From [**http://javascriptissexy.com/how-to-learn-javascript-properly/**](http://javascriptissexy.com/how-to-learn-javascript-properly/)

# **Weeks 3 and 4 (Objects, Arrays, Functions, DOM, jQuery)**

1. Read my post [JavaScript Objects in Detail](http://javascriptissexy.com/javascript-objects-in-detail/)

Or read chapter 6 of *JavaScript: The Definitive Guide*.

Or read chapter 6 of *Professional JavaScript for Web Developers*. NOTE: Only read the “Understanding Objects” section.

Any of the 3 is fine, although the 2 textbooks go into more detail: the extra detail you can skip confidently, if you read and thoroughly understand my post.

1. Read chapters 7 and 8 of *JavaScript: The Definitive Guide*

Or read chapters 5 and 7 of *Professional JavaScript for Web Developers*

1. At this juncture, you should be spending a lot of time writing code in your browser’s console and testing if-else statements, for loops, Arrays, Functions, Objects, and more. It is critically important that you know (and keep practicing) how to code independently (without help from Codecademy) in your browser. By the time you get back to Codecademy, you shouldn’t need any help or hints. Every assignment should be easy for you.

If you are still struggling with Codecademy, go back to your browser and keep hacking away. This is where you will learn the most. This is analogous to Lebron James honing his skills as a youth in the “streets” (the neighborhood basketball courts), or to Bill Gates hacking away in his basement.

There is tremendous value in your hacking away and learning bit by bit on your own. You have to see the value in this strategy, and you have to embrace it and trust that it will work.

**False Sense of Accomplishment When Using Codecademy**  
The biggest problem with Codecademy is that the hints and little code snippets help you so much that you have a false sense of accomplishment when you are progressing through the exercises easily. You wouldn’t know it at the time, but much of what you are doing is not on your own.

Now, Codecademy is still great for helping you to learn how to code, particularly in the manner in which it guides you through the process of developing small projects and small applications from very basic code constructs like if statements, for loops, functions, and variables.

1. Return to Codecademy and complete the JavaScript track by working through sections 6, 7, and 8 (Data Structures to Object 2).
2. While you are on Codecademy, go ahead and build the 5 little **Basic Projects** on the [Projects](http://www.codecademy.com/tracks/projects) track. After this, you are done with Codecademy. And this is a good thing, because the more you work on your own, the faster you will learn and the better prepared you will be to start programming on your own.
3. Read chapters 13, 15, 16, and 19 of *JavaScript: The Definitive Guide.*

Or read chapters 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14 of *Professional JavaScript for Web Developers*. This book does not cover jQuery, and the jQuery coverage on Codecademy is insufficient. Follow this jQuery course—it is free: <http://try.jquery.com/>

And you can read chapter 19 of *JavaScript: The Definitive Guide*, if you have the book, for more on jQuery.

1. Work through the entire jQuery course at <http://try.jquery.com/>

# **Your First Project—A Dynamic Quiz**

At this juncture, you have learned enough to build a solid web application that is manageable. Don’t proceed any further until you can successfully build this application I describe below. As I noted earlier, if you are stuck, ask questions on Stack Overflow and reread sections of the book to properly understand the concepts.

You are building a JavaScript quiz application (you will use HTML and CSS as well) that will function as follows:

* It is a simple quiz that has radio button choices, and it will show the user her score upon completion.
* The quiz can show any number of questions and any number of choices.
* Tally the user’s score and display the final score on the last page. The last page will only show the score, so remove the last question.
* Use an array to store all the questions. Each question, along with its choices and correct answer, should be stored in an object. The array of questions should look similar to this:

// Only one question is in this array, but you will add all the questions.var allQuestions = [{question: "Who is Prime Minister of the United Kingdom?", choices: ["David Cameron", "Gordon Brown", "Winston Churchill", "Tony Blair"], correctAnswer:0}];

* Dynamically (with document.getElementById or jQuery) add the next question and remove the current question from the screen, when the user clicks the “Next” button. The Next button will be the only button to navigate this version of the quiz.
* You can ask for help in the comments below or preferably on Stack Overflow. You are likely to get a prompt and accurate answer on Stack Overflow.