

jQuery Selectors

Lesson 02

August 16, 2014

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Lesson Objectives

- Introduction to Selectors
- Selecting Nodes by Tag Name
- Selecting Nodes by ID
- Selecting Nodes by Class Name
- Selecting Nodes by Attribute Value
- Selecting Input Nodes
- Additional Selectors



Introduction to selectors

- jQuery uses same CSS selectors used to style our page to manipulate elements on the page.
- CSS selectors select elements to add style to those elements where as jQuery selectors select elements to add behavior to those elements.
- Selectors allow page elements to be selected.
- Single or Multiple elements are supported.
- A Selector identifies an HTML element / tag that will be manipulated with jQuery Code.
- Selector Syntax
 - `$(selectorExpression)`
 - `jQuery(selectorExpression)`

Selecting by Tag Name

- **Selecting single tag** takes the following syntax
 - `$('p')` – selects all `<p>` elements
 - `$('a')` – selects all `<a>` elements
- **To reference multiple tags**, use the `(,)` to separate the elements
 - `$('p, a, span')` – selects all paragraphs, anchors and span elements

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Demo

➤ [Selectors-Tagname.html](#)



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Selecting Descendants

- `$('ancestor descendant')` - selects all the descendants of the ancestor
 - `$('table tr')` - Selects all tr elements that are the descendants of the table element
- Descendants can be children, grand children etc of the designated ancestor element.

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Selecting by Element ID

- It is used to locate the DOM element very fast.
- Use the # character to select elements by ID
 - \$('#myID') – selects <div id="myid"> element

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Selecting Elements by Class Name

- Use the (.) character to select elements by class name
 - `$('.myclass')` - selects `<div class="myclass">` element
- To reference multiple tags, use the (,) character to separate the class name.
 - `$('.blueDiv,.redDiv')` - selects all the elements containing the class `blueDiv` and `redDiv`
- Tag names can be combined with elements name as well.
 - `$(div.myclass)` - selects only `<div>` tags with `class="myclass"`

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Demo

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Selecting by attribute values

- Use brackets [attribute] to select based on attribute name and/or attribute value
 - `$(“a[title]”)` - selects all anchor elements that have a title attribute
 - `$(“a[title=“trainer”]”)` - selects all `<a>` elements that have a “trainer” title attribute value

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Demo

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Selecting by input elements

➤ To select all input elements

- `$(':input')` - selects input, select, textarea, button, image, radio etc
- `$(':input[type="radio"]')` - selects all radio buttons

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Additional Selectors

- **:contains()** will select elements that match the contents.
 - `$(“div:contains(“igate”)”)` - selects div's which contains the text igate(match is case sensitive)
- **\$(“element:odd”)** and **\$(“element:even”)** is the jQuery syntax for selecting odd and even positions respectively.
 - Index is 0 based. Odd returns (1,3,5...) and Even returns (0,2,4...)
- **\$(“element:first-child”)** and **\$(“element:last-child”)** is the jQuery syntax for selecting the first child and last child of every element group.
 - `$(“span:first-child”)` returns the span which is a first child for all the groups

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Additional Selectors (Contd)

- `$('attribute^="value"')` and `$('attribute$="value"')` is the jQuery syntax for selecting all the elements with an attribute that begins and end with stated value.
- `$('input[value^="Company"]')` – selects any input element whose value starts with Company ('^' can be replaced with '*' to retrieve the elements contains the value company)

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Demo

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Summary

- Selectors allow any type of HTML element to be located in an HTML Page
- Key jQuery Selector character include:
 - # for ID selection
 - . for class selection
- Mastering selectors is the key to being productive with jQuery!



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Lab

- 2.1: Selecting Nodes using tag name
- 2.2: Selecting Nodes by Element ID
- 2.3: Selecting Nodes by Class Name
- 2.4: Selecting Nodes by Attribute Value
- 2.5: Selecting Form Elements by type



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Review Question

- jQuery uses CSS selectors to select elements?

– True / False



- A _____ is used by jQuery to locate and return an element from the web page
- With jQuery, look at the following selector: `$("div.intro")`. What does it select?
- A. All div elements with class="intro"
 - B. The first div element with class="intro"
 - C. The first div element with id="intro"
 - D. All div elements with id="intro"

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