

how to reset <input type = "file">

Asked 5 years, 7 months ago Active today Viewed 397k times



I am developing a metro app with VS2012 and Javascript

342

I want to reset the contents of my file input:



```
<input type="file" id="uploadCaptureInputFile" class="win-content colors"
accept="image/*" />
```



50

How should I do that?

javascript

visual-studio-2012

winjs

edited Sep 6 '17 at 3:41



Augustin

1,540 14 22

asked Dec 12 '13 at 16:46



Jesus

3,786 3 22 33

1 What do you mean by content? – [Maess](#) Dec 12 '13 at 16:48

3 do you mean, after the user selects a file, you want to reset the selected file to "nothing"? – [ddavison](#) Dec 12 '13 at 16:49

9 Possible duplicate of stackoverflow.com/questions/1043957/... – [Dhaval Marthak](#) Dec 12 '13 at 16:52

9 it [seems](#) that a simple `inputElement.value = ""` does the trick just fine without resorting to cloning or wrapping as suggested. Works in CH(46), IE(11) and FF(41) – [Robert Koritnik](#) Oct 23 '15 at 21:37

4 Possible duplicate of [How can I clear an HTML file input with JavaScript?](#) – [Frank Tan](#) Sep 26 '16 at 17:58

25 Answers



The jQuery solution that [@dhaval-marthak](#) posted in the comments obviously works, but if you look at the actual jQuery call it's pretty easy to see what jQuery is doing, just setting the `value` attribute to an empty string. So in "pure" JavaScript it would be:

307

```
document.getElementById("uploadCaptureInputFile").value = "";
```

answered Dec 12 '13 at 19:04



jakerella

10.3k 2 28 48

13 Thanks! If you already have the jquery reference anyway, `$input.val("")` will work as usual. – Natan Mar 1 '14 at 13:57

13 it won't work in IE10-11 – Ashish Ratan Jun 23 '14 at 10:38

Don't work on FF 45.0.2 :(– fralbo May 5 '16 at 16:47

@2ndGAB Hmm... I only have 45.0.1 so I can't test... anyone else? – jakerella May 5 '16 at 19:08

1 `input.type = ""; input.type = 'file'; //enjoy` – Maxmaxmaximus Feb 2 '17 at 11:59

You need to wrap `<input type = "file">` in to `<form>` tags and then you can reset input by resetting your form:

77

```
onClick="this.form.reset()"
```

answered Dec 7 '14 at 19:32



levkaster

1,791 1 16 27

7 This is the correct method. It works in all browsers and does not conflict with any protections that browsers implement to prevent rogue scripts from messing around with file input's `.value`. – Eugene Ryabtsev Mar 21 '16 at 8:26

7 Kinda cool, not for me though, cause it also resets other fields on this form. – Starwave Dec 5 '17 at 9:54

2 A similar jQuery solution could be `$("form").get(0).reset();`. The `.get(0)` will return the actual form element so you can use the `reset()` function. – teewuane Mar 16 '18 at 16:16

This is the BEST solution:

64

```

input.value = ''

if(!/safari/i.test(navigator.userAgent)){
  input.type = ''
  input.type = 'file'
}

```

Of all the answers here this is the fastest solution. No input clone, no form reset!

I checked it in all browsers (it even has IE8 support).

edited Mar 6 '17 at 11:26

answered Feb 10 '16 at 18:37



[Maxmaxmaximus](#)

1,396 13 14

4 Is there any specific reason to reset the `input.type` too? Setting just the value to `''` is giving the expected result. – [Harshita Sethi](#) Mar 3 '17 at 13:05

Does it fire `onchange` event in MS Edge? – [hotohoto](#) Mar 28 '17 at 1:14

@hotohoto i dont know, a have mac os) – [Maxmaxmaximus](#) Mar 30 '17 at 7:24

1 This needs some more upvotes or something, I took far too long to find this answer, this is the only one I found that works on IE. – [klskl](#) Jan 4 '18 at 12:27

`input.value = ''` throws an exception to the console in IE11. However resetting `input.type` works on all browsers without any error. – [Miroslav Jasso](#) Nov 15 '18 at 7:08

You can just clone it and replace it with itself, with all events still attached:

41

```
<input type="file" id="control">
```

and

```

var input = $("#control");

function something_happens() {
  input.replaceWith(input.val('').clone(true));
};

