



JavaScript Security Best Practices



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01

Bulletproof Your Code: JavaScript Input Validation

Learn how to validate and sanitize user inputs effectively to prevent common vulnerabilities like Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) attacks.



```
// Validate user input (e.g., email)
function isValidEmail(email) {
  const emailRegex = /^[a-zA-Z0-9._-]+@[a-zA-Z0-9.-]+\.[a-zA-Z]{2,4}$/;
  return emailRegex.test(email);
}
```

Common JavaScript Input Validation Techniques

Regular Expressions

Widely used for pattern matching and validation.

Conditional Statements

Utilize if statements to check input against predefined conditions.

HTML5 Input Types and Attributes

HTML5 introduces input types and attributes like required, pattern, min, and max

Third-party Libraries

Libraries like Validate.js, jQuery Validation Plugin, or FormValidation offer pre-built validation functionalities.

Challenges and Considerations

Ensure validation techniques work consistently across different browsers.



02

Say No to eval(): Secure JavaScript Execution

Explore safer alternatives to the eval() function, which can lead to code injection vulnerabilities.



```
// Avoid using eval() for dynamic code execution
const dynamicCode = 'console.log("Hello, World!");';
const saferFunction = new Function(dynamicCode);
saferFunction();
```

- JavaScript eval() executes arbitrary code, making applications vulnerable to code injection attacks.
- Attackers can exploit this to execute malicious scripts, leading to data theft or unauthorized system access.

Fortify Your Web Apps: Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) Defense

Discover how to implement content security policies (CSP) to prevent unauthorized script execution.



```
<meta http-equiv="Content-Security-Policy" content="script-src 'self'">
```

Key Directives and Their Usage

default-src	Specifies the default sources for loading content, such as scripts, stylesheets, images, fonts, and frames.
script-src	Controls the sources from which scripts can be executed.
style-src	Defines the allowed sources for loading stylesheets.
img-src	Specifies the sources from which images can be loaded.
connect-src	Determines the valid sources for network connections, such as AJAX requests, WebSocket connections

04

CSRF-Proof Your Forms: JavaScript Anti-CSRF Measures

Learn how to generate and validate anti-CSRF tokens to protect against Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) attacks.



```
const csrf = require('csurf');  
app.use(csrf());
```

Generate CSRF Token

Generate a unique CSRF token for each session.



Include CSRF Token in Requests

Include the CSRF token in each request sent to the server.



Validate CSRF Token on the Server

Validate the CSRF token on the server-side for each incoming request.

DOMPurify: Your Shield Against Malicious Inputs

Dive into DOMPurify, a library that sanitizes user inputs and neutralizes potential code threats.



```
// Example user input (potentially unsafe)
var userInput = '';

// Render potentially unsafe HTML
document.getElementById('unsafe-html').innerHTML = userInput;

// Use DOMPurify to sanitize the HTML
var safeHtml = DOMPurify.sanitize(userInput);

// Render safe HTML
document.getElementById('safe-html').innerHTML = safeHtml;
```

06

JSON.parse() vs. eval(): Battle of the Dynamic Parsers

Compare the security benefits of using JSON.parse() over eval() for parsing JSON data.

```
var jsonString = '{"name": "John", "age": 30}';  
var parsedObject = JSON.parse(jsonString);  
console.log(parsedObject);  
// Output: { name: 'John', age: 30 }
```

JSON.parse()

Safer than eval() because it only evaluates JSON strings and does not execute arbitrary JavaScript code. This makes it immune to code injection attacks.

```
var codeString = '2 + 2';  
var result = eval(codeString);  
console.log(result);  
// Output: 4
```

eval()

It should be avoided whenever possible. If untrusted data is passed to eval(), it can execute malicious code, leading to security vulnerabilities such as XSS attacks.

07

Secure Dependencies: Audit Your JavaScript Packages

Explore tools like npm audit to keep your project dependencies up-to-date and secure.

Run this command to analyze your project's dependencies and display any security vulnerabilities found.

npm audit

To automatically install compatible updates to resolve the vulnerabilities, you can run:

npm audit fix

Safeguarding Your Scripts: Subresource Integrity (SRI)

Learn how to add SRI hashes to external scripts for enhanced security.

- SRI is implemented by adding the **integrity** attribute to the **<script>** or **<link>** tag that references the external resource.
- The integrity attribute value consists of the hash algorithm (e.g., **sha256**), followed by a hyphen, and then the base64-encoded hash of the resource's content.



```
<body>
  <!-- Example of an external script with SRI hash -->
  <script src="https://example.com/external-script.js"
    integrity="sha384-XmV/M0cucqEbc+HlJjuIwDl7GHwbNhZeNvDJfTBI/10t5W+2t//Ar1Bv6nqKI+a5"
    crossorigin="anonymous"></script>

  <!-- Explanation:
    - src: URL of the external script
    - integrity: SRI hash generated for the script content
    - crossorigin: Specifies how the browser should handle the
      request if it is loaded from a different origin -->
</body>
```

Integrity Verification

Hash-Based Integrity
Check

Protection Against
Code Injection Attacks

Multiple Hashes

Embrace linting tools to catch potential security issues early in your code.



```
// my-script.js
function calculateTotal(price, quantity) {
  let total = price * quantity;
  return total;
}

let itemPrice = 10;
let itemCount = 5;
let totalPrice = calculateTotal(itemPrice, itemCount);

console.log(totalPrice);

// Run eslint
npx eslint my-script.js
```

In this example, linting might detect that the `itemPrice` variable is declared but never used, prompting you to either remove it or use it appropriately.

Download “JavaScript Security Cookbook” for FREE!

Security measures are vital when writing code in JavaScript and Node JS. Don't let hackers ruin your awesome work! 😎

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- Infographics
- Source code
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Thank You!

What's your favorite tool or technique for securing JavaScript applications? Share your experiences below! 🙌



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