Building Frontends

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Recipes to become a good front-end developer

- Load Javascript code efficiently
- Ensure the DOM is loaded with window.onload
- Write good Javascript code
- Encapsulate Javascript in closures
- Create a Frontend API

The problem with Javascript interpreters

- ✓ Good Javascript is interpreted by browsers in a consistent way
- Bad javascript code is loosely interpreted by browsers in an inconsistent way

Solution I: using strict mode

- → Force the browser to validate Javascript against the standard
- ✓ Dynamically raises errors (or warnings) in the console when the code is not compliant with the standard

```
"use strict";
var doSomething = function() {
    // this runs in strict mode
}
```

Solution 2 : using JSHint

- → Analyze Javascript source code with JSHint
- ✓ Statically finds bugs and reports them in the terminal
 - \$ npm install -g jshint
 - \$ jshint myScript.js

Problem with scoping

- → In the browser, all Javascript files share the same execution environment i.e they share the same scope
 - variable (and function) naming conflicts
 - strict mode applied to all

Scoping problem with variable names

```
file1.js
let doSomething = function() {
    // first declaration of doSomething
                                      file2.js
let doSomething = function() {
    // conflicting doSomething from file 1
```

Scoping problem with strict mode

```
file1.js
"use strict";
let doSomething = function() {
    // strict mode applies
                                      file2.js
let doSomethingElse = function() {
    // strict mode applies too
```

Solution: encapsulate Javascript in a closure

```
(function() {
    "use strict";

let private = function() {
        // private is not available from outside
    }
}());
```

Solution: encapsulate and export the namespace

```
let $ = (function() {
    "use strict";
    let export = {};
    var private = function() {
         // private is not available from outside
    export.public = function() {
         // public is available from outside
    return export;
```

Structuring the frontend

