

Removing or replacing a stylesheet (a <link>) with JavaScript/jQuery

Asked 9 years, 5 months ago Active 3 months ago Viewed 47k times



How can I do this?

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I tried



```
$('#link[title="mystyle"]').remove();
```



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and although the element is removed, the styles are still applied to the current page (in both Opera and Firefox).

Is there any other way?

javascript

jquery

css

edited Sep 20 '13 at 18:19



Rory O'Kane

21.8k 8 69 110

asked Jul 6 '10 at 0:27



Alex

60.1k 141 374 564

stuff like `$('#link[title="mystyle"]').remove()` works now, it was an issue with old browsers (when this question was asked years ago) – [Ivan Castellanos](#) Oct 27 '17 at 20:53

9 Answers



62

To cater for ie you have to set the stylesheet to be disabled as it keeps the css styles in memory so removing the element will not work, it can also cause it to crash in some instances if I remember correctly.



This also works for cross browser.



e.g

```
document.styleSheets[0].disabled = true;
```

//so in your case using jquery try

```
$('#link[title=mystyle]')[0].disabled=true;
```

edited Jul 6 '10 at 0:39

answered Jul 6 '10 at 0:31



redsquare

72.7k 17 145 154

Nice redsquare. I didn't know about this. Welcome back btw – [karim79](#) Jul 6 '10 at 0:36

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Blazemonger Oct 28 '11 at 15:12

-
- 1 This is no longer true; now in the future (7 years later) removing link tag is enough – [Ivan Castellanos](#) Oct 27 '17 at 20:48
-
- 1 `$('#link[title=mystyle]')[0].disabled=true;` didn't wok for me, but `$('#link[id=mystyle]')[0].disabled=true;` worked. I had to use the id instead of title. – [mggSoft](#) Sep 3 at 15:33
-

▲ I managed to do it with:

18 `$('#link[title="mystyle"]').attr('disabled', 'disabled');`

▼ it seems this is the only way to remove the styles from memory. then I added:

```
$('#link[title="mystyle"]').remove();
```

to remove the element too.

answered Jul 6 '10 at 0:56



[Alex](#)

60.1k

141

374

564

▲ To disable your selected stylesheet:

11 `$('#link[title="mystyle"]').prop('disabled', true);`

▼ If you never want that stylesheet to be applied again, you can then `.remove()` it. But don't do that if you want to be able to re-enable it later.

To re-enable the stylesheet, do this (as long as you didn't `remove` the stylesheet's element):

```
$('#link[title="mystyle"]').prop('disabled', false);
```

In the code above, it is important to use `.prop`, not `.attr`. If you use `.attr`, the code will work in some browsers, but not Firefox. This is because, [according to MDN](#), `disabled` is a [property of the HTMLLinkElement DOM object](#), but *not* an attribute of the `link` HTML element. Using `disabled` as an HTML attribute is nonstandard.

edited Sep 20 '13 at 18:25

answered Sep 20 '13 at 18:13



[Rory O'Kane](#)

21.8k

8

69

110

▲ no jQuery solution

5 if you can add id to your link tag

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if you know index position of your css file in document

```
document.styleSheets[0].disabled = true; // first
document.styleSheets[document.styleSheets.length - 1].disabled = true; // last
```

if you want to disable style by name you can use this function

```
/**
 * @param [string] [styleName] [filename with suffix e.g. "style.css"]
 * @param [boolean] [disabled] [true disables style]
 */
var disableStyle = function(styleName, disabled) {
    var styles = document.styleSheets;
    var href = "";
    for (var i = 0; i < styles.length; i++) {
        href = styles[i].href.split("/");
        href = href[href.length - 1];

        if (href === styleName) {
            styles[i].disabled = disabled;
            break;
        }
    }
};
```

note: make sure style file name is unique so you don't have "dir1/style.css" and "dir2/style.css". In that case it would disable only first style.

edited Feb 6 '15 at 16:07

answered Sep 18 '14 at 17:33



[Petr Hurtak](#)

1,766 14 13

▲ To remove a stylesheet:

3 `$('#link[src="<path>"]').remove();`

▼ To Replace a stylesheet:

`$('#link[src="<path>"]').attr('src', '<NEW_FILE_PATH>');`

answered Mar 29 '14 at 16:13



[Hasan Al-Natour](#)

1,098 1 9 20

▲ Using pure javascript:

1 `var stylesheet = document.getElementById('stylesheetID');`
`stylesheet.parentNode.removeChild(stylesheet);`

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ES6 solution:

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```
const disableStyle = styleName => {
  const styles = document.styleSheets;
  let href = "";
  for (let i = 0; i < styles.length; i++) {
    if (!styles[i].href) {
      continue;
    }
    href = styles[i].href.split("/");
    href = href[href.length - 1];
    if (href === styleName) {
      styles[i].disabled = true;
      break;
    }
  }
};
```

Use it like `disableStyle("MyUnwantedFile.css");` .

answered Jul 19 at 21:59



fernandOTdo

101 1 4

Thanks for proving an ES6 solution – [Bryan Casler](#) Jul 19 at 22:02

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Here's both an add & remove using the disabling principle mentioned in a number of these other posts to prevent cross browser issues. Note how my add checks to see if the sheet already exists, in which case it just enables it. Also, in contrast to some answers, this is designed to work using the url to a .css file as the sole argument to the functions (insulating the client from the use of id or title attributes).

```
function element( id ){ return document.getElementById( id ); }

function addStyleSheet( url ){
  var id = _styleSheetUrlToId( url );
  if( !_enableStyleSheet( id ) ) {
    var link = document.createElement("link");
    link.href = url;
    link.type = "text/css";
    link.rel = "stylesheet";
    link.id = id;
    document.getElementsByTagName("head")[0].appendChild( link );
  }
}

function removeStyleSheet( url )
{ _enableStyleSheet( _styleSheetUrlToId( url ), false ); }

// "protected" function
function _styleSheetUrlToId( url ){
  var urlParts = url.split("/");
  return urlParts[urlParts.length-1].split(".")[0]
  "..."
}
```

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```
function _enableStyleSheet( id, enable ) {  
    if( typeof(enable) == "undefined" ) enable = true;  
    var sheet = element( id );  
    if( sheet ) {  
        sheet.disabled = !enable;  
        return true;  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

answered Aug 23 '18 at 1:20



BuvinJ

5,601

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57

▲ If you want to do it only with the href attribute:

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▼ `$('.link[href="https://example.com/mycss.css"]').remove()`

answered Aug 20 at 1:45



NicolasZ

498

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