```

Thanks : [Css-tricks.com](https://css-tricks.com)

answered Jun 18 '14 at 9:55



[pixparker](#)

1,959 15 17

-
- 1 Unfortunately this doesn't reset input value, see [this jsFiddle](#). For a better solution, see [this answer](#). – [Gyrocode.com](#) Jul 31 '15 at 17:40
-
- 1 @Gyrocode.com This jsFiddle doesn't work if the image is uploaded second time after reset. – [Sarthak Singhal](#) Aug 7 '15 at 9:40
-
- 2 @SarthakSinghal, Unfortunately you wrote the wrong code, you should have done [jsfiddle.net/cL1LooLe](#) – [Roger Russel](#) Sep 14 '15 at 23:08 ✎
-
- 2 @RogerRussel: Exactly... I was wondering myself how come upper answers were saying that it only works once which is a clear indicator that some sort of reference is being lost. And that was actually the case because the initially created the input reference that was later replaced with a new input element. – [Robert Koritnik](#) Oct 23 '15 at 21:10
-
- 1 Just resetting the `value` like in other answers seems much more straightforward than manipulating the DOM. – [CodeFinity](#) May 26 at 22:39
-

▲ In case you have the following:

37 `<input type="file" id="fileControl">`

▼ then just do:

```
$("#fileControl").val('');
```

to reset the file control.

answered Sep 8 '15 at 12:07



[sstauross](#)

1,418 20 43

-
- 4 Best solution IMHO. – [Serhii Maksymchuk](#) Mar 17 '17 at 18:33
-
- 2 Or use DOM: `inputFileEl.value = ''`; – [Ninh Pham](#) May 22 '17 at 4:29
-
- not work in IE11 – [devi](#) Apr 9 '18 at 16:09 ✎
-
- works also on vanilla js ;) – [CommonSenseCode](#) Aug 7 '18 at 11:18
-

Another solution (without selecting HTML DOM elements)

35

If you added 'change' event listener on that input, then in javascript code you can call (for some specified conditions):

```
event.target.value = '';
```

For example in HTML:

```
<input type="file" onChange="onChangeFunction(event)">
```

And in javascript:

```
onChangeFunction(event) {  
  let fileList = event.target.files;  
  let file = fileList[0];  
  let extension = file.name.match(/(?<=\.)\w+$/g)[0].toLowerCase(); // assuming that  
  this file has any extension  
  
  if (extension === 'jpg') {  
    alert('Good file extension!');  
  }  
  else {  
    event.target.value = '';  
    alert('Wrong file extension! File input is cleared.');  
  }  
}
```

edited Jan 24 '18 at 15:35

answered Jul 4 '17 at 14:05



indreed

799 7 9

Another way to angular2: stackoverflow.com/questions/40165271/... – Belter Nov 23 '17 at 7:37

This will only work on filenames which contain just a single . in front of file extension. – Ma Kobi Dec 19 '17 at 8:13

That's right, I have edited the code and provided more universal approach to get a file extension. – indreed Jan 24 '18 at 15:28

SOLUTION

28

The following code worked for me with jQuery. It works in every browser and allows to preserve events and custom properties.

```
var $el = $('#uploadCaptureInputFile');
$el.wrap('<form>').closest('form').get(0).reset();
$el.unwrap();
```

DEMO

See [this jsFiddle](#) for code and demonstration.

LINKS

See [How to reset file input with JavaScript](#) for more information.

edited Jul 7 '17 at 13:00

answered Jul 31 '15 at 17:32



[Gyrocode.com](#)

41k 9 86 128

This code will reset all inputs in the form?! – [candlejack](#) Jan 2 '17 at 0:20

1 @alessandro, no, just element <input type="file"> with specific ID. – [Gyrocode.com](#) Jan 2 '17 at 1:03 ✎

Thanks clarify your answer :) +1 – [candlejack](#) Jan 2 '17 at 1:05

1 This is the cleanest and most browser-compliant solution I have found yet - thank you. – [Pat](#) Apr 14 '17 at 16:59

Resetting a file upload button is so easy using **pure JavaScript!**

21

There are few ways to do it, but the must straightforward way which is working well in many browser is changing the filed value to nothing, that way the upload filed gets reset, also try to use pure javascript rather than any framework, I created the code below, just check it out (ES6):

```
function resetFile() {
  const file = document.querySelector('.file');
```

```
file.value = '';  
}
```

```
<input type="file" class="file" />  
<button onclick="resetFile()">Reset file</button>
```

