

■ TOPIC: Logical Operators (`&&` , `||` , `!`)

(Short-Circuiting • Return Values • Edge Cases)

■ NOTE 1: What logical operators do

- Logical operators combine or evaluate conditions
- They **do NOT always return booleans**
- They use **short-circuit evaluation**
- Very important for real-world JS patterns

■ CODE 1: Basic logical operators

js

```
true && true; // true  
true || false; // true  
!true; // false
```

■ NOTE 2: Logical AND (`&&`) — core rule

- Evaluates operands **left to right**
- Returns the **first falsy value**
- If no falsy value → returns **last value**

■ CODE 2: `&&` behavior examples

js

```
true && true; // true  
true && false; // false  
false && true; // false  
  
1 && 2; // 2  
0 && 100; // 0  
"JS" && "Code"; // "Code"  
"" && "Hello"; // ""
```

■ NOTE 3: Why `&&` returns non-boolean values

- JS does **not** force boolean conversion
- It returns the **actual operand**
- Enables guard patterns and chaining

■ CODE 3: Guard pattern with `&&`

js

```
let user = { name: "Anoop" };

user && user.name && console.log(user.name);
// Prevents runtime errors
```

■ NOTE 4: Logical OR (||) — core rule

- Evaluates operands **left to right**
- Returns the **first truthy value**
- If no truthy value → returns **last value**

■ CODE 4: || behavior examples

```
js

true || false;    // true
false || true;   // true

0 || 100;        // 100
"" || "default"; // "default"
"JS" || "Code";  // "JS"
null || "fallback"; // "fallback"
```

■ NOTE 5: Default value pattern using ||

- Commonly used to set defaults
- Can cause bugs if valid falsy values exist

■ CODE 5: Default value trap

```
js

let count = 0;
let value = count || 10;

value; // 10 ✗ (unexpected if 0 is valid)
```

■ NOTE 6: NOT operator (!)

- Forces boolean conversion
- Then negates the result
- Often used to normalize values

■ CODE 6: ! and !! usage

```
js
```

```
!true;      // false
!0;        // true
!"";       // true

!!"JS";    // true
!!0;       // false
```

■ NOTE 7: Short-circuit evaluation (IMPORTANT)

- Evaluation stops as soon as result is known
- Later expressions may **never execute**
- Used heavily in performance-sensitive code

■ CODE 7: Short-circuit examples

```
js

false && console.log("will not run");
true || console.log("will not run");

true && console.log("runs");
false || console.log("runs");
```

■ NOTE 8: Logical operators return VALUES, not booleans

- This is a key JS concept
- Enables functional patterns
- Confuses beginners and interviewees

■ CODE 8: Value-return behavior

```
js

let result1 = "JS" && 100; // 100
let result2 = null || 50; // 50
```

■ NOTE 9: Mixing logical operators

- `&&` has higher precedence than `||`
- Parentheses improve clarity and safety

■ CODE 9: Precedence examples

```
js

true || false && false; // true
(true || false) && false; // false
```

NOTE 10: Logical operators with functions

- Functions execute only if needed
- Useful for conditional execution

CODE 10: Conditional execution

js

```
let isLoggedIn = true;

isLoggedIn && showDashboard();

function showDashboard() {
  console.log("Dashboard shown");
}
```

NOTE 11: Common interview traps

- `&&` returns first falsy, not true/false
- `||` returns first truthy
- `!` forces boolean
- Short-circuit skips execution

NOTE 12: Best practices (professional)

- Use `&&` for guards
- Use `||` carefully for defaults
- Prefer `??` when falsy values are valid
- Avoid over-complex logical chains

FINAL MENTAL MODEL

- `&&` → first falsy OR last value
- `||` → first truthy OR last value
- `!` → boolean coercion + negation
- Short-circuiting controls execution
- Logical operators return values

STOP HERE

Next recommended continuation:

- 1 Decision Making (`if / else / switch`)
- 2 Nullish Coalescing (`??`) vs `||` (very important)
- 3 Loops (`for`, `while`, `for...of`, `for...in`)

Reply with **next** or the **number** you want to continue.