



Day 7: Callbacks and Promises



Today you'll learn how to handle **asynchronous code** in Node.js using **Callbacks** and **Promises**.



What is a Callback?

- A function **passed as a parameter** to another function.
- It is **called later** when work is done.



Example:

```
js
CopyEdit
function greet(name, callback) {
  console.log('Hello', name);
  callback();
}

greet('Supriya', () => console.log('Goodbye!'));
```



Key point:

A function becomes a callback when you pass it as a parameter and call it inside another function.



Are callbacks always async?



No!



Synchronous callback:

```
js
CopyEdit
[1, 2, 3].forEach(num => console.log(num));
```



Asynchronous callback:

```
js
CopyEdit
setTimeout(() => console.log('Later!'), 1000);
```

✅ What is "callback hell"?

✅ Example:

```
js
CopyEdit
getUser(id, (user) => {
  getOrders(user.id, (orders) => {
    getItems(orders[0], (items) => {
      console.log(items);
    });
  });
});
```

🤖 Hard to read and maintain.

✅ Promises to the rescue!

✅ A **Promise** is an object representing a **future value**.

✅ States:

- Pending
 - Fulfilled
 - Rejected
-

✅ Basic Promise Example:

```
js
CopyEdit
const myPromise = new Promise((resolve, reject) => {
  resolve('It worked!');
});

myPromise.then(console.log);
```

✅ Output:

```
nginx
CopyEdit
It worked!
```

✓ Using setTimeout with a Promise

```
js
CopyEdit
const waitTwoSeconds = new Promise((resolve, reject) => {
  setTimeout(() => {
    resolve('Finished waiting 2 seconds!');
  }, 2000);
});

waitTwoSeconds.then(console.log);
```

✓ Using resolve and reject

```
js
CopyEdit
function doubleAsync(num) {
  return new Promise((resolve, reject) => {
    if (num) {
      setTimeout(() => resolve(num * 2), 1000);
    } else {
      reject('Please provide a number!');
    }
  });
}

doubleAsync(5)
  .then(console.log)
  .catch(console.error);
```

✓ Handles **success** with `.then()`.

✓ Handles **error** with `.catch()`.

✓ Async/Await — Syntactic Sugar for Promises

✓ `async` = returns a Promise automatically.

✓ `await` = pause until Promise resolves.

✓ Simple Example:

```
js
CopyEdit
async function sayHello() {
  return 'Hello!';
}
```

```
sayHello().then(console.log);
```

✓ Output:

```
CopyEdit  
Hello!
```

✓ Using await:

```
js  
CopyEdit  
async function run() {  
  console.log('Start');  
  await wait(2000);  
  console.log('After 2 seconds');  
}  
  
function wait(ms) {  
  return new Promise(resolve => setTimeout(resolve, ms));  
}  
  
run();
```

✓ Output:

```
bash  
CopyEdit  
Start  
...wait 2 seconds...  
After 2 seconds
```

✓ Using await with try/catch:

```
js  
CopyEdit  
async function doubleAndLog(num) {  
  try {  
    const result = await doubleAsync(num);  
    console.log(result);  
  } catch (err) {  
    console.error(err);  
  }  
}  
  
doubleAndLog(5);
```

✓ Error automatically goes to catch.

✓ **Key differences:**

Feature	Promise	Async/Await
Returns	Promise	Promise (automatically)
Handle result	.then()	await
Handle errors	.catch()	try/catch
Code style	Chained	Linear, easy to read

✓ **Why use async/await?**

- Avoid .then() chains.
 - Looks synchronous.
 - Easier error handling.
-

✓ **Mini Task:**

Write an async function called tripleAsync that:

- Takes a number
 - Returns a Promise that resolves with number * 3 after 1 second
 - Use await to get the result and log it
-

✓ **Next Steps?**

- Build more routes.
- Use Promises everywhere.
- Refactor to async/await.
- Connect to databases!