

The **startsWith()** method determines whether a string begins with the characters of a specified string, returning **true** or **false** as appropriate.

Syntax

```
str.startsWith(searchString[, position])
```

Parameters

searchString

The characters to be searched for at the start of this string.

position | Optional

The position in this string at which to begin searching for *searchString*. Defaults to 0.

Return value

true if the given characters are found at the beginning of the string; otherwise, **false**.

Description

This method lets you determine whether or not a string begins with another string. This method is case-sensitive.

Polyfill

This method has been added to the ECMAScript 2015 specification and may not be available in all JavaScript implementations yet. However, you can polyfill `String.prototype.startsWith()` with the following snippet:

```
if (!String.prototype.startsWith) {
  Object.defineProperty(String.prototype, 'startsWith', {
    value: function(search, rawPos) {
      var pos = rawPos > 0 ? rawPos|0 : 0;
      return this.substring(pos, pos + search.length) === search;
    }
  });
}
```

A more robust (fully ES2015 specification compliant), but less performant and compact, Polyfill is available on GitHub by Mathias Bynens.

Examples

Using startsWith()

```
//startswith
let str = 'To be, or not to be, that is the question.'

console.log(str.startsWith('To be'))           // true
console.log(str.startsWith('not to be'))        // false
console.log(str.startsWith('not to be', 10))    // true
```