Note: *elementid* refers to the actual id of the select element. elementname refers to the actual name of the select element.

e.g. <select id = "elementid" name = "elementname"></select>

Selecting an element(s) for further information refer to <u>jQuery API Selectors</u>

Basics:

Select element by id	$("#elementid")
Select all select elements	$("select")
Select all select elements by class	$("select.classname")

Hierarchy:

Select all options from a select element	$("#elementid option")

Basic Filters:

Select the first option	$("#elementid option:first")
Select the last option	$("#elementid option:last")
Select the option at a particular index *(variant 1)*	$("#elementid option:eq(2)")

Attribute Filters:

Select all options that have a value attribute set	$("#elementid option[value]")
Select element by name	$("select[name=elementname]")

Form Filters:

Select the selected option	$("#elementid option:selected")

jQuery core functionality, for further information refer to jQuery API Core

jQuery Object Accessors:

Execute a function on each matched element	e.g. $("#elementid option").each(function() {
	alert("I am an option of #elementid");
	})
Number of matched select elements	e.g. $("select").size() returns number of select elements on a page
Number of options in a particular select element	$("#elementid option").size()
Select an option at a particular index *(variant 2)*	$("#elementid option").eq(1)
Get the index of the selected option (variant 1)	$("#elementid option").index($("#elementid option:selected")))

Select attributes, for further information refer to jQuery API Attributes

Attr:

Select an attribute from matched select element	e.g. select name attribute $("#elementid").attr("name")
Set an attribute for matched select element	e.g. set title $("#elementid").attr("title", "myselect")
Remove an attribute from matched select element	e.g. remove title $("#elementid").removeAttr("title")

Class:

Add a class to matched select element	$("#elementid").addClass("inputs")
Remove a class from matched select element	$("#elementid").removeClass("inputs")

HTML:

Get inner HTML of matched select	$("#elementid").html()
Remove all options from matched select	$("#elementid").html("")
Set all new options for matched select	e.g. $("#elementid").html("<option value='1'>Some oranges</option><option value='2'>More Oranges</option><option value='3'>Even more oranges</option>")

Text:

Get the text of matched option	e.g. $("#elementid option:first").text()
Get the selected text of matched select	*Returns text value of selected option* $("#elementid option:selected").text()
Remove the text of matched option	e.g. $("#elementid option:last").text("")
Set the text of a matched option	e.g. $("#elementid option:eq(2)").text("Purple")

Value:

Get the value of the matched option item	e.g. $("#elementid option:first").val()
Get the selected value of matched select	*Returns value attribute of selected option* $("#elementid").val()
Set the value of a matched option	e.g. $("#elementid option:eq(2)").val("7")
Set the selected element based upon value	*i.e. Sets the selected option to option with value 7* e.g. $("#elementid").val("7")
Set the selected element based upon text	*e.g.* $("#elementid").val("Oranges").attr("selected", "selected")

Traversing select attributes, for further information refer to <u>jQuery API Traversing</u>

Finding:

Get the index of the selected option *(variant 2)*	$("#elementid option:selected").prevAll().size()

Manipulating select attributes, for further information refer to <u>jQuery API Manipulation</u>

Inserting Inside:

Add options to the end of select element	e.g. $("#elementid").append("<option value='1'>Apples</option>")
Add options to the start of select element	e.g. $("#elementid").prepend("<option value='0'>Before Apples</option>")

Inserting Outside:

Add options after selected index	e.g. $("#elementid option:eq(0)").after("<option value='4'>Some pears</option>"
Add options before selected index	e.g. $("#elementid option:eq(3)").before("<option value='5'>Some apricots</option>")

Replacing:

Replace items at a certain index	e.g. $("#elementid option:eq(1)").replaceWith("<option value='2'>Some apples</option>")

Removing:

Remove option at specified index	$("#elementid option:eq(0)").remove()
Remove first option	$("#elementid option:first").remove()
Remove last option	$("#elementid option:last").remove()

Select element events, for further information refer to _jQuery API Events_

Event Helpers:

Function to call when an option is selected	$("#elementid").change(function() {})

Getting values when an option is selected	$("#elementid").change(function() {
	
	alert($(this).val());
	
	alert($(this).children("option:selected").text());
	
	})

Select form submission, for further information refer to _jQuery API AJAX_

Event Helpers:

Serialize select element so it can be submitted or passed in URL	$("#elementid").serialize() Returns something like this: _"elementname=1"_

A final note

Currently there are several great tutorials that cover many ways that you can access and manipulate select elements using jQuery, but there doesn't seem to be one place that has it all. I wanted to write this document to save people like myself who have links to about 10 different tutorials from having to go searching each time you want to remember how to do something. This document was produced after several hours of research and hard work; I hope it is a benefit to many.

A big thanks to everyone for your feedback, please let me know either via email or leaving a comment on the blog if you have something kind or constructive to say.

If there is anything incorrect or missing from this document please also let me know so that everyone can benefit.

As you may be interested in cutting and pasting from this document to try out on your own systems please not that the content of this document and the code contained within is provided as is and is without warranty of any kind including merchantability or fitness for any other purpose whatsoever.

A big thanks also to the jQuery team for making such a great product. Please go to the jQuery site for the full documentation and latest plug-ins.

The myphpetc… blog can be found here http://myphpetc.blogspot.com. I keep this updated regularly so come back and visit often.

- Tim Radnidge.