

Binary search is a very efficient algorithm used to find a target element in a sorted array. It works by dividing the search space in half after each comparison. This drastically reduces the number of comparisons needed compared to a linear search.

### Key Concepts:

1. **Sorted Array:** Binary search only works on arrays where the elements are sorted in order.
2. **Divide and Conquer:** The idea is to repeatedly divide the search space (array) in half and check which half the target value could be in.

### Steps:

1. Start with the whole array and two pointers:
  - **low** at the start (**0** index) of the array.
  - **high** at the end (**last index**) of the array.
2. Calculate the middle element's index:
  - **$middle = \text{Math.floor}((low + high) / 2)$**
3. Compare the middle element with the target value (**no**):
  - If the middle element is equal to the target, you've found it.
  - If the middle element is greater than the target, the target must be in the left half. So, update the **high** pointer to  **$middle - 1$** .
  - If the middle element is less than the target, the target must be in the right half. So, update the **low** pointer to  **$middle + 1$** .
4. Repeat the process until either:
  - You find the element, or
  - The **low** pointer becomes greater than the **high** pointer, meaning the element is not present.

Code :

```
function binarySearch(arr, no) {  
  let low = 0;  
  let high = arr.length - 1;  
  
  while (low <= high) {  
    let middle = Math.floor((low + high) / 2); // Find the middle  
    index  
  
    if (arr[middle] === no) { // If the middle element is the  
    target  
      return `Element found at index ${middle}`;  
    }  
    else if (arr[middle] < no) { // If target is greater, search the  
    right half  
      low = middle + 1;  
    }  
    else { // If target is smaller, search the left half  
      high = middle - 1;  
    }  
  }  
  
  return "Element not found"; // Return when the element is not  
  in the array  
}  
  
const arr = [1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 12, 90]; // Sorted array  
const no = 6; // Target value  
  
console.log(binarySearch(arr, no)); // Should print: Element  
found at index 3
```

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## Important Notes:

1. Array must be sorted before you can use binary search. If the array isn't sorted, you either need to sort it or use a different algorithm (like linear search).
2. Binary search is much faster for large arrays compared to linear search.

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Let's walk through the **binary search** step by step with the array `arr = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]` and the target value 7.

## Step-by-step Process:

### Initial State:

- **Array:** `[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]`
- **Target:** 7
- **low:** Initially set to the first index of the array (`low = 0`).
- **high:** Initially set to the last index of the array (`high = 8`).

### Step 1:

1. Calculate the middle index:
  - `middle = Math.floor((low + high) / 2) = Math.floor((0 + 8) / 2) = 4`
2. Check the middle element:
  - `arr[middle] = arr[4] = 5`
3. Compare the middle element with the target value 7:
  - Since `5 < 7`, the target must be in the **right half** of the array.
  - Update `low = middle + 1 = 4 + 1 = 5`.

### Step 2:

1. Now, `low = 5` and `high = 8`.

## 2. Calculate the new middle index:

- `middle = Math.floor((low + high) / 2) = Math.floor((5 + 8) / 2) = 6`

## 3. Check the middle element:

- `arr[middle] = arr[6] = 7`

## 4. Compare the middle element with the target value 7:

- Since `arr[middle] == 7`, we have found the target at index 6.

### Summary:

- In just two iterations, we found the target element 7 at index 6.

### Visualization:

Iteration	low	high	middle	arr[middle]	Comparison	New low	New high
1	0	8	4	5	5 < 7 (go right)	5	8
2	5	8	6	7	7 == 7 (found)		

### Eg : 2

**Array:** [5, 9, 17, 23, 25, 45, 59, 63, 71, 89]

**Target:** 59

### Visualization:

Iteration	low	high	middle	arr[middle]	Comparison	New low	New high
1	0	9	4	25	25 < 59 (go right)	5	9
2	5	9	7	63	63 > 59 (go left)	5	6
3	5	6	5	45	45 < 59 (go right)	6	6
4	6	6	6	59	59 == 59 (found)		