

Designing for Ajax: part 2

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Who am I?

- Nathaniel T. Schutta
<http://www.ntschutta.com/jat/>
- Foundations of Ajax & Pro Ajax and Java Frameworks
- UI guy
- Author, speaker, teacher
- More than a couple of web apps

The Plan

- CSS Selectors
- In-line edit
- Lightbox
- Charting
- Offline

What's Ajax?

See part I!

CSS Selectors.

So we've got \$...

What if we want
everything with a style?

\$\$!

Apply to all “headers.”

Hide/show sections.

Demo.

```
$$('.header').each(function(el)
{el.observe("click", toggleSection)});
```

In-line edit.

Read vs. edit.

Mode selection.

Do you have to?

Select to edit?

What if they could make
changes on the fly?

Demo.

```
new Ajax.InPlaceEditor('name I', 'server.html');
```

Lightbox.

Modality.

Web isn't very
conducive to wizards...

Do you like pop-ups?

Do your users?

We have options now!

“Looks” like a
popup...but it's not.

Can actually be modal.

Demo.

```
myDialog = new YAHOO.widget.Dialog("myDialog",
```

```
$('#contacts').insert({after: htmlToInsert});
```

```
$$('.clear').invoke('clear');
```

Charting.

Wouldn't a pie
chart be nice?

YUI and Dojo provide a charting mechanism.

Still early...

Experimental even.

YUI based on Flash.

Dojo uses browser capabilities.

Demo.

```
dojo.require("dojox.charting.Chart2D");  
dojo.require("dojox.charting.themes.PlotKit.purple");
```

```
chart1.setTheme(dojox.charting.themes.PlotKit.purple);  
chart1.addPlot("default", {...});  
chart1.addSeries("States", [5, 3, 2, 1, 1]);  
chart1.render();
```

Offline.



Google Gears.

VERY beta.

Not in the Gmail sense.

As in not ready for
production beta.

It's an “early-access
developers' release.”

Browser extension.

Three parts.

Local server.

A database.

Worker thread pool.

Dojo - based on Gears.

Provides a higher level API.

A handy widget!

Lots more...



The website below wants to use Google Gears.
This site will be able to store and access
information on your computer. [What is this?](#)

http://codinginparadise.org

I trust this site. Allow it to use Google Gears.

[Never allow this site](#)

Allow

Cancel

Offline widget.

```
dojox.off.files.slurp();
```

```
if(dojox.off.isOnline){
```

dojox.storage

```
dojox.off.sync.actions.add(action);
```

Then when we're
back online...

Dojo automatically synchs.

“Replay” the actions.

You need to define that...

<http://dojotoolkit.org/offline>

Remember - a little
goes a long way.

Test with real users.

Don't be afraid.

You can do it.

Embrace change!

Questions?!?

Thanks!

Please complete your surveys.