

Excellent topic choice 👍

Now I'll **rewrite Microtasks from scratch**, keeping your content **but upgrading it to**:

- ✅ engine-level accuracy
- ✅ clear mental models
- ✅ event-loop timeline clarity
- ✅ interview-ready traps
- ✅ simpler + deeper at the same time

This is **one of the most important JS internals topics**. Many devs *think* they know it — few actually do.

Microtasks in JavaScript — INTERNALS & EVENT LOOP DEEP DIVE

1 First: One Critical Correction (Very Important)

❌ “Microtasks run after the function or program completes”

✅ Correct Statement

Microtasks run:

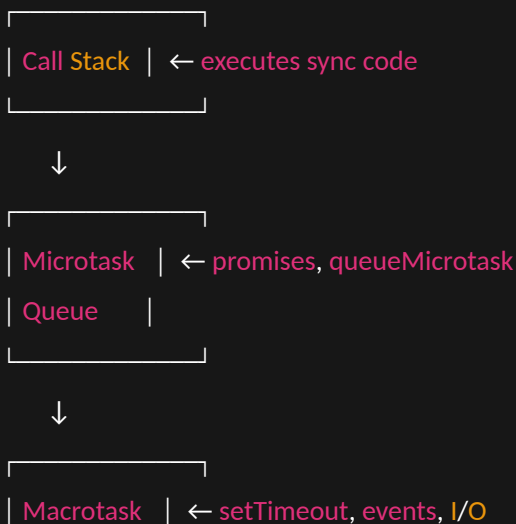
- After the **current call stack becomes empty**
- **Before any macrotask**
- **Immediately**, in the same event loop turn

Microtasks are **NOT delayed tasks** — they are **high-priority continuation jobs**.

2 JavaScript Execution Model (Foundation)

JavaScript has **only one thread**, but it coordinates work using:

mathematica



| Queue |

⚠ Order is strict and guaranteed

3 What Exactly Is a Microtask?

✓ Definition (Precise)

A **microtask** is a **job scheduled by the JS engine** to:

- Continue promise execution
- Resume async functions
- Run *before* browser rendering and macrotasks

Common Sources of Microtasks

Source	Why
<code>Promise.then()</code>	promise continuation
<code>Promise.catch()</code>	error continuation
<code>Promise.finally()</code>	cleanup
<code>await</code>	async function resume
<code>queueMicrotask()</code>	explicit microtask

Interview Trap !

✗ `setTimeout` creates microtask

✓ `setTimeout` creates **macrotask**

4 What Is a Macrotask?

Macrotasks represent **new, separate events**:

Source	Type
<code>setTimeout</code>	Timer
<code>setInterval</code>	Timer
DOM events	UI events
Network I/O	Fetch callbacks

Source	Type
<code>setImmediate</code> (Node)	Check phase

They run **after microtasks are fully drained**.

5 Event Loop — REAL Algorithm (Simplified)

This is what the JS engine **actually** does:

```
text

while (true) {
  execute all sync code (call stack)

  while (microtask queue not empty) {
    run microtask
  }

  run ONE macrotask

  render UI (browser only)
}
```

⚠ **Microtasks are drained completely before macrotasks**

6 Microtask Example (Promise)

```
js

console.log("Start");

Promise.resolve().then(() => {
  console.log("Microtask");
});

console.log("End");
```

Output

```
powershell

Start
End
```

Why This Happens (Internals)

1. `Start` → call stack
2. `Promise.then` → microtask queue
3. `End` → call stack
4. Call stack empty
5. Microtask queue executed

🔑 Key Rule

Promise callbacks never interrupt sync code

7 Macrotask Example (`setTimeout`)

```
js

console.log("Start");

setTimeout(() => {
  console.log("Macrotask");
}, 0);

console.log("End");
```

Output

```
powershell

Start
End
Macrotask
```

Why Delay = 0 Still Delays?

Because:

- Timer callback is **queued**
- Must wait for:
 - call stack
 - microtasks
 - event loop turn

8 Microtask vs Macrotask (Together)

js

```
console.log("Start");

setTimeout(() => {
  console.log("Timeout");
}, 0);

Promise.resolve().then(() => {
  console.log("Promise");
});

console.log("End");
```

Output

powershell

Start

End

Promise

Timeout

Internal Timeline

Step	Queue
Start	Call stack
Timeout	Macrotask queue
Promise	Microtask queue
End	Call stack
Promise	Microtask executes
Timeout	Macrotask executes

9 `await` = Microtask (Very Important)

js

```
async function test() {
  console.log("A");
}
```

```
await null;  
console.log("B");  
}
```

```
test();  
console.log("C");
```

Output

css

A

C

B

Why?

- `await` splits function
- Code after `await` → microtask

Equivalent internal rewrite:

```
js  
  
Promise.resolve(null).then(() => {  
  console.log("B");  
});
```

10 `queueMicrotask()` — Explicit Control

```
js  
  
console.log("Start");  
  
queueMicrotask(() => {  
  console.log("Microtask");  
});  
  
setTimeout(() => {  
  console.log("Macrotask");  
}, 0);  
  
console.log("End");
```

Output

powershell

Start

End

Microtask

Macrotask

Why `queueMicrotask` Exists

- Safer than `Promise.resolve().then`
- No promise allocation
- Used internally by browsers

1 1 Infinite Microtask Starvation (Danger ⚠)

js

```
function loop() {  
  queueMicrotask(loop);  
}  
loop();
```

What Happens?

- Microtask queue never empties
- Macrotasks never run
- UI freezes

Interview Trap !

Q: Can microtasks block rendering?

A: ☒ Yes (starvation)

1 2 Browser Rendering Order

In browsers:

nginx

JS execution

↓

Microtasks

↓

Render UI



Macrotask

⚠ Microtasks **run before repaint**

1 3 Summary Table (Memorize)

Feature	Microtask	Macrotask
Priority	High	Low
Queue	Microtask queue	Task queue
Runs when	Stack empty	After microtasks
Examples	Promise, await	setTimeout
UI render	Before	After

🎯 INTERVIEW QUESTIONS (WITH ANSWERS)

Q1: Why does Promise run before setTimeout?

➡ Microtask priority

Q2: Does await create a microtask?

➡ Yes

Q3: Can microtasks block UI?

➡ Yes (if infinite)

Q4: Does setTimeout(0) mean immediate?

➡ No

Q5: Is microtask queue FIFO?

➡ Yes

🧠 FINAL MENTAL MODEL (ONE LINE)

JavaScript finishes what it started, completes all promises, then handles timers.

▶▶ NEXT TOPICS (Same Depth)

Choose ONE:

1 Event Loop (browser vs Node.js differences)

2 Unhandled Promise Rejections

3 setTimeout vs setImmediate vs process.nextTick

4 Async rendering & UI blocking

5 Fetch + microtask scheduling

Reply with the **number**.