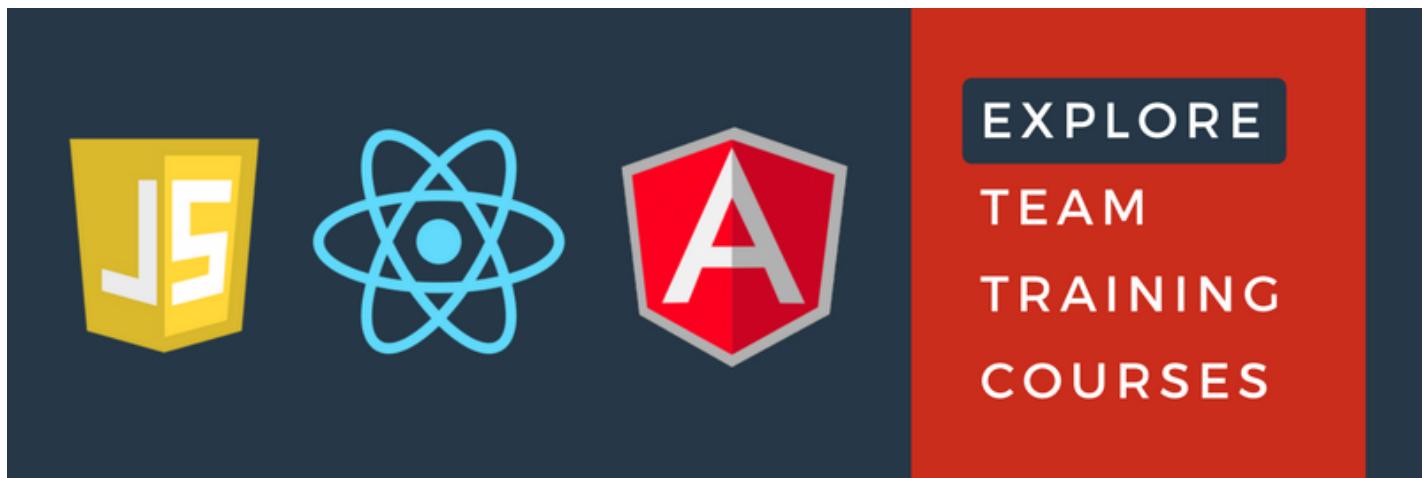




# Ways to Loop Over an Array in JavaScript



## Ways to loop over an array in JavaScript?

There are a multitude of ways to loop over an array in JavaScript; some common, some less so. Probably the most familiar ways to loop over an array in JavaScript are the [for loop](#) and the [while loop](#); [for/in](#) loops will work as well, but are traditionally reserved for objects (and come with some additional [issues](#)). JavaScript arrays also inherit several methods for looping over an array from the Array prototype ([Array.prototype.forEach\(\)](#) is a good example). Less conventionally, yet perhaps more interestingly, [recursion](#) can be used to loop over an array in JavaScript. And that's not all... several more methods exist! For brevity's sake, we won't look at all the unique ways in which one is able to loop over an array in JavaScript. I will however, in the following text, give examples of each of the aforementioned means for looping over an array in JavaScript. We'll start with a little Lil' Jon... "Turn down for loop?"

### For Loop



```
1 var arr = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2
3
4 var i = 0, length = arr.length;
5
6
7
8 for ( i; i < length; i++) {
9   console.log(arr[i]) //1 //2 //3 //4 //5
10
11
12 }
```

<http://codepen.io/anon/pen/mVjLEK?editors=0012>

While we're at it...

## While Loop

```
1
2 <span style="font-weight: 400;">var arr = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];</span>
3
4
5 <span style="font-weight: 400;">var i = 0, length = arr.length;</span>
6
7
8 <span style="font-weight: 400;">while (i < length) {</span>
9
10 <span style="font-weight: 400;">  console.log(arr[i]); //1 //
11   2 //3 //4 //5</span>
12
13 <span style="font-weight: 400;">  i++;</span>
14 <span style="font-weight: 400;">}</span>
```

<http://codepen.io/anon/pen/JGBvRN?editors=0012>

Each and every element...

## Array.prototype.forEach()

```
1 <span style="font-weight: 400;">var arr = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];</span>
```

```
2
3
4 <span style="font-weight: 400;">arr.forEach(function(i) {</spa
n>
5
6   <span style="font-weight: 400;"> console.log(i); //1 //2 //3
7   /4 //5</span>
8 <span style="font-weight: 400;">});</span>
```



<http://codepen.io/anon/pen/LGBmyO?editors=0012>

Just for fun, **ES6 arrow function** syntax...

```
1 var arr = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
```

//I used to be an ES5 function like you. Then I took an arrow in the syntax...

```
1 arr.forEach(i => console.log(i)); //1 //2 //3 //4 //5
```

<http://codepen.io/anon/pen/wMxjrb?editors=0012>

And finally, some function-ception...

## Recursion

```
1 var arr = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2
3
4 var i = 0, length = arr.length;
5
6
7 function loop() {
8
9   console.log(arr[i]); //1 //2 //3 //4 //5
10
11   i++;
12
13   if (i > length - 1) {
14
15     return;
16
17   }
18 }
```

```
19 loop();  
20 }  
21 }  
22  
23 loop();
```

<https://codepen.io/anon/pen/WrKJJN?editors=0012>



We've got you have it! Four relatively straightforward ways to loop over an array in JavaScript; two more common, one Array prototype method, and some fun with recursion! We even threw in a bit of ES6 syntax for good measure. It's my hope that you now have a good or at least better understanding of various ways in which you can loop over an array in JavaScript. Hopefully, none of the information featured above threw your for a... loop. 😊

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## Chase Allen



Chase is a self-taught HTML, CSS, and JavaScript enthusiast. He enjoys creating web pages and web applications. His interests include art, music, movies, food, tech, and just general musings.

February 2, 2016 by [Chase Allen](#) in

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