Element: keypress event

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The **`keypress`** event is fired when a letter, number, punctuation, or symbol key is pressed, or else when the `Enter` key is pressed — including when the `Enter` key is pressed in combination with the `Shift` key or `Ctrl` key. Otherwise, when a modifier key such as the `Alt`, `Shift`, `Ctrl`, `Meta`, `Esc`, or `Option` key is pressed in isolation, the `keypress` event is *not* fired.

> **WARNING:** Since this event has been deprecated, you should use `beforeinput` or `keydown` instead.

The event bubbles. It can reach Document and Window.

Syntax

Use the event name in addEventListener():

```
addEventListener("keypress", (event) => { })
```

Alternatively, assign to the event handler property of the interface:

```
onkeypress = (event) => { }
```

Event type

A KeyboardEvent. Inherits from UIEvent and Event.

Examples

addEventListener keypress example

This example logs the KeyboardEvent.code value whenever you press a key after focussing the input element.

To see which keys cause a `keypress` event to fire, and which keys don't, try pressing the following:

- letter keys, number keys, and punctuation keys
- symbol keys such as the $, +, =, %, and + keys
- modifier keys such as the `Alt`, `Shift`, `Ctrl`, `Meta`, `Esc`, `Option`, or ? keys
- the `Enter` key
- the `Enter` key in combination with the `Shift` or `Ctrl` keys
- the `Enter` key in combination with modifier keys other than the `Shift` or `Ctrl` keys

```
<div>
  <label for="sample">Focus the input and type something:</label>
  <input type="text" name="text" id="sample" />
</div>
<p id="log"></p>
```

```
const log = document.getElementById("log");
const input = document.querySelector("input");

input.addEventListener("keypress", logKey);

function logKey(e) {
  log.textContent += ` ${e.code}`;
}
```

Using the `onkeypress` event handler property

You can also use the `onkeypress` event handler property (but note that this replaces other event listeners added using `onkeypress`, if any):

```
input.onkeypress = logKey;
```

Specifications

Browser compatibility

See also

- The Document interface, which the event also targets.
- Related events:
  - `input`
  - `keydown`
  - `keyup`

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