**AJAX**

Asynchronous JavaScript and XML.

AJAX allows web pages to be updated asynchronously by exchanging small amounts of data with the server behind the scenes.

This means that it is possible to update parts of a web page, without reloading the whole page.

XMLHttpRequest object (to retrieve data from a web server)

JavaScript/DOM (to display/use the data)

The XMLHttpRequest object is used to exchange data with a server behind the scenes.

All modern browsers (Chrome, IE7+, Firefox, Safari, and Opera) have a built-in XMLHttpRequest object.

To send a request to a server, we use the open() and send() methods of the XMLHttpRequest object

var xhttp;

if (window.XMLHttpRequest) {

xhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();

} else {

// code for IE6, IE5

xhttp = new ActiveXObject("Microsoft.XMLHTTP");

}

open(method, url, async)

method: the type of request: GET or POST

url: the server (file) location

async: true (asynchronous) or false (synchronous)

xhttp.open("GET", "demo\_get.asp", true);

xhttp.send();

xhttp.open("POST", "demo\_post.asp", true);

xhttp.send();

With AJAX, the JavaScript does not have to wait for the server response, but can instead:

execute other scripts while waiting for server response

deal with the response when the response ready

To get the response from a server, use the responseText or responseXML property of the XMLHttpRequest object.

responseText get the response data as a string

responseXML get the response data as XML data

The onreadystatechange event is triggered every time the readyState changes.

The readyState property holds the status of the XMLHttpRequest.