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Playwright Course Online | Locators vs. Element Handles

Playwright automation provides two primary methods for locating elements within a web page: **locators and element handles**. - **Playwright Automation Online Training**

Let's explore each:

1. **Locators:**

   - Locators are a mechanism used to find elements on a web page based on various properties such as **CSS selectors, XPath expressions, text content**, and more.
   - Playwright supports a variety of locator strategies including `css`, `xpath`, `text`, `id`, `label`, `name`, `input`, `textarea`, `button`, `select`, `checkbox`, `radio`, `option`, `attribute`, and `shadow`.
   - Locators are typically used when you need to find elements dynamically during script execution based on their attributes or position in the **DOM**.
   - They are convenient for finding elements relative to their attributes or structure, making tests more robust against changes in page layout or content. - **Playwright Automation Testing Hyderabad**

2. **Element Handles:**

- Element handles are references to specific elements on a web page returned by Playwright methods like `**page.$()**`, `**page.$$()**`, `**page.waitForSelector()**`, etc.
- Once you obtain an element handle, you can perform various actions on the element such as clicking, typing, getting its attributes, and so on.
- Element handles are useful when you already know which element you want to interact with, either through a **static identifier** (like an ID or class name) or through a previously found locator.
- They are efficient for interacting with known elements and performing actions such as clicking buttons, entering text into input fields, etc.

In summary, while locators are used to dynamically find elements based on various criteria, element handles represent references to specific elements on the page and are used for interacting with those elements. Both are essential components of Playwright automation and are used together to **build robust** and **efficient automation scripts**. - **[Playwright With Automation Training](#)**

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