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JavaScript - Operators

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What is an operator?

Let us take a simple expression **4 + 5 is equal to 9**. Here 4 and 5 are called **operands** and ‘+’ is called the **operator**. JavaScript supports the following types of operators.

* Arithmetic Operators
* Comparision Operators
* Logical (or Relational) Operators
* Assignment Operators
* Conditional (or ternary) Operators

Lets have a look on all operators one by one.

Arithmetic Operators

JavaScript supports the following arithmetic operators −

Assume variable A holds 10 and variable B holds 20, then −

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No** | **Operator and Description** |
| 1 | **+ (Addition)**  Adds two operands  **Ex:** A + B will give 30 |
| 2 | **- (Subtraction)**  Subtracts the second operand from the first  **Ex:** A - B will give -10 |
| 3 | **\* (Multiplication)**  Multiply both operands  **Ex:** A \* B will give 200 |
| 4 | **/ (Division)**  Divide the numerator by the denominator  **Ex:** B / A will give 2 |
| 5 | **% (Modulus)**  Outputs the remainder of an integer division  **Ex:** B % A will give 0 |
| 6 | **++ (Increment)**  Increases an integer value by one  **Ex:** A++ will give 11 |
| 7 | **-- (Decrement)**  Decreases an integer value by one  **Ex:** A-- will give 9 |

**Note** − Addition operator (+) works for Numeric as well as Strings. e.g. "a" + 10 will give "a10".

Example

The following code shows how to use arithmetic operators in JavaScript.

<html>

<body>

<script type="text/javascript">

<!--

var a = 33;

var b = 10;

var c = "Test";

var linebreak = "<br />";

document.write("a + b = ");

result = a + b;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("a - b = ");

result = a - b;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("a / b = ");

result = a / b;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("a % b = ");

result = a % b;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("a + b + c = ");

result = a + b + c;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

a = a++;

document.write("a++ = ");

result = a++;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

b = b--;

document.write("b-- = ");

result = b--;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

//-->

</script>

Set the variables to different values and then try...

</body>

</html>

Output

a + b = 43

a - b = 23

a / b = 3.3

a % b = 3

a + b + c = 43Test

a++ = 33

b-- = 10

Set the variables to different values and then try...

Comparison Operators

JavaScript supports the following comparison operators −

Assume variable A holds 10 and variable B holds 20, then −

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No** | **Operator and Description** |
| 1 | = = **(Equal)**  Checks if the value of two operands are equal or not, if yes, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A == B) is not true. |
| 2 | **!= (Not Equal)**  Checks if the value of two operands are equal or not, if the values are not equal, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A != B) is true. |
| 3 | **> (Greater than)**  Checks if the value of the left operand is greater than the value of the right operand, if yes, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A > B) is not true. |
| 4 | **< (Less than)**  Checks if the value of the left operand is less than the value of the right operand, if yes, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A < B) is true. |
| 5 | **>= (Greater than or Equal to)**  Checks if the value of the left operand is greater than or equal to the value of the right operand, if yes, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A >= B) is not true. |
| 6 | **<= (Less than or Equal to)**  Checks if the value of the left operand is less than or equal to the value of the right operand, if yes, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A <= B) is true. |

Example

The following code shows how to use comparison operators in JavaScript.

<html>

<body>

<script type="text/javascript">

<!--

var a = 10;

var b = 20;

var linebreak = "<br />";

document.write("(a == b) => ");

result = (a == b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a < b) => ");

result = (a < b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a > b) => ");

result = (a > b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a != b) => ");

result = (a != b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a >= b) => ");

result = (a >= b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a <= b) => ");

result = (a <= b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

//-->

</script>

Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...

</body>

</html>

Output

(a == b) => false

(a < b) => true

(a > b) => false

(a != b) => true

(a >= b) => false

a <= b) => true

Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...

Logical Operators

JavaScript supports the following logical operators −

Assume variable A holds 10 and variable B holds 20, then −

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No** | **Operator and Description** |
| 1 | **&& (Logical AND)**  If both the operands are non-zero, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A && B) is true. |
| 2 | **|| (Logical OR)**  If any of the two operands are non-zero, then the condition becomes true.  **Ex:** (A || B) is true. |
| 3 | **! (Logical NOT)**  Reverses the logical state of its operand. If a condition is true, then the Logical NOT operator will make it false.  **Ex:** ! (A && B) is false. |

Example

Try the following code to learn how to implement Logical Operators in JavaScript.

<html>

<body>

<script type="text/javascript">

<!--

var a = true;

var b = false;

var linebreak = "<br />";

document.write("(a && b) => ");

result = (a && b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a || b) => ");

result = (a || b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("!(a && b) => ");

result = (!(a && b));

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

//-->

</script>

<p>Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...</p>

</body>

</html>

Output

(a && b) => false

(a || b) => true

!(a && b) => true

Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...

