



Selection Sort

Selection Sort

Selection Sort is a simple comparison-based sorting algorithm.

It divides the array into two parts: a **sorted subarray** and an **unsorted subarray**.

Initially, the **sorted part is empty**, and the unsorted part is the entire array.

In each iteration, it finds the minimum element from the **unsorted part** and moves it to the end of the sorted part.

Example 1:

Input: [4, 5, 1, 3, 9]

Output: [1, 3, 4, 5, 9]

Approach:

Iterate over the array from index 0 to $n-2$.

For each index i , assume the element at i is the minimum in the **unsorted part**.

Run an inner loop from $j = i+1$ to $n-1$ to find the actual minimum element.

If a smaller element is found, update the `min index`.

After the **inner loop**, **swap the element** at i with the element at `min` (if they're not the same).

Repeat until the **array is sorted**.

Time & Space Complexity:

Time Complexity: $O(n^2)$ In all cases `best`, `average` and `worst`.

Roughly $n * (n-1) / 2$ comparisons are always performed.

Space Complexity: $O(1)$ Selection Sort is an in-place sorting algorithm, so it doesn't require extra space.

Dry Run

Input: arr = [4, 5, 1, 3, 9]

i = 0 → min_idx = 0 j = 1 → arr[1] = 5 > arr[0] = 4 → no change j = 2 → arr[2] = 1 < arr[0] = 4 → min_idx = 2 j = 3 → arr[3] = 3 > arr[2] = 1 → no change j = 4 → arr[4] = 9 > arr[2] = 1 → no change swap arr[0] ↔ arr[2] → [1, 5, 4, 3, 9] i = 1 → min_idx = 1 j = 2 → arr[2] = 4 < arr[1] = 5 → min_idx = 2 j = 3 → arr[3] = 3 < arr[2] = 4 → min_idx = 3 j = 4 → arr[4] = 9 > arr[3] = 3 → no change swap arr[1] ↔ arr[3] → [1, 3, 4, 5, 9] i = 2 → min_idx = 2 j = 3 → arr[3] = 5 > arr[2] = 4 → no change j = 4 → arr[4] = 9 > arr[2] = 4 → no change no swap → [1, 3, 4, 5, 9] i = 3 → min_idx = 3 j = 4 → arr[4] = 9 > arr[3] = 5 → no change no swap → [1, 3, 4, 5, 9] **Final Sorted Array:** [1, 3, 4, 5, 9]

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```
let arr = [4, 5, 1, 3, 9];

function selectionSort(arr) {
  let n = arr.length;
  for (let i = 0; i < n - 1; i++) {
    let min = i;
    for (let j = i + 1; j < n; j++) {
      if (arr[j] < arr[min]) {
        min = j;
      }
    }
    if (min !== i) {
      let temp = arr[i];
      arr[i] = arr[min];
      arr[min] = temp;
    }
  }
}
```

```
    }  
  }  
  return arr;  
}  
  
let result = selectionSort(arr);  
console.log("Sorted array", result);
```

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