

TOPIC: Array Methods (Functional Core of JS)

(`map`, `filter`, `reduce`, `forEach`) • Internals • Edge Cases • Interview Traps)

NOTE 1: Why array methods matter

- Arrays are **objects with indexed storage**
- Modern JS favors **declarative iteration**
- Array methods:
 - reduce bugs
 - improve readability
 - enable functional programming
- Heavily used in **React, Node, data processing**

NOTE 2: Imperative vs Declarative style

- **Imperative** → how to do
- **Declarative** → what to do

Array methods are **declarative abstractions over loops**.

CODE 1: Imperative loop

js

```
const nums = [1, 2, 3];
const result = [];

for (let i = 0; i < nums.length; i++) {
  result.push(nums[i] * 2);
}
```

CODE 2: Declarative `map`

js

```
const nums = [1, 2, 3];
const result = nums.map(n => n * 2);
```

NOTE 3: `map()` — transformation

- Transforms each element
- Returns a **new array**
- Does NOT mutate original array
- Length of output = length of input

CODE 3: map() basics

js

```
[1, 2, 3].map(x => x * 2);  
// [2, 4, 6]
```

NOTE 4: map() internal behavior

Internally:

- Iterates left → right
- Calls callback for each index
- Skips empty slots (holes)
- Builds new array

CODE 4: map callback arguments

js

```
["a", "b"].map((value, index, array) => {  
  return `${index}:${value}`;  
});
```

NOTE 5: map() trap — forgetting return

- Arrow functions with {} require return
- Missing return → undefined

CODE 5: Common mistake

js

```
[1, 2, 3].map(x => {  
  x * 2;  
});  
// [undefined, undefined, undefined]
```

NOTE 6: forEach() — side effects

- Executes callback for each element
- Returns undefined
- Used for:
 - logging
 - mutation
 - side effects

CODE 6: forEach example

js

```
[1, 2, 3].forEach(x => {
  console.log(x);
});
```

■ NOTE 7: `map()` vs `forEach()` (INTERVIEW)

Aspect	<code>map</code>	<code>forEach</code>
Returns	New array	undefined
Purpose	Transform	Side effects
Chainable	Yes	No

■ NOTE 8: `filter()` — selection

- Selects elements based on condition
- Returns new array
- Length ≤ original length

■ CODE 7: filter basics

js

```
[1, 2, 3, 4].filter(x => x % 2 === 0);
// [2, 4]
```

■ NOTE 9: filter truthy rule

- Callback must return truthy/falsy
- Any truthy value keeps element

■ CODE 8: filter coercion

js

```
[ "", "JS", null, "Code" ].filter(Boolean);
// ["JS", "Code"]
```

■ NOTE 10: `reduce()` — the most powerful one

- Reduces array to **single value**
- Can return:
 - number
 - object

- array
- anything

CODE 9: reduce basic example

js

```
[1, 2, 3, 4].reduce((acc, curr) => acc + curr, 0);  
// 10
```

NOTE 11: reduce parameters (IMPORTANT)

Callback receives:

1. accumulator
2. currentValue
3. index
4. array

Initial value is **critical**.

CODE 10: reduce parameters

js

```
[10, 20].reduce((acc, curr, index, arr) => {  
  return acc + curr;  
}, 0);
```

NOTE 12: reduce without initial value (TRAP)

- First element becomes accumulator
- Loop starts from index 1
- Dangerous for empty arrays

CODE 11: reduce trap

js

```
[].reduce((a, b) => a + b);  
// ✗ TypeError
```

NOTE 13: reduce real-world patterns

CODE 12: Array → Object

js

```
const users = ["A", "B", "C"];

const obj = users.reduce((acc, name) => {
  acc[name] = true;
  return acc;
}, {});
```

■ NOTE 14: Chaining methods (functional pipeline)

- Methods return new arrays
- Enables clean pipelines

■ CODE 13: Chaining example

js

```
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
.filter(x => x % 2 === 0)
.map(x => x * 10)
.
```