



Level 1 Document Object Model Specification

Version 1.0

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This version

<http://www.w3.org/TR/1998/WD-DOM-19980720>
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Previous versions

<http://www.w3.org/TR/1998/WD-DOM-19980416>
<http://www.w3.org/TR/WD-DOM-19980318>
<http://www.w3.org/TR/WD-DOM-971209>
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Status

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This document has been produced as part of the [W3C DOM Activity](#), and is intended as a draft of a proposed recommendation for the Document Object Model. The authors of this document are the DOM WG members. Different chapters of the Document Object Model specification may have different editors.

We will update this draft specification on a regular basis.

The DOM WG believes that the specification is very close to being ready for Proposed Recommendation status.

Please send detailed comments on this document to w3c-dom-ig@w3.org. We cannot guarantee a personal response but we will try when it is appropriate. Public discussion about the DOM takes place on the www-dom@w3.org mailing list.

The list of known errors in this document is found at <http://www.w3.org/DOM/1998/WD-DOM-19980720-errata.html>.

Abstract

This specification defines Level 1 of the Document Object Model, a platform- and language-neutral interface that will allow programs and scripts to dynamically access and update the content, structure and style of documents. The Document Object Model provides a standard set of objects for representing HTML and XML documents, a standard model of how these objects can be combined, and a standard interface for accessing and manipulating them. Vendors can support the DOM as an interface to their proprietary data structures and APIs, and content authors can write to the standard DOM interfaces rather than product-specific APIs, thus increasing interoperability on the Web.

The goal of the DOM specification is to define a programmatic interface for XML and HTML. The Level 1 DOM specification is separated into two parts: Core and HTML. The Level 1 Core DOM specification provides a low-level set of fundamental interfaces that can represent any structured document, as well as defining extended interfaces for representing an XML document. These extended XML interfaces need not be implemented by a DOM implementation that only provides

access to HTML documents; all of the fundamental interfaces in the Core document must be implemented. A compliant DOM implementation that implements the extended XML interfaces is required to also implement the fundamental Core interfaces, but not the HTML interfaces. The Level 1 HTML specification provides additional, higher-level interfaces that are used with the fundamental interfaces defined in the Level 1 Core specification to provide a more convenient view of an HTML document. A compliant implementation of the HTML DOM will implement all of the fundamental Core interfaces as well as the HTML interfaces.

Languages used

English, OMG IDL, Java, ECMAScript

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