

✦ Understanding the if Statement in JavaScript

The if statement allows JavaScript to execute a block of code **only if a condition is true**.

◆ Basic Example

```
var x = prompt("Where does the Pope live?");
if (x === "Vatican") {
  alert("Correct!");
}
```

- ✓ The prompt() asks the user a question and stores the response in x.
 - ✓ The if statement checks if x is **exactly equal** (===) to "Vatican".
 - ✓ If the condition is **true**, the alert "Correct!" is displayed.
 - ✓ If the user enters anything else, **nothing happens**.
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◆ Understanding === vs ==

- **=== (Strict Equality)** → Checks both **value and data type**.
- **== (Loose Equality)** → Converts data types if needed before comparison.

[@ Example: == vs ===](#)

```
console.log(5 == "5"); // ✓ true (Loose equality converts "5" to number)
console.log(5 === "5"); // ✗ false (Strict equality checks type too)
```

- ✓ Using === prevents unintended **type conversion** bugs.
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◆ Using Variables in if Statements

```
var correctAnswer = "Vatican";
if (x === correctAnswer) {
  alert("Correct!");
}
```

- ✓ This makes the code **easier to update and maintain**.
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◆ Multiple Actions When Condition is True

You can execute multiple statements inside the if block:

```
var correctAnswer = "Vatican";
if (x === correctAnswer) {
  score++; // Increase score
  userIQ = "genius"; // Set IQ level
  alert("Correct!");
}
```

✓ **All statements inside the {} execute** if the condition is met.

◆ if Without {} for One-Liners

If there is only **one statement**, curly brackets {} **can be omitted**:

```
if (x === "Vatican") alert("Correct!");
```

✓ **Legal but not recommended** for readability.

◆ Handling Case Sensitivity

If the user types "vatican" instead of "Vatican", the check **fails**.
To make it case-insensitive:

```
if (x.toLowerCase() === "vatican") {
  alert("Correct!");
}
```

✓ `.toLowerCase()` converts user input to **lowercase** before checking.

◆ Handling Multiple Correct Answers

```
if (x === "Vatican" || x === "The Vatican") {
  alert("Correct!");
}
```

✓ **|| (OR operator)** allows multiple valid responses.

💡 Quick Summary

- ✓ if **executes code only if the condition is true.**
 - ✓ Use `===` instead of `==` for **strict comparison.**
 - ✓ Curly brackets `{}` **can be omitted for one-liners** (not recommended).
 - ✓ **Use `.toLowerCase()` for case-insensitive comparisons.**
 - ✓ **Use `||` to allow multiple correct answers.**
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