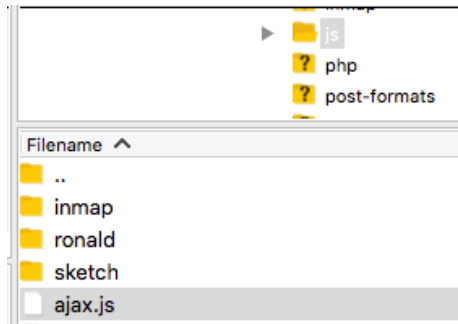


Ajax in WordPress

One of the most difficult things to do in WordPress is connect javascript / HTML on your web front end with functions in your functions.php file. This example walks through the steps of doing that. **It uses the Skeleton Final theme.**

Step One: Look at ajax.js



The ajax.js file has one function, `sendContact`. This is a javascript function that expects a post from a form that has elements with the ids `#name`, `#email`, `#subject` and `#message`.

```
function sendContact() {
    console.log("Update contact start");
    // this function depends on the fields name, email, message
    // and contact-result being defined.

    sName = jQuery("#name").val();
    sEmail = jQuery("#email").val();
    sSubject = jQuery("#subject").val();
    sMessage = jQuery("#message").val();
    var data = {
        'action': 'send_contact',
        'name': sName,
        'email': sEmail,
        'subject': sSubject,
        'message': sMessage
    };
    // To do: handle fail condition
    // The code below called the sendContact function defined
    // in functions.php.
    jQuery.post(ajax_object.ajax_url, data, function(response) {
        jQuery("#contact-result").html(response);
    });
}
```

Step Two: Copy the following HTML to a post called SendContact:

```
<div class="contact">Name</div><input id="name"/>
<div class="contact">Email Address</div><input id="email" type="text"
name="email" />
```

```

<div class="contact">Subject</div><input id="subject" type="text"
name="subject" />
<div class="contact">Message</div><textarea id="message"></textarea>
<a id="submitButton" href="JavaScript: sendContact();"
>Submit</a></h3></div>
<div id="contact-result"></div>

```

Your post should look like the following:



Figure: Contact form in edit mode

Contact

Name

Email Address

Subject

Message

[Submit](#)

Figure: Contact form activated

The submit button will launch the javascript function sendContact().

Step Two: Review the enqueue and localize script code in functions.php

```

// Beginning of ajax code
wp_enqueue_script( 'ajax-script', get_template_directory_uri() . '/js/ajax.js' , array('jquery') );
// in JavaScript, object properties are accessed as ajax_object.ajax_url, ajax_object.values
wp_localize_script( 'ajax-script', 'ajax_object',array( 'ajax_url' => admin_url( 'admin-ajax.php' ) ) );
// Handlers function...
add_action( 'wp_ajax_send_contact', 'send_contact' );

```

The first line of code activates our ajax script, with a jquery dependency, the second line of code initializes built in WordPress ajax functionality, the final line of code turns the send_contact function (in functions.php) into an action that can be called within our javascript file (the action in Step 1, above).

Step Three: Review the send_contact() function at the bottom of functions.php

```
function send_contact() {  
    echo("The send_contact() function in functions.php has been called by [sendContact]() using ajax!");  
    // This is necessary to stop a 0 error code from being returned.  
    wp_die();  
}
```

The only thing send_contact does at this point is echo to the console. Normally it would be initialize the wp_mail function, or a short code that handles mail.

Step Four: Go to Contacts, Fill out the Fields and Submit

If successful, you should see the following output in your console. This is the console.log statement from the ajax.js file.

```
Update contact start ajax.js:22:3
```

And the send_contact message should be echoed to the bottom of your contact form. This is the echo statement from the send_contact() function in functions.php.

Message

This is my first ajax call.

[Submit](#)

send_contact has received a message from: Brian. The message is - This is my first ajax call.