

A STUDY ON JAVASCRIPT

Many of us may have been very familiar with JavaScript, a wide-used scripting language. It was designed to add interactivity to HTML pages and usually embedded directly into HTML pages. JavaScript is widely used. Any compiler of plain texts can edit the JavaScript file. Some of the properties make JavaScript a good partner of page design.

When we see Javascript at the first time, we may be a little confused about Java and Javascript. Are Java and JavaScript the same? The answer is clearly no!

Java and JavaScript are two completely different languages in both concept and design!

Java (developed by Sun Microsystems) is a powerful and much more complex programming language - in the same category as C and C++.

Now, let's see What Can JavaScript do?

- *JavaScript gives HTML designers a programming tool - HTML authors are normally not programmers, but JavaScript is a scripting language with a very simple syntax! Almost anyone can put small "snippets" of code into their HTML pages*

- *JavaScript can react to events - A JavaScript can be set to execute when something happens, like when a page has finished loading or when a user clicks on an HTML element*
- *JavaScript can read and write HTML elements - A JavaScript can read and change the content of an HTML element*
- *JavaScript can be used to validate data - A JavaScript can be used to validate form data before it is submitted to a server. This saves the server from extra processing*
- *JavaScript can be used to detect the visitor's browser - A JavaScript can be used to detect the visitor's browser, and - depending on the browser - load another page specifically designed for that browser*
- *JavaScript can be used to create cookies - A JavaScript can be used to store and retrieve information on the visitor's computer*

Advantages of JavaScript:

First, JavaScript is safe. It doesn't allow the access to the local disks, and the writing of data to the server. Nor the change or deletion of the web documents is allowed. The only way to access information is by the browser.

Then, it is dynamic. Once an event occurred, it responds. The process is direct, which means it doesn't have to run on a web program.

Third, it is flexible. It just depends on the browser itself and has nothing to do with the operating environment. In other words, it can cross the platform.

Source: <http://toyhouse.cc/profiles/blogs/playing-with-javascript>