

insertAdjacentHTML Everywhere



By Paul Kinlan

Paul is a Developer Advocate

If we want to insert content in a HTML document we have three ways to do it:

- Using DOM methods like `createNode` and `appendChild`
- Using Document Fragments
- Using `innerHTML`

One can arguably say we also have `document.write` for few use cases.

`innerHTML` has been standardized in HTML5 and with it a brother method `insertAdjacentHTML` which works as `innerHTML` but allows us to define more specifically where we want to insert the HTML content: `beforeBegin`, `afterBegin`, `beforeEnd` and `afterEnd`.

```
var ul = document.getElementById("list");  
ul.insertAdjacentHTML("beforeEnd", "&lt;li>A new li on the list.&lt;/li>");
```



Back in 2008 John Resig wrote [an article about insertAdjacentHTML](#) with this conclusion:

Having browsers implement this method will dramatically reduce the amount of code needed to write a respectable JavaScript library. I'm looking forward to the day in which this method is more-widely available (along with `querySelectorAll`) so that we can really buckle down and do some serious code simplification.

Until now, the main issue with `insertAdjacentHTML` has been its lack of browser support. With Firefox [implementing insertAdjacentHTML](#) as of version 8, it will available in all major browsers including mobile browsers. If you want to use it now and make sure it works in Firefox versions earlier than 8 you can use this [polyfill](#).

Except as otherwise noted, the content of this page is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License](#), and code samples are licensed under the [Apache 2.0 License](#). For details, see our [Site Policies](#). Java is a registered trademark of Oracle and/or its affiliates.

Last updated July 2, 2018.