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Cool notification messages with CSS3 & jQuery

05 Jul 2011

Nowadays, UX is a key factor when it comes about creating/designing a product or system. To keep users happy, developers struggle to create a good experience and a better interactivity.

UX is a term used to describe the overall experience and satisfaction a user has when using a product or system. So, a good UX will always make users happy and businesses more successful.

Notification messages are an important part of the user experience and you can't afford to omit them. A notification alert message should appear every time the user perform important tasks.

In this article, you'll learn how to create some alert messages with CSS3 and jQuery.

CSS3 & JQUERY

NOTIFICATION MESSAGES

[View demo](#)

Message Types

Bellow is a list with common notification messages:

- Info
- Error
- Warning
- Success

Info

Its purpose is to inform user regarding a relevant matter.

FYI, something just happened!

This is just an info notification message.

Error

When an operation has failed, the user must be notified. For example: "The account couldn't be deleted." or "Your settings weren't saved" etc.

Ups, an error ocurred

This is just an error notification message.

Warning

This type of message notify the user of a condition that might cause a problem in the future.

Wait, I must warn you!

This is just a warning notification message.

Success

The success message should be displayed after user successfully performs an action.

Congrats, you did it!

This is just a success notification message.

The HTML

```
<div class="info message">
  <h3>FYI, something just happened!</h3>
  <p>This is just an info notification message.</p>
</div>

<div class="error message">
  <h3>Ups, an error occurred</h3>
  <p>This is just an error notification message.</p>
</div>

<div class="warning message">
  <h3>Wait, I must warn you!</h3>
  <p>This is just a warning notification message.</p>
</div>

<div class="success message">
  <h3>Congrats, you did it!</h3>
  <p>This is just a success notification message.</p>
</div>
```

The CSS

```
.message{
  background-size: 40px 40px;
  background-image: linear-gradient(135deg, rgba(255, 255, 255, .05) 25%, transparent 50%, rgba(255, 255, 255, .05) 50%, transparent 75%, transparent);
  box-shadow: inset 0 -1px 0 rgba(255,255,255,.4);
  width: 100%;
  border: 1px solid;
  color: #fff;
  padding: 15px;
  position: fixed;
  _position: absolute;
  text-shadow: 0 1px 0 rgba(0,0,0,.5);
  animation: animate-bg 5s linear infinite;
}

.info{
  background-color: #4ea5cd;
  border-color: #3b8eb5;
}

.error{
  background-color: #de4343;
  border-color: #c43d3d;
}

.warning{
  background-color: #eaaf51;
  border-color: #d99a36;
}

.success{
  background-color: #61b832;
  border-color: #55a12c;
}
```

```

.message h3{
    margin: 0 0 5px 0;
}

.message p{
    margin: 0;
}

@keyframes animate-bg {
    from {
        background-position: 0 0;
    }
    to {
        background-position: -80px 0;
    }
}

```

Note the `animate-bg`, which animate the background diagonal stripes. Of course, to see this effect, you should use latest Webkit browsers like Chrome/Safari or Mozilla 5+.

The notification messages will be hidden initially. For that we'll use fixed positioning (`absolute` value just for IE6 - as there is no `position:fixed` support).

```

position: fixed;
_position: absolute; /* IE6 only */

```

The jQuery

Define the messages types using an array:

```

var myMessages = ['info', 'warning', 'error', 'success'];

```

The below function hides the notification messages. Messages could have dynamic heights and for that, each message's height is calculated in order to hide it properly.

```
function hideAllMessages() {
    var messagesHeights = new Array(); // this array will store height f

    for (i=0; i<myMessages.length; i++) {
        messagesHeights[i] = $('.' + myMessages[i]).outerHeight(); // fill
        $('.' + myMessages[i]).css('top', -messagesHeights[i]); //move elem
    }
}
```

The `showMessage` function is called when document ready.

```
function showMessage(type) {
    $('.'+ type +'-trigger').click(function() {
        hideAllMessages();
        $('.'+type).animate({top:"0"}, 500);
    });
}
```

On page load, first of all we'll hide all the messages: `hideAllMessages()`. Then, for each trigger, show the equivalent message:

```
$(document).ready(function() {

    // Initially, hide them all
    hideAllMessages();

    // Show message
    for(var i=0; i<myMessages.length; i++)
    {
        showMessage(myMessages[i]);
    }

    // When message is clicked, hide it
    $('.message').click(function() {
```

```
$(this).animate({top: -$(this).outerHeight()}, 500);  
});  
  
});
```

Conclusion

Using CSS3, I think you can find endless possibilities to design notification messages. The above is just a minimal example, with no images (for simplicity's sake).

