

P8 – Introduction to jQuery

Objectives:

- Getting Started with jQuery
- Understand how to use jQuery UI

jQuery is a lightweight Javascript Framework, that provides web developer a quick and efficient way to enhance their web application in an unobtrusive way. Even though jQuery helps web developers to write simpler Javascript code, developers should still possess fundamental HTML, CSS and Javascript knowledge in order to use jQuery framework effectively.

Documentation and tutorials are extensive on jQuery website, as such this workshop shall make use of those useful tutorials.

To complete both tutorials, you may either use the NotePad, NotePad++ or Dreamweaver.

How jQuery Works

To get started with jQuery, we shall first look at how jQuery works. The following tutorial gives a good introduction to jQuery. First create a Web Application with your Eclipse environment, and create the html, javascript and css files accordingly.

http://docs.jquery.com/Tutorials:How_jQuery_Works

Upon completion of this tutorial, you should have some understanding on how jQuery works. Proceed to explore further on the other tutorials that are available on the tutorial site at your own time.

jQuery UI

jQuery provides a set of UI widgets with customized look and feel, that allows web developers to build highly interactive web applications. To start using jQuery UI, use the Getting Started tutorial from the jQuery UI site.

http://jqueryui.com/docs/Getting_Started

Upon completion of this tutorial, you should be able to use jQuery UI to create highly interactive website with the customizable UI widgets provided by jQuery UI.

Conclusion

Apart from jQuery, there are other Javascript toolkits that allow developers to build highly interactive web applications. However, jQuery is easy to use, and can be used on existing web applications with little modifications to be made on existing codebase.

Next, we shall look at how jQuery can be used with Java Web/Enterprise application.

