Obtaining Information about Elements

The DOM can also provide information on the items you've just selected. Let's find out how!

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- HTML Content
- Textual Content
- Attributes
- Classes

HTML Content

The innerHTML property will retrieve the HTML content of your DOM element.





Textual Content

The text centert property returns all the text content of a DOM element

without any HTML markup.

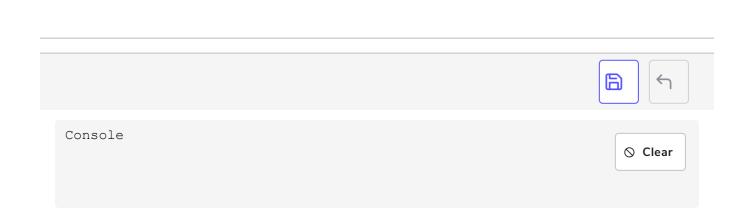
Output
JavaScript
HTML
<pre>// The textual content of the DOM element with ID "content" console.log(document.getElementById("content").textContent);</pre>



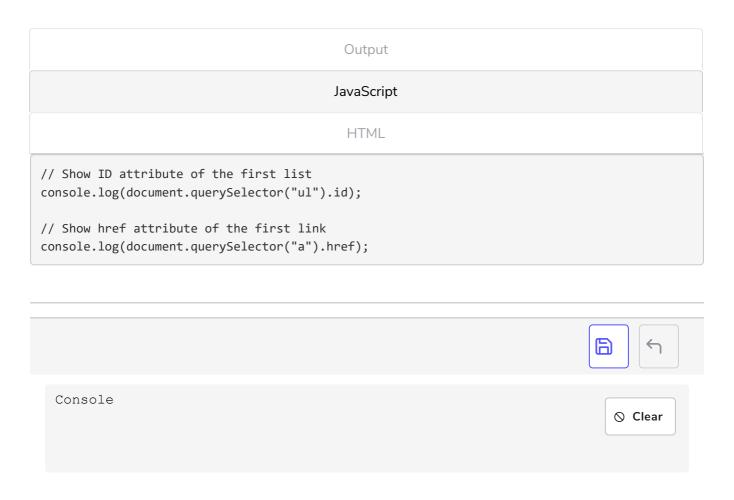
Attributes

The <code>getAttribute()</code> method can be applied to a DOM element and will return the value of a given attribute.





Some attributes are directly accessible as properties. This is true for the id, href, and value attributes.



You can check for the existence of an attribute using the hasAttribute() method as seen in the example below.

```
Output

JavaScript

HTML

if (document.querySelector("a").hasAttribute("target")) {
   console.log("The first link has a target attribute.");
} else {
   console.log("The first link does not have a target attribute."); // Will be shown
}
```

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Console

Classes

In a web page, a tag can have multiple classes. The classList property retrieves a DOM element's list of classes.

```
Output

JavaScript

HTML

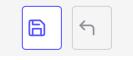
// List of classes of the element identified by "ancient"
const classes = document.getElementById("ancient").classList;
console.log(classes.length); // 1 (since the element only has one class)
console.log(classes[0]); // "wonders"

Console

Console
```

You also have the opportunity to test the presence of a class on an element by calling the <code>contains()</code> on the class list, passing the class to test as a parameter.

Output
JavaScript
HTML
<pre>// Check whether "ancient" element contains the "wonders" class console.log(document.getElementById("ancient").classList.contains("wonders"));</pre>



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This is only a part of the DOM traversal API. For more details, check the Mozilla Developer Network.