

jQuery Callback Functions — Notes

1. Definition:

- A callback is a function passed into another function to be executed after a task completes.
- Very common in jQuery for animations, events, AJAX, effects, etc.

2. Why use callbacks?

- JavaScript is asynchronous; callbacks let you run code after another action finishes.

3. Typical syntax:

`$(selector).method(params, callbackFunction);`

4. Effect callbacks:

- Most jQuery effect/animation methods accept a callback as the last argument.
- Example: `.hide()`, `.show()`, `.slideUp()`, `.fadeOut()`.

5. Animation callbacks:

- `.animate()` supports `step`, `complete`, `done`, `fail`, `always` callbacks.

6. jQuery Callback list:

- `$.Callbacks()` gives a managed list of multiple callback functions.
- Methods: `add()`, `remove()`, `fire()`, `fireWith()`.

7. Important:

- A callback runs only after the original task is complete.
- Without callbacks, code may run before the task finishes.

jQuery Deferred & Promise — Notes

1. Deferred Object:

- Created using `$.Deferred()`.
- Represents asynchronous work that may succeed or fail.
- Methods to change state:
 - `deferred.resolve(value)` → marks success and runs success callbacks.
 - `deferred.reject(error)` → marks failure and runs failure callbacks.
- Use `deferred.state()` to check "pending", "resolved", or "rejected".

2. Promise Object:

- Obtained from a Deferred via `deferred.promise()`.
- Only allows attaching callbacks.
- Cannot resolve or reject — prevents outside interference.
- Promise methods:
`done()`, `fail()`, `always()`, `then()`, `progress()`, `state()`.

3. Callback Registration:

- `.done(fn)` — success handlers.
- `.fail(fn)` — failure handlers.
- `.always(fn)` — always run regardless of success/failure.
- `.then(success, fail)` — both in one call.

4. Usage pattern:

- Producer (code that performs async task) creates and resolves/rejects the deferred.
- Consumer (caller code) receives a promise and attaches callbacks to react.

5. Common uses:

- AJAX calls (`.ajax` returns promise).
- Delayed actions or animations.
- Chaining asynchronous tasks.

AJAX & jQuery — Notes

1. What is AJAX?

Ajax

Asynchronous JavaScript and XML (**Ajax**, or **AJAX**) is a web development technique in which a web app fetches content from the server by making asynchronous HTTP requests, and uses the new content to update the relevant parts of the page without requiring a full page load. This can make the page more responsive, because only the parts that need to be updated are requested.

Ajax can be used to create [single-page apps](#), in which the entire web app consists of a single document, which uses Ajax to update its content as needed.

Initially Ajax was implemented using the [XMLHttpRequest](#) interface, but the [fetch\(\)](#) API is more suitable for modern web applications: it is more powerful, more flexible, and integrates better with fundamental web app technologies such as [service workers](#). Modern web frameworks also provide abstractions for Ajax.

This technique is so common in modern web development that the specific term "Ajax" is rarely used.

2. How AJAX works:

- Trigger an event (like button click)
- Create an async request
- Send to server
- Server processes and returns data
- Response is used to update part of the page.

3. jQuery AJAX:

- jQuery provides easy methods for AJAX requests.
- Methods include \$.ajax(), \$.get(), \$.post(), .load(), etc.

4. \$.ajax() method:

- Most powerful jQuery AJAX method.
- Accepts a settings object with options like url, type, data, dataType, success, error, etc.

5. Shorthand methods:

- \$.get() — simple GET request.
- \$.post() — POST request.
- \$.getJSON() — GET request expecting JSON.

- `.load()` — loads HTML into a selected element.

6. AJAX callbacks:

- `success` — runs when request succeeds.
- `error` — runs when request fails.
- `done()`, `fail()`, `always()` can be used with the returned `jqXHR`.

7. Returning data:

- Server can return JSON, text, HTML, XML, etc.

Working with JSON in AJAX (jQuery)

1. JSON Basics:

- JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) is a lightweight text format for structuring data.
- AJAX with JSON is common for API communication.

2. Receiving (GET) JSON:

- Use `$.ajax` with `dataType:"json"` to automatically parse response into JS object.
- Shorthand: `$.getJSON(url, callback)`.

3. Sending JSON to Server (POST/PUT):

- Convert JS object to JSON string using `JSON.stringify()`.
- Set `contentType:"application/json; charset=utf-8"` to tell server you're sending JSON.
- Example:

```
$.ajax({  
  url, type:"POST", contentType:"application/json",  
  data: JSON.stringify({...}), dataType:"json"  
});
```

4. Default Behavior:

- Without `JSON.stringify()`, jQuery URL-encodes data (form style), not JSON.
- `contentType` defaults to `"application/x-www-form-urlencoded"`.

5. Why JSON?

- JSON is efficient, easy to parse, and widely adopted by modern APIs.

Serialization and Deserialization — Notes

1. Serialization is converting an object's data into a format (string/bytes) that can be stored or transmitted.
2. Deserialization is the reverse — converting the serialized data back into an object.
3. Popular serialization formats:
 - JSON: human-readable and popular for web APIs.
 - XML: verbose and schema-oriented.
 - Binary formats: efficient (e.g., Protobuf, BSON).
4. JSON serialization in JavaScript:
 - Serialize: `JSON.stringify(obj)`
 - Deserialize: `JSON.parse(jsonString)`
5. Serialization does not save methods/functions — only data/state.
6. Important considerations:
 - Versioning of serialized format
 - Security risks of untrusted data