

Web Components API

(this is for real!)

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A tale as old as time

From documents to apps



Firefox DevTools

2019

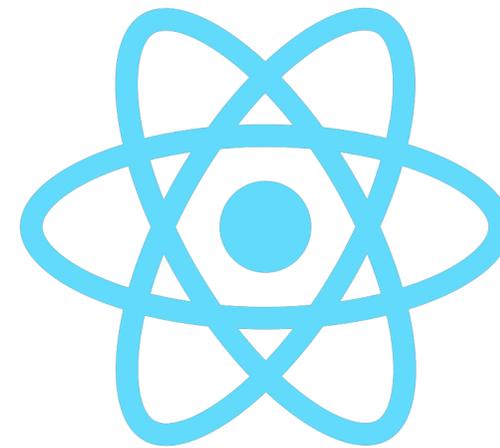
It's 2019

We can't style a dropdown

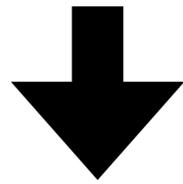


A common need

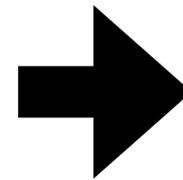
Reusable UI widgets



```
<User username="desatranques">
```



```
<span class="user">  
    
  Desatranques Jaén  
</span>
```



Desatranques Jaén®

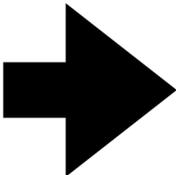
Web Components API

- A standardised API to make re-usable UI components
- **Web Components API =**
Custom Elements + Shadow DOM +
<template> + <slot>
- Since it's implemented by the browser, it can do things frameworks can't 🤖

Custom Elements

- Our own HTML tags! 🎉
- We can extend from HTMLElement or other subclass
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Web_Components/Using_custom_elements

```
customElements.define(  
  'x-user',  
  class extends HTMLElement {  
    constructor() {  
      super();  
      // ...  
    }  
  }  
);
```



<x-user>

Shadow DOM

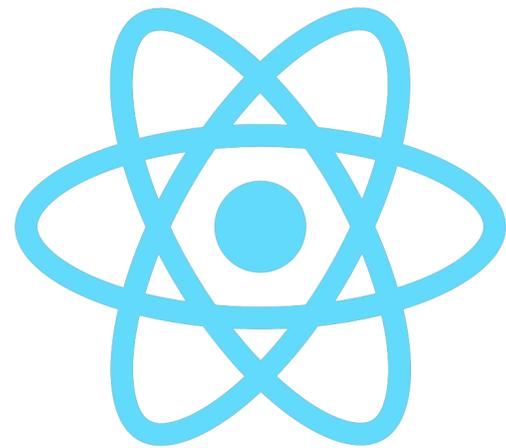
- The DOM is the tree that represents HTML nodes in our document
- The Shadow DOM is a fragment of the DOM that is **isolated** from the “light DOM”
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Web_Components/Using_shadow_DOM

Below is a simple video example



Shadow DOM is not new...

```
Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Performance Memory Network Storage Access
+
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html> event
  <head> ... </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Below is a simple video example</h1>
    <video src="rabbit320.webm" controls="controls"> event
      #shadow-root (closed)
        <div class="videocontrols" xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" role="none"> event
          <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="chrome://global/skin/media/videocontrols.css">
```



```
<span class="user">  
    
  Desatranques Jaén  
</span>
```

Web Components

```
<x-user>  
#shadow-root  
  <span class="user">  
      
    Desatranques Jaén  
  </span>  
</x-user>
```

```
customElements.define('x-user', class extends HTMLElement {
  constructor() {
    super();

    this.attachShadow({ mode: 'open' });
    this.shadowRoot.innerHTML =
      '<span class="user">...</span>';
  }
});
```

DevTools + Web Components

- You can inspect, manipulate, change CSS rules, etc. of Custom Elements with a Shadow root like if they were regular HTML elements!

Demo: A simple component

<https://belen-albeza.github.io/webcomponents-examples/wc-simple.html>

<template>

- A tag to aid into creating new DOM with JavaScript
- It isn't rendered by the browser, but:
 - We can inspect it with DevTools
 - We can easily clone it and then do an `appendChild`

```
<template id="user-tpl">
  <style>
    .user {
      border: 1px solid black;
    }
  </style>

  <span class="user">
    
    Anonymous
  </span>
</template>
```

```
const template = document.querySelector( '#user-tpl' );  
  
this.attachShadow( { mode: 'open' } );  
this.shadowRoot.appendChild(  
  template.content.cloneNode( true ) );
```

Demo: `<template>`

<https://belen-albeza.github.io/webcomponents-examples/wc-template.html>

Shadow DOM encapsulation

- JavaScript
 - Some isolation. Ex: `document.querySelector` won't go inside, but Shadow DOM can access light DOM
- CSS
 - No classname collisions, only inherited properties go through
 - Styles don't leak outside

<slot>

- Allows the user of a component to inject DOM inside.
- Multiple slots are allowed for a component

- Ej:

```
<x-message level="success">
```

```
  <p>Once upon a time..</p>
```

```
</x-message>
```

Demo: `<slot>`

<https://belen-albeza.github.io/webcomponents-examples/wc-slots.html>

Custom attributes

- We can make up **our own attributes** and render the content of the component depending on them
- But we have to **listen for attribute changes** if we want the component to reflect those changes.

```
// which attributes to watch
static get observedAttributes() {
    return ['username'];
}

// callback for changes
attributeChangedCallback(attr, oldValue, value) {
    // re-render component here
    // ...
}
```

Demo: Custom attributes

<https://belen-albeza.github.io/webcomponents-examples/wc-attrs.html>

What about CSS?

- You don't need a system to avoid class collisions from the outside (no BEM, or CSS Modules, or CSS in JS...)
- ...or from the inside out! **STYLES DON'T LEAK**
- Properties & variables that are inherited permeate to the Shadow DOM (color, font...)

Demo CSS

<https://belen-albeza.github.io/webcomponents-examples/wc-styles.html>

Recap: pros of Web Components

- Encapsulation
- They are HTML Elements
 - Same API's you know and love: `querySelector`, `innerHTML`, `appendChild`, `addEventListener`..
 - You can use regular DevTools to debug them
- A standardised API

So... can I ditch React?



No.

JS Frameworks have many features

- Reusable components
- Template system
- **Data-binding**
- Other: routers, architecture (Angular, Redux, Vuex...), optimizations...

So what's the point?

- Web Components are here to **power up** frameworks.
- ...or to allow micro-libraries to exist to make shareable components
- A **standard API** means that a WC component created with a framework can be used on a different one –or without any framework at all!

Some JS Frameworks already support WC

- <https://custom-elements-everywhere.com/>

Web Components made with Vue

- Step 1: Code your component as usual
- Step 2: Build with vue-cli and the `--target wc` flag

Demo: a Web Component made with Vue

<https://belen-albeza.github.io/webcomponents-examples/wc-vue.html>

Demos + repo

[https://belen-albeza.github.io/
webcomponents-examples/](https://belen-albeza.github.io/webcomponents-examples/)

Thanks!

Questions?

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