

HTML 5 File API

HTML



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<https://github.com/swacademy/HTML5>

Using files from web applications

- Was added to the DOM in HTML5.
- Is possible for web content to ask the user to select local files.
- Is possible to read the contents of selected local user files.
- This selection can be done by either using :
 - An HTML `<input>` element
 - or
 - By drag and drop.

Accessing selected file(s)

- Makes it possible to access a **FileList** containing **File** objects.

```
<input type='file' id='file'>
```

- Accessing one selected file using a classical DOM selector:

```
var selectedFile =  
    document.getElementById( 'file' ).files[0] ;
```

- Accessing selected file(s) on a **change** event :

```
<input type='file' id='file'  
        onchange='handlerFiles(this.files)'>
```

Accessing selected file(s) (Cont.)

- If want to select multiple files, simply use the **multiple** attribute on the **input** element :

```
<input type="file" id="files" multiple  
      onchange="handleFiles(this.files)">
```

- In this case, the file list passed to the **handleFiles()** function contains one **File** object for each file the user selected.

Accessing selected file(s) (Cont.)

- You need to use `EventTarget.addEventListener()` to add the `change` event listener, like this:

```
1  var inputElement = document.getElementById("file");
2  inputElement.addEventListener("change", handleFiles, false);
3  function handleFiles() {
4      var fileList = this.files; /* now you can work with the file list */
5  }
```

Getting information about selected file(s)

- The **FileList** object provided lists all of the files.
- Each specified as a **File** object.
- Can determine how many files the user selected by checking the value of the file list's **length** attribute :
var numFiles = files.length;

Getting information about selected file(s) (Cont.)

- Individual File objects can be retrieved by simply accessing the list as an array:

```
1  for (var i = 0, numFiles = files.length; i < numFiles; i++) {  
2      var file = files[i];  
3      /* code here */  
4  }
```

File

- Provides information about files.
- Allows JavaScript in a web page to access their content.

Properties

■ `lastModified`

- Returns the last modified time of the file, in millisecond since the **UNIX epoch** (January 1st, 1970 at Midnight).

■ `lastModifiedDate`

- Returns the last modified **Date** of the file referenced by the **File** object.

■ `name`

- Returns the name of the file referenced by the **File** object.

Properties (Cont.)

■ **size**

- Returns the size of the file in bytes.

■ **type**

- Returns the **MIME** type of the file.
- A string, containing the media type(MIME) indicating what type of the file is it for example "**image/png**" for PNG images.

FileReader

- lets web applications *asynchronously*
read the contents of files (or raw data buffers)
stored on the user's computer
using File or Blob objects
to specify the file or data to read.

Constructor

■ `FileReader()`

- Returns a newly constructed `FileReader`.

Properties

■ **error**

- Represents the error that occurred while reading the file.

■ **readyState**

- A number indicating the state of the **FileReader**.
- This is one of the following:

EMPTY	0	No data has been loaded yet.
LOADING	1	Data is currently being loaded.
DONE	2	The entire read request has been completed.

Properties (Cont.)

■ **result**

- The file's contents.
- Is only valid after the read operation is complete
- The format of the data depends on which of the methods was used to initiate the read operation.

Event handlers

■ **onabort**

- A handler for the **abort** event.
- This event is triggered each time the reading operation is aborted.

■ **onerror**

- A handler for the **error** event.
- This event is triggered each time the reading operation encounter an error.

Event handlers (Cont.)

■ **onload**

- A handler for the **load** event.
- This event is triggered each time the reading operation is successfully completed.

■ **onloadstart**

- A handler for the **loadstart** event.
- This event is triggered each time the reading is starting.

Event handlers (Cont.)

■ **onloadend**

- A handler for the **loadend** event.
- This event is triggered each time the reading operation is completed (either in success or failure).

■ **onprogress**

- A handler for the **progress** event.
- This event is triggered while reading a Blob content.

Methods

■ `abort()`

- Aborts the read operation.
- Upon return, the `readyState` will be `DONE`.

■ `readAsArrayBuffer()`

- Starts reading the contents of the specified `Blob`, once finished, the `result` attribute contains an `ArrayBuffer` representing the file's data.

■ `readAsBinaryString()`

- Starts reading the contents of the specified `Blob`, once finished, the `result` attribute contains the raw binary data from the file as a string.

Methods (Cont.)

■ `readAsDataURL()`

- Starts reading the contents of the specified **Blob**, once finished, the **result** attribute contains a data:
 - URL representing the file's data.

■ `readAsText()`

- Starts reading the contents of the specified **Blob**, once finished, the **result** attribute contains the contents of the file as a text string.

Lab1 : File API

■ Web Browsers

- Edge, Firefox, Google Chrome, Opera, Safari

■ Text Editors

- Visual Studio Code, Notepad++, Editplus, etc...

■ Files

- fileapidemo.html

Lab1 : fileapidemo.html

```
8  <script>
9      window.addEventListener('load', setup, false);
10     function setup(){
11         var myfiles = document.querySelector('#myfiles');
12         myfiles.addEventListener('change', myChange, false);
13     }
14     function myChange(){
15         var file = this.files[0];
16         var str = '<ul>';
17         for(var key in file){
18             str += '<li>' + key + ' : ' + file[key] + '</li>';
19         }
20         str += '</ul>';
21         document.getElementById('fileinfo').innerHTML = str;
22     }
23 </script>
```

Lab1 : fileapidemo.html

```
25 <body>
26   <div>
27     File : <input type='file' id='myfiles' />
28   </div>
29   <h1>File Info</h1>
30   <div id='fileinfo'></div>
31 </body>
```

Lab1 : Result

