

Hi,

Starting at:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/Shimano-CS-M970-XTR-11x34-9-Speed-Cassette-/321269667939?pt=US_Cassettes_Freewheels_Cogs&hash=item4acd2a1863

I'm attempting to extract some information from eBay, but I'm running into problems due to the fact that:

- (1) The returned web pages have slightly different formats, and I'm trying to extract all the required information from each page.
- (2) I can't figure how to iterate through the linked pictures.
- (3) Sometimes the description field is text, and sometimes it's a link.

- (1) For example, if an item sells at auction, the page will list the number of bids:

ebay Shop by category

Back to search results | Listed in category: Sporting Goods > Cycling > Bicycle Components & Parts > Cassettes, Freewheels & Cogs

Bidding has ended on this item.

Shimano CS M970 XTR 11x34 9 Speed Cassette [See original listing](#)

 **SOLD**

Item condition: **Used**

Ended: Dec 17, 2013 11:17:14 PST

Winning bid: **US \$51.00** [4 bids]

Shipping: **\$8.00** Expedited Shipping

Item location: Libertyville, Illinois, United States

Seller: [li_us04 \(7\)](#) | [Seller's other items](#)

If an item sells at auction, it will have an additional field listing the number of bids

Sell one like this

which I would like to capture as a “flag” that the item sold at auction.

However if the item sold “buy it now”, the page will be formatted differently, in one of two ways, depending on whether the item sold at the asking price (“Buy it Now”) or sold at a negotiated price (“Best Offer”).

Added field should be captured if item was sold at negotiated rather than fixed price.

The image contains two screenshots of eBay listings. The top screenshot shows a listing for a Shimano XTR CS-M980 10 Speed 11-36t Bike Cassette. The listing is marked as 'This listing has ended.' The item condition is 'Used'. The sales type is 'BIN_FP', indicating it was sold as 'Buy It Now, at fixed price'. The price is listed as 'US \$130.00', with a red box around it and the text 'This field is always present'. The listing also shows the ending time, shipping cost (FREE), item location (Wausau, Wisconsin, United States), and the seller's name (thehub1373).

The bottom screenshot shows a listing for a Shimano XTR CS-M970 11-34t Cassette Titanium Ti 9 Speed Mountain Bike. The listing is also marked as 'This listing has ended.' The item condition is 'Used'. The sales type is 'BIN_BOA', indicating it was sold as 'Buy It Now, at negotiated price'. The price is listed as 'US \$89.99', with a red box around it and the text 'Best offer accepted'. A new red text annotation says 'New field added. Could be saved as text, or converted to logical.' The listing also shows the ending time, shipping cost (\$7.99), item location (Westminster, Colorado, United States), and the seller's name (milehighridesinc).

In this case, the presence or absence of the “Best Offer” field allows me to determine which type of “buy it now” transaction is involved.

My problem is that I can’t seem to build a project which captures all information for all sales types.

(2) Pictures are linked through two levels, with a variable number of pictures at the lowest level:

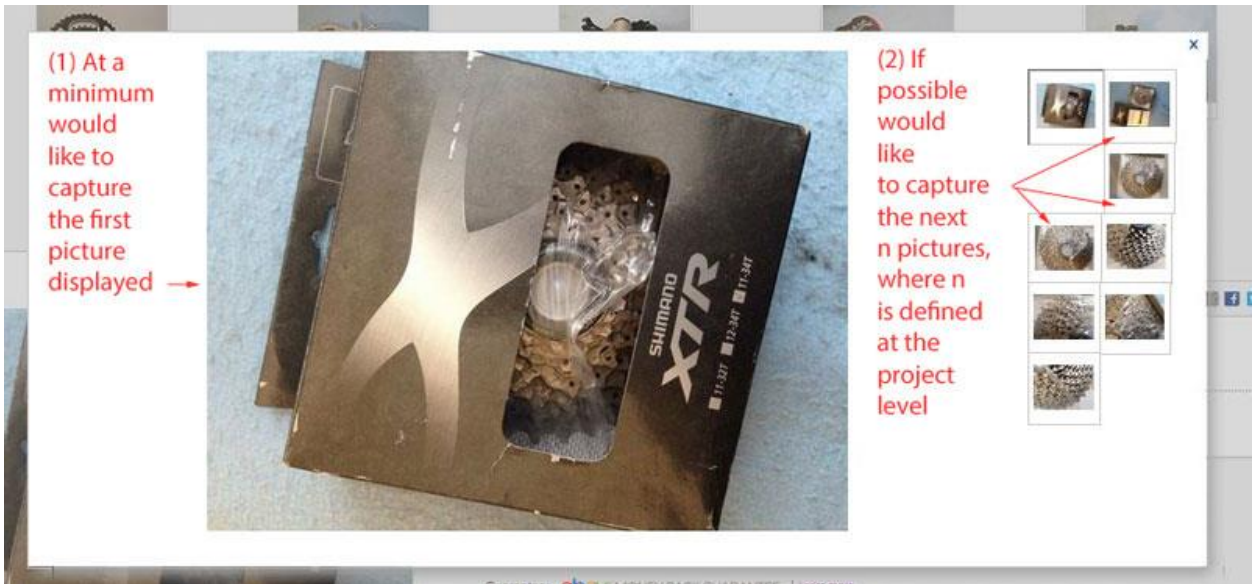
This listing has ended.

Shimano XTR CS-M970 11-34t Cassette Titanium Ti 9 Speed Mountain Bike [See original listing](#)



Item condition: **Used**
Ended: Dec 16, 2013 12:41:42 PST
Price: ~~US \$89.99~~
Best offer accepted
Shipping: **\$7.99** Expedited Shipping
Item location: Westminster, Colorado, United States
Seller: [milehighridesinc](#) (1519 ★) | [Seller's other items](#)

Sell one like this



(1) At a minimum would like to capture the first picture displayed →

(2) If possible would like to capture the next n pictures, where n is defined at the project level

(3) I'm running into mixed data types in the description:

Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing.

Last updated on: Dec 15, 2013 05:19:39 PST [View all revisions](#)

Item specifics

Condition:	Used: An item that has been used previously. The item may have some signs of cosmetic wear, but is fully ... Read more	Type:	Cassette
Number of Speeds:	9 speed	Brand:	Shimano
For Bike Type:	Cyclocross Bike, Mountain Bike, Road Bike - Racing	MPN:	XTR

Good condition 9 speed XTR Cassette

This field usually contains a text string, however it sometimes contains a link such as:

```
var itemNumber = window.ebayItemID ? window.ebayItemID : -1; function
passpara(){return '&id=1765563&itembgcolor=0xFFFFF&bordercolor=
0x000000&storewindowbgcolor=0xf1f1f1&toptextcolor=0xFFFFF&bottom
textcolor=0xFFFFF&stripcolor=0x006ab1&auctionclosemessagecolor=
0xff0000&emptyboxmessagecolor=0xFFFFF&buttovercolor=
0x660000&buttoutcolor=0x0000AA&searchtitlecolor=0xFFFFF&searchb
uttbgcolor=0xc0c0c0&searchbutttextcolor=0x000000&searchbuttbordercolor=0x0
');document.writeln("");document.writeln("");document.writeln("");
document.writeln(""); document.writeln(""); document
.writeln("");document.writeln("");document.writeln(""); document.writeln("");
document.writeln(""); } --> <div style="text-align:center"><img src="http://ti2.auctiv
@font-face { font-family: "Cambria"; }p.MsoNormal, li.MsoNormal,
div.MsoNormal { margin: 0in 0in 0.0001pt; font-size: 12pt; font-family: "
```

Thanks for your assistance,

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