But, the design is not everything, as functionality and interactivity have a very important role here.

Updates

- Added CSS3 animation support for **Mozilla 5+** (thanks Magne). I also fixed the proper CSS3 animation (thanks Glukki)
- **CSS3 gradients** syntax updated. Now, Safari also renders background stripes.

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92 Comments

RedTeamDesign

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a • a year ago

where i can download lastest version . i dont see any download link

2 ^ | v • Share ›



codingforever99 • 2 years ago

Thanks for posting this very useful article.

2 ^ | v • Share ›



Man Rock • 5 months ago

Thanks red-team-design

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Jaco • 10 months ago

Hello, I'm trying to validate the CSS3 code (<http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-valid...>) but always says "Sorry, the at-rule @-webkit-keyframes is not implemented. ". I don't know how to fix it. Anyone can help me? Thanks!!!

1 ^ | v • Share ›



GrafxGirl • 10 months ago

I am trying to add functionality to a form button that would allow a success message to slide in from the top of the page. I like your example, but how can I get it to work from a button from within a form with the slide down window being the response? By the way, I am a designer and my development skills in terms of jquery and java are limited, but I can cut, paste and edit all day long...LOL!

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Iulian → GrafxGirl • 8 months ago

What you want requires more coding. :P

^ | v • Share ›



João Manuel • a year ago

Hi! How to trigger from [asp.net](#) vb code behind? thanks

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Ritesh • a year ago

Hey, Can I use this as Page 404 error so How Can I do it! Please Help... Thanks

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Hiral • a year ago

Thanks for such a wonderful tutorial. I will go to use it in my project. Thanks for posting it.

I am not good at CSS. If I want to make notification bar as sticky bar which will remain visible even user scrolls the page, then how can I implement it?

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Segundo Ibarra • a year ago

Hi I want to leave this post in case anyone is used to when running `hideAllMessages`

function. All messages are hidden by ID's like ID1, ID2, etc.

function () messages are hidden in little by little ::

hideAllMessages function ()

```
{  
    messagesHeights var = new Array () // this array will store  
height for each  
  
    for (i = 0; i < myMessages.length, i ++ )  
    {  
        messagesHeights [i] = $ ( ' ' +  
MyMessages [i]). outerHeight () // fill array  
        $ ( ' ' + MyMessages [i]). Animate ({top:-  
messagesHeights [i]}, 500) // move element outside viewport  
    }  
}
```

1 ^ | v • Share ›



santosh • a year ago

How can I call the messages on page load depending on the value of a variable. I am using php

1 ^ | v • Share ›



santosh → santosh • a year ago

The answer is here. Thanks for the great plugin Red

<http://stackoverflow.com/quest...>

1 ^ | v • Share ›



HellishH • a year ago

hi

tnx for this nice code

but how can i show one of this popup after a button click

i mean how can i use this from behind code

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Toby • 2 years ago

Hi,

very nice tutorial and taken use of immediatly. I have a couple of problems.

One: for some reason the error messages isn't expanding to full page width.. it expands to about 60% of my 1920x1200 screen.. any ideas?

Two how could I use it with variables ex.

I have error and success messages in the url that pickup and save to variables, how can i implement the script so that shows the error returned.. now it shows all the messages when i have this:

```
function showMessage(type)
```

```
{
```

```
// $('.'+ type +'-trigger').click(function(){
```

```
if(success == 's1' || success == 's2' || error == 'e0' || error == 'e1' || error == 'e2'){
```

```
hideAllMessages();  
$('.'+type).animate({top:"0"}, 500);  
}  
//});  
}
```

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Przemek • 2 years ago

Absolutely great article ! I Hope You don't mind if I will use Your code in my **asp.net** mvc project !

