

jQuery UI sortable enables us to reorder the HTML element by drag & drop.

This will use to allow the users to adjust the positions of [images](#) to display on the webpage.

In this tutorial, I show how you can [save](#) the sorted image list order in the MySQL database and read it.

[Demo](#)

[how-to-reorder-images-and-save-to-mysql-with-jquery-ajax.zip](#)

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1. Table structure

I am using `images_list` table in the example.

```
CREATE TABLE `images_list` (  
  `id` int(10) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY AUTO_INCREMENT,  
  `name` varchar(150) NOT NULL,  
  `location` varchar(150) NOT NULL,  
  `sort` int(2) NOT NULL DEFAULT '0',  
  `timemodified` timestamp NOT NULL DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP ON UPDATE  
  CURRENT_TIMESTAMP  
) ENGINE=InnoDB DEFAULT CHARSET=utf8;
```

2. Configuration

Create a new `config.php` file.

Completed Code

```
<?php
```

```
$host = "localhost"; /* Host name */
$user = "root"; /* User */
$password = ""; /* Password */
$dbname = "tutorial"; /* Database name */

$con = mysqli_connect($host, $user, $password,$dbname);
// Check connection
if (!$con) {
    die("Connection failed: " . mysqli_connect_error());
}
```

3. HTML & PHP

Use `<ul id=„sortable“>` to list images.

Select record from `images_list` table order by `sort` field in ascending order.

Loop on the record to add images.

In the `<li >` add `id` attribute to get the record `id` while saving with jQuery AJAX.

Add a button to save image positions on click.

NOTE - Included `jquery.ui.touch-punch.min.js` script to enable touch event on the mobile devices.

Completed Code

```
<?php
include "config.php";
?>
<!doctype html>
<html >
    <head>
        <link rel="stylesheet"
href="//code.jquery.com/ui/1.12.1/themes/base/jquery-ui.css">
        <style>
            #sortable {
                list-style-type: none;
                margin: 0;
                padding: 0;
                width: 90%;
            }
            #sortable li {
                margin: 3px 3px 3px 0;
                padding: 1px;
                float: left;
```

```
        border: 0;
        background: none;
    }
    #sortable li img{
        width: 180px;
        height: 140px;
    }
</style>

<script
src="https://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/3.3.1/jquery.min.js"></scr
ipt>
    <script src="https://code.jquery.com/ui/1.12.1/jquery-ui.js"></script>

    <script src="//cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/jqueryui-touch-
punch/0.2.2/jquery.ui.touch-punch.min.js"></script>
</head>
<body>

    <div style='float: left; width: 100%;'>
        <!-- List Images -->
        <ul id="sortable" >
            <?php
            // Fetch images
            $fetch_images = mysqli_query($con,"SELECT * FROM images_list ORDER BY
sort ASC");

            while($row = mysqli_fetch_assoc($fetch_images)){
                $id = $row['id'];
                $name = $row['name'];
                $location = $row['location'];

                echo '<li class="ui-state-default" id="image_'. $id.'">
                    
                    </li>';
            }

            ?>
        </ul>
    </div>
    <div style="clear: both; margin-top: 20px;">
        <input type='button' value='Submit' id='submit'>
    </div>

</body>
</html>
```

4. PHP

Create a new `ajaxfile.php` file.

Assign `$_POST['imageids']` in `$imageids_arr` and loop on it.

Set `$position=1` which is incremented inside the loop.

Update sort field by `$position` value according to `$id` value.

Completed Code

```
<?php

include "config.php";

$imageids_arr = $_POST['imageids'];

// Update sort position of images
$position = 1;
foreach($imageids_arr as $id){
    mysqli_query($con,"UPDATE images_list SET sort=".$position." WHERE
id=".$id);
    $position ++;
}

echo "Update successfully";
exit;
```

5. Script

Initialize sortable on `$('#sortable')` selector.

On submit button click loop on `$('#sortable li')` using `$.each()`.

Split id value and initialize `imageids_arr` Array.

Send an AJAX request to save positions for this pass `imageids: imageids_arr` as data.

Completed Code

```
$(document).ready(function(){

    // Initialize sortable
    $( "#sortable" ).sortable();
```

```
// Save order
$('#submit').click(function(){
    var imageids_arr = [];
    // get image ids order
    $('#sortable li').each(function(){
        var id = $(this).attr('id');
        var split_id = id.split("_");
        imageids_arr.push(split_id[1]);
    });

    // AJAX request
    $.ajax({
        url: 'ajaxfile.php',
        type: 'post',
        data: {imageids: imageids_arr},
        success: function(response){
            alert('Save successfully.');
```

6. Conclusion

Loop on the to save the reorder of the images. Use an Array to store image ids and pass it in the AJAX request.

Now loop on the passed Array and update sort order according to index.

If you found this tutorial helpful then don't forget to share.

Are you want to get implementation help, or modify or extend the functionality of this script? [Submit paid service request](#).

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