Document: forms property

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The `forms` read-only property of the Document interface returns an HTMLCollection listing all the form elements contained in the document.

> **NOTE:** Similarly, you can access a list of a form's component user input elements using the HTMLFormElement.elements property.

You can also access named `<form>` elements as properties of the `document` object. For example, `document["login-form"]` and `document.forms["login-form"]` can both be used to access the form named `login-form`.

> **WARNING:** Relying on the `document["form-name"]` pattern is dangerous and discouraged because it can lead to unexpected conflicts with existing or future APIs in the browser. For example, if a browser introduces a built-in `document["login-form"]` property in the future, your code may no longer be able to access the form element. To avoid such conflicts, always use `document.forms` to access named forms.

Value

An HTMLCollection object listing all of the document's forms. Each item in the collection is a HTMLFormElement representing a single `<form>` element.

If the document has no forms, the returned collection is empty, with a length of zero.

Examples

Getting form information

```
<form id="robby">
  <input type="button" value="robby's form" />
</form>

<form id="dave">
  <input type="button" value="dave's form" />
</form>

<form id="paul">
  <input type="button" value="paul's form" />
</form>
```

```
document.querySelectorAll("input[type=button]").forEach((button, i) => {
  button.addEventListener("click", (event) => {
    console.log(document.forms[i].id);
  });
});
```

Getting an element from within a form

```
const selectForm = document.forms[index];
const selectFormElement = document.forms[index].elements[index];
```

Named form access

```
<form name="login">
  <input name="email" type="email" />
  <input name="password" type="password" />
  <button type="submit">Log in</button>
</form>
```

```
const loginForm = document.forms.login; // Or document.forms['login']
loginForm.elements.email.placeholder = "test@example.com";
loginForm.elements.password.placeholder = "password";
```

Specifications

Browser compatibility

See also

- HTML forms
- form and the HTMLFormElement interface

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