[Run code snippet](#)[Expand snippet](#)

edited May 8 '18 at 12:08

answered Jan 15 '18 at 12:36

**Alireza**

59.6k

14

197

127

networking it gives me error resetFile not defined – [Anand Choudhary](#) May 14 '18 at 6:25

@AnandChoudhary should be fine, just your network, try again... – [Alireza](#) May 14 '18 at 7:04

how to do with jquery – [Anand Choudhary](#) May 14 '18 at 7:11

- 1 @AnandChoudhary this works inside jQuery as well, but you can replace `const file = document.querySelector('.file');` with `const file = $('file');` or just do `$('.file').val('');` to empty it – [Alireza](#) May 14 '18 at 7:30

I use for vuejs

9

```
<input  
  type="file"  
  ref="fileref"  
  @change="onChange"/>
```

```
this.$refs.fileref.value = ''
```

answered Aug 15 '18 at 9:55

**anson**

618

7

8

- 2 Thanks man! I thought I will never find a solution with vuejs :D, you mad my day! – [Zsoca](#) Mar 16 at 14:15

Particularly for **Angular**

9

```
document.getElementById('uploadFile').value = "";
```

Will work, But if you use Angular It will say "Property 'value' does not exist on type 'HTMLElement'.any"

document.getElementById() returns the type HTMLElement which does not contain a value property. So, cast it into HTMLInputElement

```
(<HTMLInputElement>document.getElementById('uploadFile')).value = "";
```

EXTRA :-

However, we should not use document.xyz() DOM manipulation in angular.

To do that angular has provided @ViewChild, @ViewChildren, etc which are document.querySelector(), document.querySelectorAll() respectively.

Even I haven't read it. Better to follow expert's blogs

Go through this [link1](#), [link2](#)

edited 21 hours ago

answered Dec 11 '18 at 13:29



P Satish Patro

465 3 14

The resetting input file is on very single

8

```
$('#input[type=file]').val(null);
```

If you bind reset the file in change other field of the form, or load form with ajax.

This example is applicable

selector for example is \$('#input[type=text]') or any element of the form

event click , change , or any event


```
$('#body').delegate('event', 'selector', function(){  
    $('#input[type=file]').val(null) ;  
});
```

edited Aug 29 '17 at 3:06

answered May 23 '17 at 15:59



Ivan Fretes

397 4 6

With **IE 10** I resolved the problem with :

5

```
var file = document.getElementById("file-input");  
file.removeAttribute('value');  
file.parentNode.replaceChild(file.cloneNode(true),file);
```

where :

```
<input accept="image/*" onchange="angular.element(this).scope().uploadFile(this)"  
id="file-input" type="file"/>
```

answered Mar 7 '16 at 19:08



Alvaro Joao

5,349 6 33 59

5

```
document.getElementById("uploadCaptureInputFile").value = "";
```

Run code snippet

[Expand snippet](#)

answered Aug 12 '18 at 6:24



Jalaleddin Hosseini

379 4 8

Just use:

3

```
$('#input[type=file]').val('');
```

edited Mar 11 '16 at 5:11



Kevin Guan

14.6k 10 43 71

answered Mar 11 '16 at 4:50



deepak shinde

47 1 1

Not so good because this clean all file inputs. – [Serhii Maksymchuk](#) Jan 17 '18 at 8:51

With angular you can create a template variable and set the value to `null`

3

```
<input type="file" #fileUploader />
<button (click)="fileUploader.value = null">Reset from UI</button>
```

Or you can create a method to reset like this

component.ts

```
@ViewChild('fileUploader') fileUploader:ElementRef;

resetFileUploader() {
  this.fileUploader.nativeElement.value = null;
}
```

template

```
<input type="file"/>
<button (click)="resetFileUploader()">Reset from Component</button>
```

[stackblitz demo](#)

edited Sep 6 '18 at 8:09

answered Sep 5 '18 at 10:59



malbarmawi



You can't reset that since it is an read-only file. you can clone it to workaround the problem.

