

# Intro to jQuery Class Reference

---

**jQuery:** is a library that makes writing JavaScript for websites easier and more browser friendly. jQuery is used to make your website more dynamic!

**jQuery Plugins:** plugins will come with an external file that you will need to download and reference in your site. Then you 'initialize' their jQuery by connecting it to one of your own HTML elements.

**The following script is used to add the jQuery library to your site:**

```
<script src="https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/3.0.0/jquery.min.js"></script>
```

**jQuery Object (\$):** \$ is a shortcut for jQuery. The \$ is made for selecting an element and then returning that element to perform an action on it.

**Document Ready:** all of your jQuery code should be wrapped in the following document.ready so that it doesn't execute before the HTML finishes loading.

```
$(document).ready(function(event){  
    // jQuery code  
});
```

## Selecting Elements

The great thing about jQuery is how easy it is to select HTML elements.

The syntax is pretty simple for selecting an HTML element:

```
$('#footer');           // selects element with footer ID  
$('.container');       // selects element with container class
```

**Comments:** Your code has two sets of comments. They show the two different ways of formatting comments.

```
/* This comment  
is three  
lines long. */  
  
// This comment is only one line long
```

**jQuery Functions:** Functions are a way of reusing code in JavaScript.

**jQuery Options:** Query plugins have options which allow you to customize the way the plugin works and displays on the page. The plugin documentation explains what options there are and what values you can put in them. Sometimes the documentation refers to options as settings.

