**Node.js** is an [open-source](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source_software), [cross-platform](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross-platform) [JavaScript](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JavaScript) [runtime environment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Runtime_system) for developing a diverse variety of [server](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Server_(computing)) tools and applications. Although Node.js is not a [JavaScript framework](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JavaScript_framework),[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js" \l "cite_note-JAVAWORLD-4) many of its basic modules are written in [JavaScript](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JavaScript), and developers can write new modules in JavaScript. The runtime environment interprets JavaScript using [Google](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google)'s [V8](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/V8_(JavaScript_engine)) JavaScript engine.

Node.js has an [event-driven architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Event-driven_architecture) capable of [asynchronous I/O](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asynchronous_I/O). These design choices aim to optimize [throughput](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Throughput) and [scalability](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scalability) in [Web applications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_application) with many input/output operations, as well as for [real-time Web](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Real-time_Web) applications (e.g., [real-time communication](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Real-time_communication) programs and [browser games](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Browser_game)).[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-readwrite-5)

The Node.js [distributed development](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distributed_development) project, governed by the Node.js Foundation,[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-6) is facilitated by the [Linux Foundation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linux_Foundation)'s Collaborative Projects program.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-7)

Corporate users of Node.js software include [GoDaddy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GoDaddy),[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-8) [Groupon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Groupon),[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-9) [IBM](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IBM),[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-10) [LinkedIn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LinkedIn),[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-vbliipad-11)[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-12) [Microsoft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft),[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-guardianMS-13)[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-14) [Netflix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netflix),[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-15)[PayPal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PayPal),[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-16)[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-17) [Rakuten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rakuten), [SAP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SAP_SE),[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-sapappbuilder-18) [Voxer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voxer),[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-19) [Walmart](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walmart),[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-vbwalmart-20) [Yahoo!](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yahoo!),[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node.js#cite_note-21) and [Cisco Systems](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cisco_Systems).