2

answered Jun 18 '14 at 9:59



Ducaz035

1,947 2 19 37

You should try this:

2

```
$("#uploadCaptureInputFile").val('');
```

answered Jun 5 '16 at 12:19



Muhammad Awais

2,275 1 29 23

This could be done like this

2

```
var inputfile= $('#uploadCaptureInputFile')
$('#reset').on('click',function(){
inputfile.replaceWith(inputfile.val('').clone(true));
})
```

```
<script src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/jquery/3.3.1/jquery.min.js">
</script>
```

```
<input type="file" id="uploadCaptureInputFile" class="win-content colors"
accept="image/*" />
<a href="" id="reset">Reset</a>
```

Run code snippet

[Expand snippet](#)

answered Dec 6 '18 at 11:14



Fraz Abbas

143 9

There are many approaches and i will suggest to go with ref attachment to input.

2

```
<input
  id="image"
  type="file"
  required
  ref={ref => this.fileInput = ref}
  multiple
  onChange={this.onFileChangeHandler}
/>
```

to clear value after submit.

```
this.fileInput.value = "";
```

edited Jun 20 at 8:13



adiga

19.1k 7 29 50

answered Jun 20 at 7:59



Sourabh Bhutani

195 2 11

jQuery solution:

1

```
$('#input').on('change',function(){
  $(this).get(0).value = '';
  $(this).get(0).type = 'file';
  $(this).get(0).type = 'file';
});
```

answered Feb 3 '17 at 12:46




panatoni

144 7

Consider padding this answer out to explain how it works. – [Bugs](#) Feb 3 '17 at 13:11

@Bugs guess this speaks for itself. When the file input's `on change` event is triggered the value gets cleared. The type of the input gets resetted from none to file. – [Jordy](#) Feb 13 '17 at 8:49

2 @Jordy yes I know what it does :) I was just thinking that with a dozen other answers it would be worth trying to make it stand out. It appeared whilst I was reviewing. They could in fact copy your comment to pad it out that bit more. It's always worth trying to explain why you feel the code fixes the OPs problem. – [Bugs](#) Feb 13 '17 at 9:02 

1 @Bugs Agreed, good point :) – [Jordy](#) Feb 13 '17 at 9:31

I faced the issue with ng2-file-upload for angular. if you are looking for the solution in angular refer below code

1

HTML:

```
<input type="file" name="myfile" #activeFrameinputFile ng2FileSelect [uploader]="frameUploader" (change)="frameUploader.uploadAll()" />
```

component

```
import { Component, OnInit, ElementRef, ViewChild } from '@angular/core';

@ViewChild(' activeFrameinputFile ') InputFrameVariable : ElementRef;

this.frameUploader.onSuccessItem = (item, response, status, headers) => {

  `this.`**InputFrameVariable**`.nativeElement.value = ''`;

};
```

answered Dec 4 '18 at 12:08



[Anil Kumar Dyavanapalli](#)

11 5

If you have several files in your form but only want one of them to be reset:

0

if you use bootstrap, jquery, filestyle to display the input file form :

▼

```
$("#"+idInput).filestyle('clear');
```

answered May 23 '16 at 13:26



[user6087223](#)

29 3

▲

```
var fileInput = $('#uploadCaptureInputFile');
fileInput.replaceWith(fileInput.val('').clone(true));
```

0

answered Jun 12 '16 at 1:50



[Kld](#)

5,286 3 26 44

▲ Works for dynamic controls too.

0

Javascript

▼

```
<input type="file" onchange="FileValidate(this)" />

function FileValidate(object) {
    if ((object.files[0].size / 1024 / 1024) > 1) { //greater than 1 MB
        $(object).val('');
    }
}
```

JQuery

```
<input type="file" class="UploadFileSize">

$(document).ready(function () {

    $('.UploadFileSize').bind('change', function () {
        if ((this.files[0].size / 1024000) > 1.5) { //greater than 1.5 MB
            $(this).val('');
            alert('Size exceeded !!');
        }
    })
})
```

```
});  
});
```

edited Jun 23 '17 at 11:54

answered Nov 23 '16 at 6:20



Arun Prasad E S
4,457 2 44 55

0

```
function resetImageField() {  
    var $el = $('#uploadCaptureInputFile');  
    $el.wrap('<form>').closest('form').get(0).reset();  
    $el.unwrap();  
}
```

```
<script src="https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/2.1.1/jquery.min.js"></script>  
<input type="file" id="uploadCaptureInputFile" class="win-content colors"  
accept="image/*" />  
<button onclick="resetImageField()">Reset field</button>
```

Run code snippet

[Expand snippet](#)

answered Sep 27 '18 at 11:14



Md. Abu Bakker
Siddique
11 2

