

Saving AJAX.responseText to a variable

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Greetings!

I have a situation where I'm using AJAX to return some data, but instead of displaying the data immediately on the page (as I seem to only see in any example on the web; i.e., `obj.innerHTML = ajaxObject.responseText`), I would like to store the `responseText` value into a variable for further processing. My code is below:

```
===== Begin snippet =====
var ajaxObject;
var my_variable;

function getData(arg)
{
  ajaxObject = GetXmlHttpRequest(); // function from W3Schools

  if(ajaxObject == null)
  {
    alert("We're sorry, but we are unable to retrieve the data because
    your browser does not support AJAX.");
    return;
  }

  var url = "getdata.php?arg=" + arg + "&rand=" + Math.random(); //
  random number prevents same data due to caching without screwing
  around with headers

  ajaxObject.onreadystatechange = ajaxObjectStateChange;
  ajaxObject.open("GET", url, true);
  ajaxObject.send(null);

  alert(my_variable); // always displays undefined
  // do stuff with my_variable
}

function ajaxObjectStateChange()
{
  if(ajaxObject.readyState == 4)
  {
```

Saving AJAX responseText to a variable

```
my_variable = ajaxObject.responseText;  
}  
}  
===== End Snippet =====
```

As you can see, I use an alert to return the value I'm trying to retrieve, but it always come up as undefined (or a empty string if I initialize the variable). I've tried several different approaches (that I won't post here for sake of brevity) and no matter what I try I can never get the data to store in the variable. I'm sure there has to be a way to do this, but as I've stated the only example I can ever find on the web are the ones for immediately displaying the data.

Does anyone know of a way that I can store the responseText into a variable for further processing, or even if it's possible?

Thanks.

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