Bitwise Operators

JavaScript supports the following bitwise operators −

Assume variable A holds 2 and variable B holds 3, then −

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No** | **Operator and Description** |
| 1 | **& (Bitwise AND)**  It performs a Boolean AND operation on each bit of its integer arguments.  **Ex:** (A & B) is 2. |
| 2 | **| (BitWise OR)**  It performs a Boolean OR operation on each bit of its integer arguments.  **Ex:** (A | B) is 3. |
| 3 | **^ (Bitwise XOR)**  It performs a Boolean exclusive OR operation on each bit of its integer arguments. Exclusive OR means that either operand one is true or operand two is true, but not both.  **Ex:** (A ^ B) is 1. |
| 4 | **~ (Bitwise Not)**  It is a unary operator and operates by reversing all the bits in the operand.  **Ex:** (~B) is -4. |
| 5 | **<< (Left Shift)**  It moves all the bits in its first operand to the left by the number of places specified in the second operand. New bits are filled with zeros. Shifting a value left by one position is equivalent to multiplying it by 2, shifting two positions is equivalent to multiplying by 4, and so on.  **Ex:** (A << 1) is 4. |
| 6 | **>> (Right Shift)**  Binary Right Shift Operator. The left operand’s value is moved right by the number of bits specified by the right operand.  **Ex:** (A >> 1) is 1. |
| 7 | **>>> (Right shift with Zero)**  This operator is just like the >> operator, except that the bits shifted in on the left are always zero.  **Ex:** (A >>> 1) is 1. |

Example

Try the following code to implement Bitwise operator in JavaScript.

<html>

<body>

<script type="text/javascript">

<!--

var a = 2; // Bit presentation 10

var b = 3; // Bit presentation 11

var linebreak = "<br />";

document.write("(a & b) => ");

result = (a & b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a | b) => ");

result = (a | b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a ^ b) => ");

result = (a ^ b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(~b) => ");

result = (~b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a << b) => ");

result = (a << b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("(a >> b) => ");

result = (a >> b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

//-->

</script>

<p>Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...</p>

</body>

</html>

(a & b) => 2

(a | b) => 3

(a ^ b) => 1

(~b) => -4

(a << b) => 16

(a >> b) => 0

Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...

Assignment Operators

JavaScript supports the following assignment operators −

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No** | **Operator and Description** |
| 1 | **= (Simple Assignment )**  Assigns values from the right side operand to the left side operand  **Ex:** C = A + B will assign the value of A + B into C |
| 2 | **+= (Add and Assignment)**  It adds the right operand to the left operand and assigns the result to the left operand.  **Ex:** C += A is equivalent to C = C + A |
| 3 | **−= (Subtract and Assignment)**  It subtracts the right operand from the left operand and assigns the result to the left operand.  **Ex:** C -= A is equivalent to C = C - A |
| 4 | **\*= (Multiply and Assignment)**  It multiplies the right operand with the left operand and assigns the result to the left operand.  **Ex:** C \*= A is equivalent to C = C \* A |
| 5 | **/= (Divide and Assignment)**  It divides the left operand with the right operand and assigns the result to the left operand.  **Ex:** C /= A is equivalent to C = C / A |
| 6 | **%= (Modules and Assignment)**  It takes modulus using two operands and assigns the result to the left operand.  **Ex:** C %= A is equivalent to C = C % A |

**Note** − Same logic applies to Bitwise operators so they will become like <<=, >>=, >>=, &=, |= and ^=.

Example

Try the following code to implement assignment operator in JavaScript.

<html>

<body>

<script type="text/javascript">

<!--

var a = 33;

var b = 10;

var linebreak = "<br />";

document.write("Value of a => (a = b) => ");

result = (a = b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("Value of a => (a += b) => ");

result = (a += b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("Value of a => (a -= b) => ");

result = (a -= b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("Value of a => (a \*= b) => ");

result = (a \*= b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("Value of a => (a /= b) => ");

result = (a /= b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write("Value of a => (a %= b) => ");

result = (a %= b);

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

//-->

</script>

<p>Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...</p>

</body>

</html>

Output

Value of a => (a = b) => 10

Value of a => (a += b) => 20

Value of a => (a -= b) => 10

Value of a => (a \*= b) => 100

Value of a => (a /= b) => 10

Value of a => (a %= b) => 0

Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...

Miscellaneous Operator

We will discuss two operators here that are quite useful in JavaScript: the **conditional operator** (? :) and the **typeof operator**.

Conditional Operator (? :)

The conditional operator first evaluates an expression for a true or false value and then executes one of the two given statements depending upon the result of the evaluation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sr.No** | **Operator and Description** |
| 1 | **? : (Conditional )**  If Condition is true? Then value X : Otherwise value Y |

Example

Try the following code to understand how the Conditional Operator works in JavaScript.

<html>

<body>

<script type="text/javascript">

<!--

var a = 10;

var b = 20;

var linebreak = "<br />";

document.write ("((a > b) ? 100 : 200) => ");

result = (a > b) ? 100 : 200;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

document.write ("((a < b) ? 100 : 200) => ");

result = (a < b) ? 100 : 200;

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

//-->

</script>

<p>Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...</p>

</body>

</html>

Output

((a > b) ? 100 : 200) => 200

((a < b) ? 100 : 200) => 100

Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...

typeof Operator

The **typeof** operator is a unary operator that is placed before its single operand, which can be of any type. Its value is a string indicating the data type of the operand.

The *typeof* operator evaluates to "number", "string", or "boolean" if its operand is a number, string, or boolean value and returns true or false based on the evaluation.

Here is a list of the return values for the **typeof** Operator.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type** | **String Returned by typeof** |
| Number | "number" |
| String | "string" |
| Boolean | "boolean" |
| Object | "object" |
| Function | "function" |
| Undefined | "undefined" |
| Null | "object" |

Example

The following code shows how to implement **typeof** operator.

<html>

<body>

<script type="text/javascript">

<!--

var a = 10;

var b = "String";

var linebreak = "<br />";

result = (typeof b == "string" ? "B is String" : "B is Numeric");

document.write("Result => ");

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

result = (typeof a == "string" ? "A is String" : "A is Numeric");

document.write("Result => ");

document.write(result);

document.write(linebreak);

//-->

</script>

<p>Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...</p>

</body>

</html>

Output

Result => B is String

Result => A is Numeric

Set the variables to different values and different operators and then try...

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