

How to get the actual width of an element in jQuery, even with border-box: box-sizing

This article was originally published at <https://gist.github.com/joepie91/5ffffefbf24dcfdb4477>.

This is ridiculous, but per [the jQuery documentation](#):

“ Note that `.width()` will always return the content width, regardless of the value of the CSS `box-sizing` property. As of jQuery 1.8, this may require retrieving the CSS width plus `box-sizing` property and then subtracting any potential border and padding on each element when the element has `box-sizing: border-box`. To avoid this penalty, use `.css("width")` rather than `.width()`.

```
function parsePx(input) {  
  let match;  
  
  if (match = /^([0-9+])px$/.exec(input)) {  
    return parseFloat(match[1]);  
  } else {  
    throw new Error("Value is not in pixels!");  
  }  
  
  $.prototype.actualWidth = function() {  
    /* WTF, jQuery? */  
    let isBorderBox = (this.css("box-sizing") === "border-box");  
    let width = this.css("width");  
    let padding = this.css("padding-left") + this.css("padding-right");  
    let border = this.css("border-left-width") + this.css("border-right-width");  
    let boxSizing = isBorderBox ? "border-box" : "content-box";  
    let style = window.getComputedStyle(this, null);  
    let widthPx = style.getPropertyValue("width");  
    let widthValue = widthPx.replace("px", "");  
    let widthNumber = parseFloat(widthValue);  
    let widthActual = widthNumber - padding - border;  
    return widthActual;  
  };  
};  
  
$(document).ready(function() {  
  let $input = $("#actualWidthInput");  
  let $output = $("#actualWidthOutput");  
  
  $input.on("input", function() {  
    let value = $(this).val();  
    let width = parsePx(value);  
    $output.html(`Width: ${width}`);  
  });  
});
```

```
let width = this.width();

if (isBorderBox) {
    width = width
        + parsePx(this.css("padding-left"))
        + parsePx(this.css("padding-right"))
        + parsePx(this.css("border-left-width"))
        + parsePx(this.css("border-right-width"));
}

return width;
}
```

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