Element: closest() method

- Syntax
  - Parameters
  - Return value
  - Exceptions
- Examples
  - HTML
  - JavaScript
- Specifications
- Browser compatibility
  - Compatibility notes
- See also

The `closest()` method of the Element interface traverses the element and its parents (heading toward the document root) until it finds a node that matches the specified CSS selector.

Syntax

```
closest(selectors)
```

Parameters

- `selectors`
  - : A string of valid CSS selectors to match the Element and its ancestors against.

Return value

The closest ancestor Element or itself, which matches the `selectors`. If there is no such element, `null` is returned.

Exceptions

- `SyntaxError` DOMException
  - : Thrown if the `selectors` is not a valid CSS selector.

Examples

HTML

```
<article>
  <div id="div-01">
    Here is div-01
    <div id="div-02">
      Here is div-02
      <div id="div-03">Here is div-03</div>
    </div>
  </div>
</article>
```

JavaScript

```
const el = document.getElementById("div-03");

// the closest ancestor with the id of "div-02"
console.log(el.closest("#div-02")); // <div id="div-02">

// the closest ancestor which is a div in a div
console.log(el.closest("div div")); // <div id="div-03">

// the closest ancestor which is a div and has a parent article
console.log(el.closest("article > div")); // <div id="div-01">
```

```
// the closest ancestor which is not a div
console.log(el.closest(":not(div)")); // <article>
```

Specifications

Browser compatibility

Compatibility notes

- In Edge 15-18 `document.createElement(tagName).closest(tagName)` will return `null` if the element is not first connected (directly or indirectly) to the context object, for example the Document object in the case of the normal DOM.

See also

- CSS selectors module
- Other Element methods that take selectors: Element.querySelector(), Element.querySelectorAll(), and Element.matches().

□□□ #3
□ □□□ □□□ 2026-10-31 03:27:53 UTC
□ cocobook-sync □□□ 2026-11-04 17:34:19 UTC