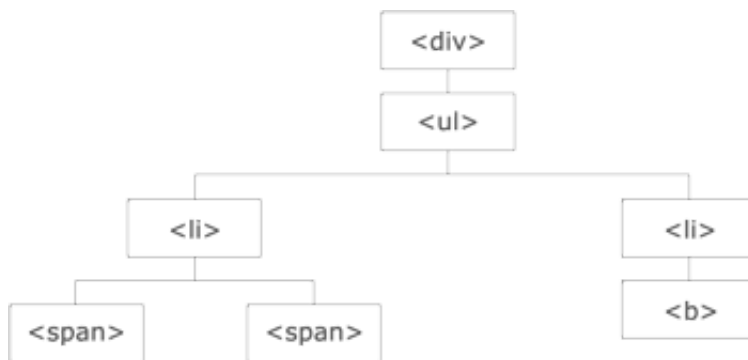


Illustration explained:

- The `<div>` element is the **parent** of ``, and an **ancestor** of everything inside of it
- The `` element is the **parent** of both `` elements, and a **child** of `<div>`
- The left `` element is the **parent** of ``, **child** of `` and a **descendant** of `<div>`
- The `` element is a **child** of the left `` and a **descendant** of `` and `<div>`
- The two `` elements are **siblings** (they share the same parent)
- The right `` element is the **parent** of ``, **child** of `` and a **descendant** of `<div>`
- The `` element is a **child** of the right `` and a **descendant** of `` and `<div>`

An ancestor is a parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, and so on.



A descendant is a child, grandchild, great-grandchild, and so on.

Siblings share the same parent.