Using URL hashes to control AJAX requests

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Following on from my previous article here (http://www.mccran.co.uk/index.cfm/2011/10/17/Adding-hash-values-into-URLs--The-basics) this article deals with injecting Hash values into URL's and using them to power AJAX requests.

Starting with the code of the previous article I'll expand it to include an AJAX request based on the Hash inserted into the URL.

As in the code used previously I'll start off with a list of items. Each of these items is attached to a JQuery selector but also still has a normal hyperlink. This ensures that the link will still work if the user is not using JavaScript.

```
                     <ul>
   <li><a href="home.cfm" class="ajax-link" id="home">Home</a></li>
  <li><a href="about.cfm" class="ajax-link" id="about">About</a></li>
    <li><a href="buy.cfm" class="ajax-link" id="buy">Buy</a></li>
<li><a href="contact.cfm" class="ajax-link" id="contact">Contact</a></li>
                    </ul>
```

Next create a JQuery selector that is watching for click events on anything with a class of 'ajax-link'. The function below will pull out the id attribute of the clicked object, then push that value into the URL as a hash value.

Next we stop the default behaviour of the hyperlink (IE stop it moving the user to the page) and perform some simple manipulation. All I'm doing here is adding a 'cfm' string to the end of the value.

Lastly push this value into a standard AJAX request, this will basically fetch the page and handle the response by injecting the returned page content into the designated div element.

```
<s/cript language="javascript">
$(document).ready(function() {

// click event listener
$('.ajax-link').click(function(event) {

// get the id
var clickedLink = $(this).attr('id');

// push it into the url
location.hash = clickedLink;

// debugging alert
//alert(clickedLink);

// stop the regular href
event.preventDefault();

var remoteurl = clickedLink + '.cfm';

$.ajax({
url: remoteurl,
success: function(data, textStatus){
$('#injected-content').html(data);
}
});

});

});
</script>
<div id="injected-content" class="injected-content-holder"></div>
```

There is an example of this working here: http://www. mccran/examples/jquery-url-hashes-ajax-request/