The Web Wizard’s Guide To JavaScript

Chapter 8

Working with Windows and Frames
Chapter Objectives

- To open and close new windows of any size or position with JavaScript
- To write new content to the windows you create
- To prevent a web page from appearing in someone else’s frameset
- To force a Web page to appear in your frameset
- To dynamically create content and place it in a frame
Using window methods with the HTML Builder

- You can open new windows of any size or position using the `window.open()` method, which returns an ID value that can be stored in a variable.
- You close the new window through scripting (for example, `myWindow.close()`).
- You can use switch control structures to implement decision making based on a variable’s value.
- The `eval()` function is built into JavaScript and evaluates whatever text is passed to it. Valid JavaScript statements passed to the `eval()` function are executed by the JavaScript interpreter in the Web browser.
Additional window methods

• You can use the window.confirm() method to query visitors and get a true or false response, storing it in a variable that determines what happens next.

• The HREF property of the location object reveals the URL of the current page; changing HREF loads a new page.

• Each window object also contains a history object. The history object maintains a list of pages that have been loaded in the current window.
JavaScript and Frames

- Frames can be seen as a parent–child hierarchy of window objects.
- Each window can be referred to as self in any script located in the window; the window at the top of the hierarchy can be referred to as top.
- Because framesets can be nested, references to “parent” will not always be equivalent to “top.”
- The replace() method of the location object changes the URL stored in the history index for that page. When you create a page that changes location upon loading, use the replace() method instead of changing the HREF property. This practice avoids creating problems with the Back button.