

TOPIC: `this` Keyword in JavaScript

(Binding Rules • Call-Site Logic • Arrow Functions • Classes • Interview Traps)

NOTE 1: What `this` actually is (core truth)

- `this` is NOT determined where a function is written
- `this` is determined when and how a function is called
- `this` is resolved at runtime
- Except for arrow functions

👉 Golden Rule:

“`this` depends on the call site”

NOTE 2: `this` is NOT lexical (important)

- `this` does NOT follow lexical scope
- Scope ≠ `this`
- Two functions in same scope can have different `this`

CODE 1: Same scope, different `this`

```
js

function show() {
  console.log(this);
}

show();      // global (or undefined in strict)
obj.show();  // obj
```

NOTE 3: The 5 binding rules of `this` (ORDER MATTERS)

JavaScript resolves `this` using these rules in priority order:

1. new binding
2. Explicit binding (`call`, `apply`, `bind`)
3. Implicit binding (object call)
4. Default binding
5. Arrow function (lexical)

NOTE 4: Default binding

- Happens when function is called normally
- Non-strict mode → global object

- Strict mode → `undefined`

CODE 2: Default binding

```
js

function test() {
  console.log(this);
}

test(); // window (non-strict) | undefined (strict)
```

NOTE 5: Implicit binding (object method call)

- When function is called via object
- `this` → object before the dot

CODE 3: Implicit binding

```
js

const user = {
  name: "Anoop",
  show() {
    console.log(this.name);
  }
};

user.show(); // Anoop
```

NOTE 6: Implicit binding LOST (interview trap)

- When method is assigned to variable
- Object context is lost

CODE 4: Lost binding

```
js

const fn = user.show;
fn(); // undefined (or global)
```

NOTE 7: Explicit binding (`call`, `apply`, `bind`)

- You manually decide `this`
- Highest priority after `new`

CODE 5: `call`

```
js
```

```
function greet(city) {  
  console.log(this.name, city);  
}  
  
greet.call({ name: "Anoop" }, "Delhi");
```

CODE 6: apply

js

```
greet.apply({ name: "Anoop" }, ["Delhi"]);
```

NOTE 8: bind (permanent binding)

- Returns a **new function**
- `this` is permanently fixed
- Cannot be overridden

CODE 7: bind

js

```
const bound = greet.bind({ name: "Anoop" }, "Delhi");  
bound();
```

NOTE 9: new binding (highest priority)

- `new` creates a new object
- `this` → newly created object
- Overrides all other bindings

CODE 8: new binding

js

```
function User(name) {  
  this.name = name;  
}
```

```
const u = new User("Anoop");  
console.log(u.name);
```

NOTE 10: Binding priority proof (INTERVIEW)

CODE 9: Priority example

js

```
function show() {  
    console.log(this.name);  
}  
  
const obj1 = { name: "Obj1" };  
const obj2 = { name: "Obj2" };  
  
const bound = show.bind(obj1);  
new bound(); // `this` is new object, NOT obj1
```

■ NOTE 11: Arrow functions (special rule)

- Arrow functions **do NOT have their own** `this`
- They **capture** `this` **lexically**
- `call` , `apply` , `bind` do **NOTHING**

■ CODE 10: Arrow lexical `this`

```
js  
  
const obj = {  
    name: "Anoop",  
    arrow: () => {  
        console.log(this.name);  
    }  
};  
  
obj.arrow(); // undefined
```

■ NOTE 12: Arrow functions inside m