

Project 1: Interactive Form Elements

And now for openers...

For this project, you will make a web page that contains a form using a select pull-down element. Once the user selects the desired option, your script will dynamically create another pull-down element whose contents will depend upon the visitor's first choice...

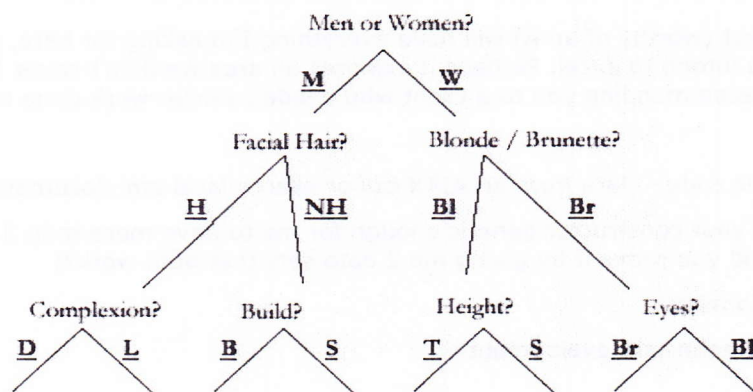
In other words – I would start with the first option being coded in html. When the user makes a choice, another option menu appears dynamically that contains choices that are directly related to the answer of the first choice. Once the user makes a second choice, the third option menu will appear with new choices that are dependant upon the second choice (and, of course, on the first choice...). Once the user has made 3 different choices, you will create a new text node and dynamically print out their choices out to the screen.

After getting that to work – you need to make the first option/select menu NOT be hard coded in html. I am looking for one function to create all of the dropdowns, the content of the select/option should be dependent upon what information is sent to the function.

Much will become clearer after the DOM lecture (3a).

Requirements

- Dynamically creating form elements depending upon the answer of the last question
 - The form elements for the questionnaire MUST be <select><option> elements
- At least 2 choices for each selection
- At least a depth of 3 different questions (if you make yours so that it can create x number of dropdowns, then the depth can be 2 for some and 4 or 5 for others!)
- Topic is up to you – but you can use my “find-a-date” example below! (be creative!)



Finally, Print out choices to the screen!

- Once the user has made their selections, (at least) create a new node to print out their final choices to the screen (Ex: You want a man with facial hair of slight build! That is minimal – do more to do better!)
- Give the user the option to start over at any time!
- A form on some page getting the users information (validation!)
- The use of Cookies & localStorage (possibly to hold the user information in the form?)
 - Yes – it says BOTH cookies and localStorage – your project must work in all browsers

(remember that localStorage does NOT work in IE7)!

- I also want you to re-direct all browsers that this doesn't work on to another page, asking them to download a browser that would work! (see **Final Note**)
- Looks!!! (professional looking, quality graphics, etc.)
- **DUE DATE: Wed. October 3rd @ midnight (drop box in mycourses)**
 - **Zip up entire project (file structure intact!) in a folder with your last name**

Programming requirements

- Dynamic creation of at least 3 sets of <select><option>value... nodes (tags)
- Constructor method that creates the next select menu from the last choice
- Use of the following Commands (among many others):
 - createElement, setAttribute, appendChild, getElementById, getElementsByTagName, createTextNode, nodeValue to name a few...
- Do NOT use visibility to show/hide the selections – I want them dynamically created!
- Some use of DHTML (menu system, sliding elements, etc. animation preferred!)
- No layout with tables! Everything done with CSS
- No use of innerHTML! (I might allow it for the practical, but not the projects)
- Include comments in the code to clearly explain functionality.
- Re-direction of non-modern and Mac IE browsers (yes, Mac IE will pass document.getElementById), redirect the user to FireFox download page

Grading

An excellent project (worthy of an A) will have everything I'm asking for here, plus something extra - evidence that you intend to excel. Perhaps it explores an area we didn't cover in detail in class, or would merit me recommending you to a client who needed similar work done on a multimedia project.

To do better...

- Good, reusable code – data from an AJAX call or even a local xml document
- Scalability (is your constructor generic enough for me to have more than 3 choices if I change your data? Did you prove it by giving me 2 data sets that both work?)
- Extend Functionality
- High Level of Technical Development
- Surprise me...

Final Note

I realize that what I'm asking you to build will not work in IE on the Mac – but I do expect it to work on: **Mac – Gecko and Safari, PC – Gecko and IE 7, 8 & 9!**

For IE 5 on Mac AND non-modern browsers you MUST take care of the visitor (at least a re-direct to an explanation page telling them why they should think of downloading a new browser and giving them links to the download pages?) IE 5 for the Mac will pass modern browsers, but wont work – how do you test for it?