

JavaScript - Forms

[JavaScript FormData - javatpoint](#)

[Best Practices and Usability for Online Forms](#)

document.forms - form.elements

Document forms are members of the special collection `document.forms`.

They are both named and ordered:

```
document.forms.my; // the form with name="my"  
document.forms[0]; // the first form in the document
```

document.forms - form.elements

When we have a form, then any element is available in the named collection `form.elements`

```
<form name="my">
  <input name="one" value="1">
  <input name="two" value="2">
</form>
<script>
  let form = document.forms.my; // <form name="my"> element

  // get the element
  let elem = form.elements.one; // <input name="one"> element
  alert(elem.value); // 1
</script>
```

These navigation properties do not depend on the tag structure.

All control elements, no matter how deep they are in the form, are available in `form.elements`

form.elements

There may be multiple elements with the same name (radio buttons and checkboxes).

In that case, `form.elements[name]` is a *collection*.

```
<form>
  <input type="radio" name="age" value="10">
  <input type="radio" name="age" value="20">
</form>
```

```
<script>
let form = document.forms[0];

let ageElems = form.elements.age;

alert(ageElems[0]); // [object HTMLInputElement]
</script>
```

form.elements

Shorter notation: `form.name`

We can access the element as `form[index/name]`

In other words, instead of `form.elements.login` we can write `form.login`.

Form elements - controls

input and textarea

We can access their value as `input.value` (string) or `input.checked` (boolean) for checkboxes and radio buttons.

Form elements - controls

select and option

1. `select.options` – the collection of `<option>` subelements,
2. `select.value` – the *value* of the currently selected `<option>`,
3. `select.selectedIndex` – the *number* of the currently selected `<option>`

```
<select id="select">
  <option value="apple">Apple</option>
  <option value="pear">Pear</option>
  <option value="banana">Banana</option>
</select>
```

```
<script>
  // all three lines do the same thing
  select.options[2].selected = true;
  select.selectedIndex = 2;
  select.value = 'banana';
  // please note: options start from zero, so index 2 means the 3rd option.
</script>
```