

JavaScript Workshop

Form Object

Form object

- Forms provide a way of grouping together HTML interaction with a common purpose. To access a forms using JavaScript, you can use the forms array or the name of the form itself.
- The forms array (part of Document object) references all forms on the page. Usually a web page will have only one form, so the first form will be referenced by the [0] in the forms array.

document.forms[0] ---> references the first form on a page

document.myForm ---> references a form named myForm

Form properties

- The form object itself has its own properties:

action - location of file that the data will be sent to (.cgi, .php., .asp)

elements - array of all form elements

length - number of form elements

method - how data will be sent to action value (GET or POST)

name - name of form in document

```
<form name = "myForm">
```

```
</form>
```

document.myForm.property

document.forms[0].property

Referencing form elements

- Referencing elements in your form can be done 2 ways:

1) *Using the elements array of the form.*

2) *Using the elements name.*

```
<form name = "myForm">  
  <input type="text" name="myText" size="20"> <br>  
  <input type="text" size="20">  
</form>
```

document.myForm.myText ---> first text box

document.myForm.elements[1] ---> second form element

Form element properties

- Each form element has its own properties:

button ---> form, name, type, value

checkbox ---> checked, defaultChecked, form, name, type, value

hidden ---> form, name, type, value

radio ---> checked, defaultChecked, form, name, type, value

select ---> form, name, options, selectedIndex, type

submit ---> form, name, type, value

text ---> defaultValue, form, name, type, value

textarea ---> defaultValue, form, name, type, value

document.myForm.myText.value ---> text box (myText) value

Looping through arrays properties

- Loops are used to iterate through elements in an array. There are many properties that are arrays in JavaScript (i.e. forms, elements, options, images, etc.)
- In a multi-select box, you need to use a loop to retrieve the items that are selected.

```
for (var i = 0; i < select1.options.length; i++) {  
  
    if (select1.options[i].selected) { // check if item is selected  
        variable = select1.option[i].value // retrieve value  
    }  
}
```

- JavaScript Workshop website:
<http://www.javascriptworkshop.com>
- Any questions?
frank@javascriptworkshop.com - Frank Stepanski
- Recommended reading:
[JavaScript: A Beginner's Guide, Second Edition](#)