**Introduction**

*“jQuery is a lightweight open source* [*JavaScript library*](http://dotnetslackers.com/articles/ajax/Using-jQuery-with-ASP-NET.aspx) *(only 15kb in size) that in a relatively short span of time has become one of the most popular libraries on the web. A big part of the appeal of jQuery is that it allows you to elegantly (and efficiently) find and manipulate HTML elements with minimum lines of code … There is a huge ecosystem and community built up around JQuery. The jQuery library also works well on the same page with ASP.NET AJAX and the ASP.NET AJAX Control Toolkit.”*

With that, JQuery is officially embraced by ASP.NET.

A brief introduction of JQuery

jQuery is the star among the growing list of JavaScript libraries. A few of its characteristics are light-weight, cross-browser compatibility and simplicity. A common task that sometimes takes 10 lines of code with traditional JavaScript can be accomplished with jQuery in just one line of code. For example, if you want to dress up a table with an ID mytable with alternative color for every other row, you can simple do this in jQuery.

What is jQuery and Why use it for Development?

jQuery is a coding language that is a branch from JavaScript. jQuery works like JavaScript where its used to help with interaction and effects with your development code. jQuery hasn’t been around very long, it was release in January 2006 and only on version 1.4.0. jQuery is a new and exciting technology that is catching on quickly and making the internet more interactive and enjoyable.

Why jQuery for Development?

The best featuring for jQuery is the effects you can accomplish, with less code than what it would take with JavaScript. Most common jQuery effects are drop down menus, drag and drop elements, animations and form validation. Developers have also connected this with other coding languages like JSP, ASP, PHP and CGI.

The Downloadable Library

jQuery is almost like a type of framework you can work off of. You download a package from [jQuery.com](http://docs.jquery.com/Downloading_jQuery) and then install a library of scripts on your server. This library has jQuery function that you can embed to your scripts. This will help you keep the file size down, create scripts faster and keep your code smaller.

Features Included

* Supports All Versions of CSS
* Supports Events and Utilities
* Works with Ajax
* Creates Usability, Effects and Animations
* Works in all Popular Internet Browsers
* Small File Size
* Can combine with Prototype
* Can work with Other Coding Languges

Tutorials & References

If you’re looking into learning some jQuery, there are tons of tutorials at [jQuery Tutorials](http://docs.jquery.com/Tutorials).

Potential & Examples

To see a full list of the potential of jQuery and what it could do for your website, check out this blog post [50+ Amazing jQuery Examples](http://www.noupe.com/jquery/50-amazing-jquery-examples-part1.html). It has everything from sliding panels, menus, tabs, galleries and effects.

What is jQuery, it's Just the Beginning

jQuery is a new technology and is just the beginning. Developers have already taken this coding language to great heights and it will continue to grow. This could be a coding language that would be worth sitting down and learning. Some say that if you have a strong understanding of JavaScript, jQuery will be easy to get a hold of.