

Getting Started

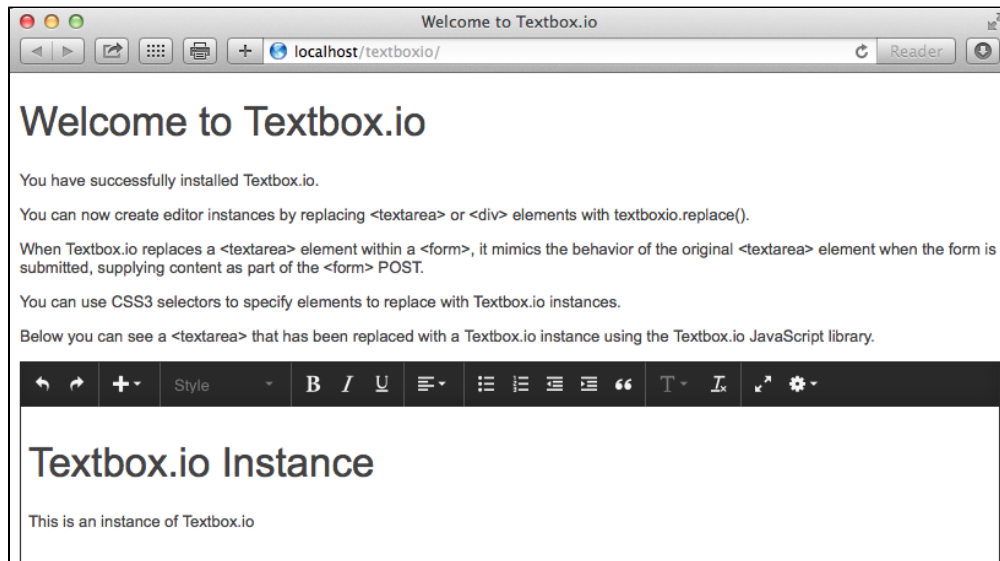
Getting started with Textbox.io is super easy. In this guide you will invoke Textbox.io on a `<textarea>` as part of an HTML `<form>`. When the `<form>` is submitted, the contents of the Textbox.io editor will be submitted as part of the `<form>` POST.

To complete this guide, you will need access to a web server. This guide assumes a web server is running on port 80 on localhost.

Step 1: Download a Copy of Textbox.io and Put it on a Web Server

- Download a copy of the Textbox.io SDK from [Tiny Downloads](#).
- Unzip the package and move the `textboxio` directory into a web accessible location on your web server (for example, localhost).

Once you've completed these tasks, open a browser and browse to the directory where you placed the `textboxio` directory (for example, <http://localhost/textboxio/>). If the Textbox.io welcome screen appears with an instance of Textbox.io, you've installed the editor correctly and you're ready for Step 2.



Step 2: Add Textbox.io to a Page

With Textbox.io accessible via your web server (<http://localhost/textboxio/>), you can now include the Textbox.io script anywhere you would like to use the Textbox.io editor.

To add the script, add the following inside your page's `<head>` tag.

```
<script src="http://YOUR-DOMAIN/YOUR-DIRECTORY/textboxio/textboxio.js"></script>
```

Step 3: Invoke Textbox.io as Part of a Web Form

With the script included, you may then invoke Textbox.io on any element (or elements) in your webpage.

Textbox.io lets you identify elements to *replace* via a [CSS3 selector](#). To add Textbox.io to a page you pass a selector to `textboxio.replace()`.

In this example, you will *replace* `<textarea id="mytextarea"></textarea>` with a Textbox.io editor by passing the selector `'#mytextarea'` to `textboxio.replace()`.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <script src="http://localhost/textboxio/textboxio.js"></script>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Textbox.io Getting Started Guide</h1>
  <form>
    <textarea id="mytextarea"></textarea>
    <button type="submit">Submit</button>
  </form>
  <script type="text/javascript">
    var editor = textboxio.replace('#mytextarea');
  </script>
</body>
</html>
```



For the best user experience, it is recommended that the HTML5 doc type is set.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

Try it:

You've added [Textbox.io](#) to the page - that's all there is to it!

Next, we'll look at retrieving content as part of a `<form>` POST.

Step 4: Saving Content with a `<form>` POST

When the form is submitted, the [Textbox.io](#) editor mimics the behavior of a normal HTML `<textarea>` during a form POST. No additional configuration is required.

What's Next

At this point, you've seen how to create [Textbox.io](#) instances on a page using `textboxio.replace()`, and you've seen how to retrieve content from [Textbox.io](#) as part of an HTML `<form>` POST. There's way more under the hood if you're feeling adventurous: read on for more [Textbox.io](#) goodness:

- [Editor types - Classic vs Inline](#) - Learn about the 2 modes of editing supported by [Textbox.io](#), and decide which works best for you
- [API Basics](#) - Learn the basics of using the editor API, such as getting and setting content in the editor.
- [Customizing the Editor](#) - Learn how to configure and customize [Textbox.io](#) for your applications.
- [Handling Local Images](#) - Learn how to configure automatic local image uploads
- [API reference](#)