

JavaScript Workshop

November 2005 Meeting

Events

What is an Event?

- JavaScript's interaction with HTML is handled through events that occur when a user or browser manipulates a page. When the page loads; when a user clicks a button (or hyperlink); when a user types in a text box; all are events.
- There are many ways to "handle" events (DOM object or Event object). For now (until next season) we will focus on the less standard but more common way to handle events (Event object).
- Events have a corresponding JavaScript keyword used like an attribute that can be assigned a custom function. This function will have your JavaScript code statements to respond to that particular event.

Types of events

- There are 4 basic types of events:

mouse events

keyboard events

HTML events (form elements)

mutation events (DOM elements)

- The most common are mouse and HTML events.

Mouse events: click, mouseover, mouseout, mousedown, mouseup

HTML events: load, unload, change, submit, reset, focus, resize

Event handlers

- Event handlers are predefined JavaScript keywords that are used within HTML tags. (incomplete list)

<A>: onclick, onmouseup, onmousedown, onmouseover, onmouseup

: onclick, onmouseup, onmousedown, onmouseover, onmouseup

<INPUT>: tabindex, onfocus, onselect, onchange, onclick, onkeypress

<SELECT>: onchange

<FORM>: onsubmit, onreset

<BODY>: onload, onunload

Using event handlers

- To use an event handler, you make the event handler equal to some custom JavaScript function (in quotes) you create.

<html element event handler = "JavaScript function();">

* click me *

<FORM> <INPUT TYPE = "button" onclick = "function();" > </FORM>

<BODY onload = "function();">

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Event handlers are used for:

- Display messages to the user.
- Manipulate images for effects (rollover effects).
- Initiate processing behind the scenes (form validation).
- Allow user interaction with page content (DOM).

Next meeting: What is an object?

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