

The **new operator** lets developers create an instance of a user-defined object type or of one of the built-in object types that has a constructor function.

Syntax

```
new constructor[[arguments]]
```

Parameters

constructor

A class or function that specifies the type of the object instance.

arguments

A list of values that the *constructor* will be called with.

Description

The **new** keyword does the following things:

1. Creates a blank, plain JavaScript object;
2. Links (sets the constructor of) this object to another object;
3. Passes the newly created object from *Step 1* as the `this` context;
4. Returns `this` if the function doesn't return an object.

Creating a user-defined object requires two steps:

1. Define the object type by writing a function.
2. Create an instance of the object with `new`.

To define an object type, create a function for the object type that specifies its name and properties. An object can have a property that is itself another object. See the examples below.

When the code `new Foo(...)` is executed, the following things happen:

1. A new object is created, inheriting from `Foo.prototype`.
2. The constructor function `Foo` is called with the specified arguments, and with `this` bound to the newly created object. `new Foo` is equivalent to `new Foo()`, i.e. if no argument list is specified, `Foo` is called without arguments.
3. The object (not null, false, 3.1415 or other primitive types) returned by the constructor function becomes the result of the whole `new` expression. If the constructor function doesn't explicitly return an object, the object created in step 1 is used instead. (Normally constructors don't return a value, but they can choose to do so if they want to override the normal object creation process.)

You can always add a property to a previously defined object. For example, the statement `car1.color = "black"` adds a property `color` to `car1`, and assigns it a value of `"black"`. However, this does not affect any other objects. To add the new property to all objects of the same type, you must add the property to the definition of the `Car` object type.

You can add a shared property to a previously defined object type by using the `Function.prototype` property. This defines a property that is shared by all objects created with that function, rather than by just one instance of the object type. The following code adds a `color` property with value `"original color"` to all objects of type `Car`, and then overwrites that value with the string `"black"` only in the instance object `car1`. For more information, see [prototype](#).

```
function Car() {}
car1 = new Car();
car2 = new Car();

console.log(car1.color);    // undefined

Car.prototype.color = 'original color';
console.log(car1.color);    // 'original color'

car1.color = 'black';
console.log(car1.color);    // 'black'

console.log(Object.getPrototypeOf(car1).color); // 'original color'
console.log(Object.getPrototypeOf(car2).color); // 'original color'
console.log(car1.color);    // 'black'
console.log(car2.color);    // 'original color'
```

If you didn't write the `new` operator, **the Constructor Function would be invoked like any Regular Function**, *without creating an Object*. In this case, the value of `this` is also different.

Examples

Object type and object instance

Suppose you want to create an object type for cars. You want this type of object to be called `Car`, and you want it to have properties for `make`, `model`, and `year`. To do this, you would write the following function:

```
function Car(make, model, year) {  
  this.make = make;  
  this.model = model;  
  this.year = year;  
}
```

Now you can create an object called `myCar` as follows:

```
var myCar = new Car('Eagle', 'Talon TSi', 1993);
```

This statement creates `myCar` and assigns it the specified values for its properties. Then the value of `myCar.make` is the string "Eagle", `myCar.year` is the integer 1993, and so on.

You can create any number of `car` objects by calls to `new`. For example:

```
var kensCar = new Car('Nissan', '300ZX', 1992);
```

Object property that is itself another object

Suppose you define an object called `Person` as follows:

```
function Person(name, age, sex) {  
  this.name = name;  
  this.age = age;  
  this.sex = sex;  
}
```

And then instantiate two new Person objects as follows:

```
var rand = new Person('Rand McNally', 33, 'M');  
var ken = new Person('Ken Jones', 39, 'M');
```

Then you can rewrite the definition of Car to include an owner property that takes a Person object, as follows:

```
function Car(make, model, year, owner) {  
  this.make = make;  
  this.model = model;  
  this.year = year;  
  this.owner = owner;  
}
```

To instantiate the new objects, you then use the following:

```
var car1 = new Car('Eagle', 'Talon TSi', 1993, rand);  
var car2 = new Car('Nissan', '300ZX', 1992, ken);
```

Instead of passing a literal string or integer value when creating the new objects, the above statements pass the objects rand and ken as the parameters for the owners. To find out the name of the owner of car2, you can access the following property:

```
car2.owner.name
```