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Customizetoyou • 2 years ago

Thanks for this tips,
i have extended the code :-)
Support hide on click
Support Icon on left

<http://jsfiddle.net/ufTVP/>

Mark

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Catalin Rosu ➔ Customizetoyou • 2 years ago

That's very nice ;)

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Andrew Reynolds • 2 years ago

Hi

This absolutely awesome, just what i was looking for!

Just one question..i am using it as sort of a control panel that appears on the bottom right corner when user clicks a CP button. Inside the notification box are some buttons and other functions. Its all great except i want to add a close button on the top right hand side of the box..so instead of the notification box closing when the user clicks anywhere inside the box it closes just when the "X" button is clicked. I need this sort of functionality as i have buttons inside the box that needs to be clicked. How would i go by doing this?

hope that makes sense!

I am a jquery beginner.

Thanks heaps!

1 ^ | v • Share ›



Ryan • 2 years ago

Great looking notifications.

I love the look of the notifications, however I changed your javascript to what I hope is easier to reuse.

The only css change I made, was I added display:none to .message

My 'plugin' version has the ability to:
set a time delay
choose top or bottom

<http://jsfiddle.net/imvain2/5M...>

^ | v • Share ›



Lucas Mattos → Ryan • 6 months ago

Thanks man, the close action isnt working tho. I'll mix both versions.

^ | v • Share ›



Peter Snow • 2 years ago

Sorry, I figured it out!

Here's my final code incase it can help someone else.

```
function showMessage(type,statusMessage)
{
hideAllMessages();

var messDiv = document.getElementById(type);
//alert(messDiv.innerHTML);
messDiv.innerHTML = statusMessage;

$('.'+type).animate({top:"0"}, 500);

setTimeout(function(){
$(this).animate({top: -$(this).outerHeight()}, 500);
hideAllMessages();
},6000);
}
```

Many thanks!

^ | v • Share ›



Peter Snow • 2 years ago

Thanks for a great gift!

I set this up and got it working nicely on my application, I'm just trying to implement the delay spoken above early on in your comments. I'm having great difficulty in getting it to work correctly. I wonder if you could give some help please?

This is the modified show message function, where I assume the setTimeout() goes:

```
function showMessage(type,statusMessage)
```

```

{
hideAllMessages();

var messDiv = document.getElementById(type);
messDiv.innerHTML = statusMessage;

$('.'+type).animate({top:"0"}, 500);
setTimeout(function(){
$(this).animate({top: -$(this).outerHeight()}, 500);
hideAllMessages();
},3000);
}

```

Note that I added a `hideAllMessages()` at the top of the function too, because if the first message was, "Processing...", which then got updated to, "Record Added Successfully", the user would have to click first to remove the Processing message and then again to remove the updated message.

If you could help me to get the `setTimeout` working, I would be really pleased! Thanks!

^ | v • Share ›



Luis • 2 years ago

Awsome post!

^ | v • Share ›



Stefan • 2 years ago

Is it possible to use to notifications without using a button; for example, when someone enters a page that the notification automatically shows because that page is called with an url like `message.php?notification=error` ?!?!?

^ | v • Share ›



Catalin Rosu → Stefan • 2 years ago

Stefan, I actually made something with a similar behavior [here](#).

Hope that helps!

^ | v • Share ›



Stefan → Catalin Rosu • 2 years ago

Still can't seem to get it to work.... could you help me out Catalin?

^ | v • Share ›



Rahul • 2 years ago

Really Cool....

^ | v • Share ›



HughDunnit • 2 years ago

Brilliant! So easy!

Thank you Red Team!

:)

^ | v • Share ›



HughDunnit • 2 years ago

Hi Red Team,

This is awesome and just what i am looking for. I am fairly new to jquery and some css BUT i want/need this to come up from the footer and not the top, any way of doing it? I tried going through the code as much as my knowledge would permit but no avail.

Any idea?

Many thanks!

