

Below is a **clean, structured, and internally explained** rewrite of **Browser Object Model (BOM)**, written as **high-quality study notes** suitable for **NoteLM, exams, interviews, and real-world understanding**.

I've **kept your content**, but:

- clarified **internals**
- removed ambiguity
- added **mental models**
- highlighted **exam + interview traps**
- separated **DOM vs BOM** clearly

Browser Object Model (BOM) in JavaScript — Complete Guide

1 What is the Browser Object Model (BOM)?

The **Browser Object Model (BOM)** is a collection of **objects provided by the browser** that allows JavaScript to interact **with the browser itself**, not the web page content.

 BOM lets JavaScript:

- Control browser windows
- Read browser information
- Navigate URLs
- Access history
- Get screen details
- Log debugging information


Key Point

BOM deals with **browser environment**, while DOM deals with **HTML content**.

2 Is BOM Standardized?

 **No**

- BOM is **not officially standardized**
- Behavior may differ slightly across browsers (Chrome, Firefox, Safari)
- However, **most BOM APIs are de-facto standard** and widely supported

 DOM is standardized by W3C

 BOM is implemented by browsers

3 BOM vs DOM (Very Important)

Feature	BOM	DOM
Purpose	Browser interaction	Page (HTML) interaction

Feature	BOM	DOM
Scope	Window, history, location	Elements, attributes
Root Object	<code>window</code>	<code>document</code>
Example	<code>location.href</code>	<code>document.getElementById()</code>

👉 DOM is part of BOM because `document` lives inside `window`.

4 BOM Object Hierarchy (Mental Model)

```
javascript
```

```
window
```

```
├─ document (DOM)
├─ screen
├─ history
├─ navigator
├─ location
├─ console
```

📌 Everything in BOM starts from `window`

5 The `window` Object (Root of BOM)

What is `window`?

- Represents the **browser window or tab**
- Global object in browsers
- All **global variables & functions become window properties**

```
js
```

```
var x = 10;
console.log(window.x); // 10
```

```
js
```

```
function greet() {}
window.greet(); // valid
```

Accessing Window Properties

```
js
```

```
window.innerWidth  
window.innerHeight
```

or simply:

```
js  
  
innerWidth  
innerHeight
```

📌 `window.` prefix is optional in browsers.

6 The `document` Object (DOM Root)

What is `document` ?

- Represents the **HTML page**
- Root of the **DOM tree**
- Allows reading & manipulating HTML elements

```
js  
  
document === window.document // true
```

Example: DOM Manipulation

```
html  
  
<div id="text">Original Text</div>  
  
<script>  
  const el = document.getElementById("text");  
  el.innerHTML = "Text Changed!";  
</script>
```

📌 DOM operations do **not** affect browser behavior

📌 BOM operations affect browser behavior

7 The `screen` Object

Purpose

Provides information about the **user's physical screen**, not browser window.

```
js
```

```
screen.width  
screen.height
```

📌 Values depend on:

- Device
- Resolution
- OS scaling

Example

```
js  
  
console.log(screen.width + " x " + screen.height);
```

⚠ Interview trap

```
screen.width ≠ window.innerWidth
```

8 The history Object

Purpose

Manages the **session history** (pages visited in the tab)

```
js  
  
history.back(); // previous page  
history.forward(); // next page  
history.go(-1); // same as back
```

📌 You cannot read URLs directly for security reasons.

Why restricted?

To prevent:

- History spying
- Privacy leaks

9 The navigator Object

Purpose

Provides information about the **browser & device**

Common properties:

```
js
```

```
navigator.userAgent
navigator.language
navigator.cookieEnabled
navigator.onLine
```

📌 Used for:

- Feature detection
- Language preferences
- Online/offline checks

⚠️ **Avoid browser sniffing**

Use **feature detection** instead.

10 The `location` Object (Very Important)

Purpose

Represents the **current URL**

```
js

location.href    // full URL
location.host    // domain + port
location.hostname // domain
location.protocol // http / https
location.pathname // path
```

Redirecting User

```
js

location.href = "https://example.com";
```

📌 This reloads the page

1 1 The `console` Object

Purpose

Used for **debugging & logging**

```
js

console.log("Hello");
console.warn("Warning");
```

```
console.error("Error");  
console.table({a:1, b:2});
```

- 📌 Exists only for developers
- 📌 Should not be relied on for production logic

1 2 How JavaScript Resolves Global Access

```
js  
  
document
```

Internally becomes:

```
js  
  
window.document
```

Same for:

- console
- location
- history

This is called **global object binding**.

1 3 Security Restrictions in BOM

JavaScript **cannot**:

- Read full browsing history
- Access cookies marked HttpOnly
- Get device hardware details
- Control browser UI deeply

📌 These restrictions protect users.

1 4 Common Interview Questions

Q1. Is BOM part of JavaScript?

➡ No, it is provided by the browser.

Q2. Is document part of BOM or DOM?

➡ DOM object, but accessed through BOM (window.document).

Q3. What is the root of BOM?

➡ window

Q4. Can BOM differ across browsers?

→ Yes (not standardized).

1 5 One-Line Summary (Perfect for Exams)

The Browser Object Model (BOM) provides browser-specific objects like window, location, history, and navigator that allow JavaScript to interact with the browser environment rather than the web page content.

▶▶ What Should We Do Next?

Choose one:

- 1 Window Object — methods, lifecycle, events (deep)
- 2 Location vs History (navigation internals)
- 3 Navigator object & feature detection
- 4 DOM vs BOM vs Web APIs (architecture view)

Reply with 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 and we continue **one topic at a time, deeply.**