JavaScript Cookies

A cookie is a small text file that lets you store a small amount of data (nearly 4KB) on the user's computer. They are typically used for keeping track of information such as user preferences that the site can retrieve to personalize the page when user visits the website next time.

A cookie is an amount of information that persists between a server-side and a client-side. A web browser stores this information at the time of browsing.A cookie contains the information as a string generally in the form of a name-value pair separated by semi-colons. It maintains the state of a user and remembers the user's information among all the web pages.

• Creating a Cookie in JavaScript

In JavaScript, you can create, read, and delete cookies with the document.cookie property. This property represents all the cookies associated with a document.

To create or store a new cookie, assign a name=value string to this property, like this:

```
document.cookie = "firstName=Christopher";
```

JavaScript can create, read, and delete cookies with the document.cookie property.

• Read a Cookie with JavaScript

With JavaScript, cookies can be read like this:

```
var x = document.cookie;
```

• Change a Cookie with JavaScript

With JavaScript, you can change a cookie the same way as you create it:

```
document.cookie = "username=John Smith; expires=Thu, 18 Dec
2013 12:00:00 UTC; path=/";
```

The old cookie is overwritten.

• Delete a Cookie with JavaScript

Deleting a cookie is very simple.You don't have to specify a cookie value when you delete a cookie.Just set the expires parameter to a passed date:

```
document.cookie = "username=; expires=Thu, 01 Jan 1970
00:00:00 UTC; path=/;";
```

Example :

It sets a customer name in an input cookie.

```html
<html>
    <head>
        <script type = "text/javascript">
            <!--
                function WriteCookie() {
                    if( document.myform.customer.value == "" ) {
                        alert("Enter some value!");
                        return;
                    }
                    cookievalue =
escape(document.myform.customer.value) + ";";
                    document.cookie = "name=" + cookievalue;
                    document.write ("Setting Cookies : " + "name="
+ cookievalue );
                }
            //-->
        </script>
    </head>

    <body>
        <form name = "myform" action = "">
            Enter name: <input type = "text" name = "customer"/>
            <input type = "button" value = "Set Cookie" onclick =
"WriteCookie();"/>
        </form>
    </body>
</html>
```