^ | v • Share ›



Red → HughDunnit • 2 years ago

Hi,

that's quite simple: instead of using the "top" property , just use the "bottom" one in order to do the magic. So, you need to replace the "top" with "bottom" in the jQuery code.

Hope that helps!

^ | v • Share ›



Mark • 2 years ago

Great work. I really like this effect. I just need to find somewhere to use it...

^ | v • Share ›



Paul Varney • 2 years ago

Hi,

awesome code :)

But I'm new to jquery and can't quite make it work??

If you look at the site I've submitted you'll see the script working at the top...but it doesn't disappear when it's clicked!

This what I've added to the page...

```
var myMessages = ['info','warning','error','success'];
```

```
function showMessage(type)
{
  $('.'+ type +'-trigger').click(function(){
    hideAllMessages();
```

```
    // ... more code ...
```

```
$( '.'+type).animate({top:"0"}, 500);
```

// Show message

see more

^ | v • Share ›



Red → Paul Varney • 2 years ago

Hi Paul, at the end of your script, you have some unnecessary closing stuff: });

Use Ctrl+Shift+J (Cmd+Option+J on Mac) to debug JavaScript. ;)

Hope that helps! Sorry for my late reply...

^ | v • Share ›



Mark • 3 years ago

Great tutorial! Would it be possible to add a browser update notifier like the one on <http://www.duscatolin.com.br/>?

^ | v • Share ›



спортни стоки • 3 years ago

I'll definitely take advantage of this tutorial! Thanks a lot for it!

^ | v • Share ›



Maiki • 3 years ago

You can add jNotify, a jquery plugin that do the same thing :)

<http://www.myjqueryplugins.com...>

Regards,

Maiki

^ | v • Share ›



Barton • 3 years ago

Be nice to animate the notification closure :) Very sleek!

^ | v • Share ›



kenny • 3 years ago

forgot to mention with text-align:center; set for the message
thanks

^ | v • Share ›



Red → kenny • 3 years ago

Kenny, you can use a HTML `img` tag or a CSS background for it. Good luck!

^ | v • Share ›



kenny • 3 years ago

Nice work how can i had i icon side the text ?

^ | v • Share ›



Ben • 3 years ago

Hi Red, fantastic plugin!

One question, How could I get a notification to load once a PHP Form submission is successful.

Many thanks!

^ | v • Share ›



Red → Ben • 3 years ago

Hi Ben, thanks for your comment.

Regarding your question, I think you need to do something like that:

```
<form method="POST" onsubmit="return checkForm(this)" action="">
...
</form>
```

where `checkForm` can display the above notifications if passed validation or if it failed.

Hope that helps!

^ | v • Share ›



Ben → Red • 3 years ago

Hi Red!

Many thanks for your reply!

My problem been is the actual code for showing the notification once the form has approved validation! (I already have that code shown above implemented!)

e.g.

```
$('.success-trigger').click(function(){
hideAllMessages();
$('.success').animate({marginTop:"0"}, 500);
});
```

Doesn't work which is annoying!

^ | v • Share ›



Red → Ben • 3 years ago

Hm, I'm not sure what to say exactly. Perhaps you can send me an email (use the contact form) with a fully working demo link.

^ | v • Share ›



Ben → Red • 3 years ago

<?php

```
if(isset($_POST['reserve'])){
```

```
$('.success-trigger').click(function(){
```

```
hideAllMessages();
```

```
$('.success').animate({marginTop:"0"}, 500);
```

```
});
```

Something as simple as that, they press a button, and the PHP checks if it's been pressed (or posted as its a form) and then loads the notification!

^ | v • Share ›



Jimmy X • 3 years ago

The notifications are so sleek and intuitive. Thanks Red, for an awesome tutorial.

^ | v • Share ›



Red → Jimmy X • 3 years ago

Jimmy, I'm glad you like them. Thanks for your comment.

^ | v • Share ›



greggles • 3 years ago

Hello,

Is there a specific license for the css/js code?

Thanks,

Greg

^ | v • Share ›



Red → greggles • 3 years ago

Greg, feel free to use the code as you wish. ;)

^ | v • Share ›



Matteo • 3 years ago

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