

Client Side Validations

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What?

a.k.a. inline validations



INLINE VALIDATION
OPTIONS FOR SHOWING VALIDATION MESSAGES

Video Credit: Luke Wroblewski

Benefit

Higher Conversion Rate

- * Less time spent entering data
- * Less visual attention
- * Don't have to wait for server to validate data
- * Less frustration

Why?

Register to Vote

https://www.raiseyourvote.com/client/registrations/new?registration[address_state]=DC

RAISE YOUR VOTE

Voting is a fundamental right—and when we make our voices heard, we can keep moving our nation forward, building a fairer, stronger, and more just America.

Fill & Print Sign Form Stamp & Mail

Home Address Registering abroad?

Street Address ZIP Code

I have a different mailing address.

I have recently moved.

Personal Information

Title	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix
<input type="text"/>				

Driver's License Num. or Last 4 of Social Security Num. (7) Birthdate MM/DD/YYYY

Email Address (7) Phone Number (7)

Political Party (7) Race or Ethnic Group (7)

Why?

- * 47 states
- * Each state has its own rules for NVRA submission
- * This means **tons** of validations
- * We're registering voters... conversion rate very important
- * Don't want to duplicate complex validation model on both server and client

How?

- * **Javascript**
tons of options...

- * **HTML5 Form Validations**

How?

Javascript

- * Looks good
- * Tons of options
- * Full browser support
- * Still duplicating effort on the client

How?

HTML5 Form Validations

- * Doesn't look that good
- * Doesn't satisfy all validations needed
- * No real browser support (yet)
- * Still duplicating effort on the client

Rails?

- * We're already building a validation model on the server
- * What if we could send those rules to the client?

Client Side Validations

```
gem install client_side_validations
```

Live Coding

uh - oh!

How does it work?

- * Reserves one route as a middleware:
`/validations/uniqueness.json`
- * Builds a JSON validation rule/message/
option object
- * Embeds the object on the page
- * `client_side_validations.js` is aware of
client side validation forms
- * applies the embedded object to the form

How does it work?

- * **Uses jquery-validation**

<http://docs.jquery.com/Plugins/Validation>

- * **Supports Rails 2.x & 3.x RC**

Should work with any ActiveRecord or ActiveModel based model (**Mongoid**, not **MongoMapper...** yet)

- * **Going to get you most of the way there**

What can it do?

* Currently supported validations

validates_presence_of

validates_format_of

validates_numericality_of*

validates_length_of*

validates_size_of*

validates_uniqueness_of

validates_confirmation_of

validates_acceptance_of

validates_inclusion_of

validates_exclusion_of

* i18n or custom messages

What can't it do?

- * `fields_for`
- * Custom validations

Hindsight

* Similar solutions already exist

<http://github.com/augustl/live-validations>

<http://github.com/grimen/validatious-on-rails>

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

Live-Validations has prototype as a dependency, actually ended up with a somewhat similar API as ClientSideValidations. The git-hub project description simply says 'No Longer Maintained'

Validatious has Formtastic support however it is incomplete by the author's omission. Hasn't been touched in almost 2 years.

Both have shaky validates_uniqueness_of support at best

Neither support fields_for (live-validations has had it as an open issue for over a year and a half)

The End

* Client Side Validations

<http://github.com/dnclabs>

http://github.com/dnclabs/client_side_validations

http://github.com/dnclabs/client_side_validations_examples

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(shameless self-promotion)

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