

JavaScript learning path

🔥 Perfect — let's now dive into **Advanced Tricks & Pro-Use Cases of `...spread` and `...rest` in JavaScript**.

This is where most developers just “use” them without thinking, but *internals + hidden traps* will make you stand out in interviews & real projects.

🚀 Advanced Tricks & Pro-Use Cases of Spread / Rest

1. Shallow vs. Deep Copy — Trap

js

```
const obj = { a: 1, b: { c: 2 } };
const copy = { ...obj };

copy.b.c = 99;

console.log(obj.b.c); // 99 ✗ (unexpected)
```

👉 Why?

Spread only performs a **shallow copy**.

Nested objects/arrays are copied **by reference**, not cloned.

✓ Solution (deep copy ways):

js

```
// JSON hack (fast but fails on Dates/Functions/undefined)
const deep1 = JSON.parse(JSON.stringify(obj));

// Structured clone (modern, supports Dates/Maps/Sets)
const deep2 = structuredClone(obj);

// Libraries (Lodash: cloneDeep)
const deep3 = _.cloneDeep(obj);
```

Interview Brain-Bender:

👉 Why does `{ ...obj }` not deep copy?

Because internally, `[[GetOwnProperty]]` only copies **references**, not actual nested memory.

2. Merging Objects — Property Overwrites

js

```
const a = { x: 1, y: 2 };
const b = { y: 10, z: 3 };

const merged = { ...a, ...b };
console.log(merged); // { x: 1, y: 10, z: 3 }
```

- Order matters: later spreads overwrite earlier ones.
- Not obvious for interview questions.

👉 Trick: Use spread **reversal** if you want “priority to earlier”:

js

```
const mergedSafe = { ...b, ...a };
```

3. Spread in Arrays — Flattening & Insert

js

```
const arr = [1, 2, 3];
const newArr = [0, ...arr, 4];
console.log(newArr); // [0,1,2,3,4]
```

Pro Use Case — Immutable Updates (React/Redux style):

js

```
const users = [{ id: 1 }, { id: 2 }];
const updated = users.map(u =>
  u.id === 2 ? { ...u, active: true } : u
);
```

👉 Spread avoids mutation, ensures **referential integrity** → React knows what changed.

4. Rest Parameters — Flexible APIs

js

```
function logAll(first, ...rest) {  
  console.log("First:", first);  
  console.log("Rest:", rest);  
}  
  
logAll("A", "B", "C");  
// First: A  
// Rest: [ 'B', 'C' ]
```

Internals:

- `...rest` collects args into a **real Array** (unlike `arguments` object).
 - This means `.map()`, `.filter()`, etc., directly work.
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5. Destructuring + Rest

js

```
const { a, ...rest } = { a: 1, b: 2, c: 3 };  
console.log(rest); // { b: 2, c: 3 }  
  
const [head, ...tail] = [10, 20, 30];  
console.log(tail); // [20,30]
```

👉 **Hidden Gotcha:** order matters → `...rest` must be last in destructuring.

6. Handling Non-Iterables (Corner Case)

js

```
const obj = { a: 1, b: 2 };  
console.log([...obj]); // ✗ TypeError: obj is not iterable
```

👉 Why? Spread requires **iterables** (`Array`, `String`, `Map`, `Set`).

Objects are not inherently iterable.

✓ Trick: convert before spreading:

js

```
console.log([...Object.entries(obj)]);  
// [ ['a',1], ['b',2] ]
```

7. Performance Trade-offs

- Spread **copies all enumerable properties** each time → heavy on large objects.
- Mutation (direct assignment) is faster, but dangerous for state management.
- Optimization tip: Use spread **only when immutability is critical** (React, Redux).

👉 Example benchmark insight:

js

```
let arr = Array(1e5).fill(0);  
  
// Spread (slow)  
console.time("spread");  
let newArr1 = [...arr, 1];  
console.timeEnd("spread");  
  
// Push (fast, but mutates)  
console.time("push");  
arr.push(1);  
console.timeEnd("push");
```

👉 Spread is **2-10x slower** than direct mutation for large arrays.

8. Advanced Trick — Conditional Spreading

js

```
const condition = true;  
const obj = {
```

```
a: 1,  
...(condition ? { b: 2 } : {}),  
};  
console.log(obj); // { a: 1, b: 2 }
```

👉 Clean way to include props **conditionally**.

9. Merging Defaults with Rest

js

```
function setup(options) {  
  const defaults = { debug: false, verbose: false };  
  return { ...defaults, ...options };  
}  
  
console.log(setup({ debug: true }));  
// { debug: true, verbose: false }
```

👉 Pro trick: Overriding configs without mutating defaults.

🎯 Interview Brain-Benders

1. What happens if you spread a `Set` into an Array?
 2. How does spread handle symbol properties?
 3. Why is spreading arrays slower than `concat()`?
 4. Can you use `rest` in object destructuring with getters?
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✓ Now tell me:

Do you want me to **answer these brain-benders right away**, or do you want to **try them first and I'll reveal solutions after** (like our earlier style)?