

- JS Basic
- JS HOME

JS Introduction

JS How To

JS Where To

JS Statements

JS Comments

JS Variables

JS Operators

JS Comparisons

JS If...Else

JS Switch

JS Popup Boxes

JS Functions

JS For Loop

JS While Loop

JS Break Loops

JS For...In

JS Events

JS Try...Catch

JS Throw

JS Special Text

JS Guidelines

- JS Objects
- JS Objects Intro

JS String

JS Date

JS Array

JS Boolean

JS Math

JS RegExp

- JS Advanced
- JS Browser

JS Cookies

JS Validation

JS Timing

JS Create Object

JS Summary
- JS Examples
- JS Examples

JS Objects Examples

JS Browser Examples

JS DOM Examples

JS Quiz

JS Certificate

- JS References
- JavaScript Objects

HTML DOM Objects

JavaScript Timing Events

[« Previous](#)

[Next Chapter »](#)



JavaScript Timing Events

With JavaScript, it is possible to execute some code after a specified time-interval. This is called timing events.

It's very easy to time events in JavaScript. The two key methods that are used are:

- `setTimeout()` - executes a code some time in the future
- `clearTimeout()` - cancels the `setTimeout()`

Note: The `setTimeout()` and `clearTimeout()` are both methods of the HTML DOM Window object.

The `setTimeout()` Method

Syntax

```
var t=setTimeout("javascript statement",milliseconds);
```

The `setTimeout()` method returns a value. In the syntax defined above, the value is stored in a variable called `t`. If you want to cancel the `setTimeout()` function, you can refer to it using the variable name.

The first parameter of `setTimeout()` can be a string of executable code, or a call to a function.

The second parameter indicates how many milliseconds from now you want to execute the first parameter.

Note: There are 1000 milliseconds in one second.

Example

When the button is clicked in the example below, an alert box will be displayed after 3 seconds.

Example

```
<html>
<head>
<script type="text/javascript">
function timeMsg()
{
var t=setTimeout("alertMsg()",3000);
}
function alertMsg()
{
alert("Hello");
}
</script>
</head>

<body>
<form>
<input type="button" value="Display alert box in 3 seconds"
onclick="timeMsg()" />
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

[Try it yourself »](#)

Example - Infinite Loop

To get a timer to work in an infinite loop, we must write a function that calls itself.

In the example below, when a button is clicked, the input field will start to count (for ever), starting at 0.

Notice that we also have a function that checks if the timer is already running, to avoid creating additional timers, if the button is pressed more than once:

Example

```
<html>
<head>
<script type="text/javascript">
var c=0;
var t;
var timer_is_on=0;

function timedCount()
{
document.getElementById('txt').value=c;
c=c+1;
t=setTimeout("timedCount()",1000);
}

function doTimer()
{
if (!timer_is_on)
{
timer_is_on=1;
timedCount();
}
}
</script>
</head>

<body>
<form>
<input type="button" value="Start count!" onclick="doTimer()">
<input type="text" id="txt" />
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

[Try it yourself »](#)

The `clearTimeout()` Method

Syntax

```
clearTimeout(setTimeout_variable)
```

Example

The example below is the same as the "Infinite Loop" example above. The only difference is that we have now added a "Stop Count!" button that stops the timer:

Example

```
<html>
<head>
<script type="text/javascript">
var c=0;
var t;
var timer_is_on=0;

function timedCount()
{
document.getElementById('txt').value=c;
c=c+1;
t=setTimeout("timedCount()",1000);
}

function doTimer()
{
if (!timer_is_on)
{
timer_is_on=1;
timedCount();
}
}

function stopCount()
{
clearTimeout(t);
timer_is_on=0;
}
</script>
</head>

<body>
<form>
<input type="button" value="Start count!" onclick="doTimer()">
<input type="text" id="txt">
<input type="button" value="Stop count!" onclick="stopCount()">
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

[Try it yourself »](#)

More Examples

[Another simple timing](#)

[A clock created with a timing event](#)

[« Previous](#)

[Next Chapter »](#)

WEB HOSTING

Best Web Hosting

PHP MySQL Hosting

Best Hosting Coupons

UK Reseller Hosting

Cloud Hosting

Top Web Hosting

\$7.95/mo SEO Hosting

WEB BUILDING

XML Editor - Free Trial!

FREE Website BUILDER

Free Website Templates

Free WordPress Themes

XML Editor « try me!

W3SCHOOLS EXAMS

Get Certified in:
HTML, CSS, JavaScript,
XML, PHP, and ASP

W3SCHOOLS BOOKS

New Books:
HTML, CSS
JavaScript, and Ajax

STATISTICS

Browser Statistics

Browser OS

Browser Display

SHARE THIS PAGE

Share with »