
Web Advanced: Javascript

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Let's Understand the Basics!

**SYNTAX, DATA TYPES, OPERATORS, CONDITIONS, LOOPS,
FUNCTIONS**



JAVASCRIPT SYNTAX

- Comments
- Expressions
- Statements
- Blocks

COMMENTS

→ // I should comment everything - it's a good practice

`var myVariable;` // I can comment pretty much anywhere.

→ /* Let's think in plain English what do I want to do:

- Step 1 - Describe what do you want to do
- Step 2 - Describe what do you want to do
- Step 3 - Describe what do you want to do
- Step 4 - Describe what do you want to do

*/

EXPRESSIONS

// An expression returns a value and can be written wherever a value is expected

`x = 7` // assigns value to a variable

`3 + 4` // resolves to a value

`true / false` // evaluates true or false, involving logical operators

`this` // primary expressions. Basic keywords and general expressions in JavaScript.

`"Hello" + "World"` // strings. Evaluates to a character string

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Guide/Expressions_and_Operators

STATEMENTS

// Statements are composed of: Values, Operators, Expressions, Keywords, and Comments.

```
let answer = 42; // let is block scoped
```

```
alert ("Hello" + answer);
```

```
var greeting = "Good" + " " + "Morning"; // var is function scoped
```

```
console.log (greeting);
```

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Statements/let>

BLOCKS

// A block is used to group statements. The block is delimited by a pair of curly brackets and may optionally be labeled

```
{  
    let answer    =    42;  
    alert ( "Hello" +    answer );  
    let greeting  =    "Good" + " " + "Morning";  
    console.log (greeting);  
}
```

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Statements/block>

DATA TYPES

- Number
- String
- Symbols
- Booleans
- Undefined/null
- Arrays
- Functions
- Objects

NUMBERS

These are all number expressions:

42

3.1415

3e8 // 3 x 10^8

4*(12+6)/3

NaN

Infinity / -Infinity

STRINGS

// The String global object is a constructor for strings or a sequence of characters.

“Hello World”

“Hello 42 and other #”

“{Who} / [When]”

UNDEFINED / NULL

// is this defined?

// **not define** means a variable hasn't been declared

document.write(varName);

// **undefined** means a variable has been declared but has not yet been assigned a value.

// what is this value?

var nullVariable = null;

// **null** is an assignment value. It can be assigned to a variable as a representation of no value. Null is an object.

BOOLEANS

Every value/expression in JS has a Boolean value: true or false.

```
Boolean(expression) 40 > 39 //true
```

```
"A" > "B" // false
```

```
"a" > "A" // true (lowercase has a higher value)
```

Most values always are TRUE except a few:.

False values: "" 0 NaN false null undefined

TYPE COERCION

Javascript auto-converts the value from one type to another (such as string to number, object to boolean, and so on) as needed to complete an expression:

```
14 + "" // "14"
```

```
42 + "0" // "420"
```

```
"42" - 7 // 35
```

```
"42" * 7 // 294
```

```
null || "34" // 34
```

OPERATORS

- Arithmetic
- Comparison
- Logical
- Assignment
- Conditional

ARITHMETIC

Addition (+)

Subtraction (-)

Division (/)

Multiplication (*)

Reminder (%)

Exponentiation (**)

Increment (++)

Decrement (--)

COMPARISON

5 == 6 // false

5 != 6 // true

"1" == 1 // true

"1" === 1 // false

1 == true // true

1 === true // false

== vs ===

For "a == b" to evaluate to true a and b need to be the same value.

In the case of "a === b" a and b must be the same value and also the same type for it to evaluate to true.

LOGICAL

Logical operators are typically used with `Boolean` (logical) values. When they are, they return a Boolean value. However, the `&&` and `||` operators actually return the value of one of the specified operands, so if these operators are used with non-Boolean values, they will return a non-Boolean value.

AND (`&&`)

OR (`||`)

NOT (`!`)

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Operators/Logical_Operators

ASSIGNMENT

// An assignment operator assigns a value to its left operand based on the value of its right operand.

```
var x = 2;
```

```
var y = 3;
```

```
console.log(x);
```

```
console.log(x = y + 1);
```

```
console.log(x = x * y);
```

VARIABLES

Storing a String

```
let    myString    =    "This is the end.";
let    myString    =    new String("This is the end.");    // not used much
```

Storing a Number

```
let    myNum       =    12;
let    myNum       =    new    Number(12);    // not used much
```

ways to define

- `let` myNum = 12; // preferred
- `var` myNum = 12; // traditional and loose
- `const` myNum = 12; // cannot change it

<http://2ality.com/2015/02/es6-scoping.html>



SCOPE

Scope is how a variable is available to the entire program:

→ Global scope:

Any variables or functions declared outside of a function will be available to all JavaScript code on the page, whether that code is inside a function or otherwise

→ Functional/Local scope:

Variables and functions declared inside a function are visible only inside that function—no code outside the function can access them.

Local variables also have a lifetime - they die when the function finishes executing.

CONDITIONS

- if...else...
- switch

IF ... THEN ... ELSE ...

```
let age = 23;
```

```
if (age == 18) {
```

```
    console.log("Sorry, you shouldn't be here.");
```

```
}
```

```
if (age < 18) {
```

```
    alert("Sorry, you shouldn't be here.");
```

```
} else {
```

```
    console.log("Please proceed.");
```

```
}
```

SWITCH

```
let num = Math.floor(Math.random() * 10);
```

```
switch (num) {
```

```
  case (4):
```

```
    console.log("You rolled a four"); break;
```

```
  case (5):
```

```
    console.log("You rolled a five"); break;
```

```
  case (6):
```

```
    console.log("You rolled a six"); break;
```

```
  default:
```

```
    console.log("You rolled a number less than four"); break;
```

```
}
```

ARRAYS

- Defining - literal, constructor
- Common Operations
- Statements
- Blocks

DEFINING AN ARRAY

Arrays are special types of objects.

```
const myArray = [ ];
```

```
const myArray = new Array(); //not used much
```

DEFINING AN ARRAY WITH VALUES

```
//    prepopulating
```

```
const myArray = ["blue", "red", "green"];
```

```
//    adding
```

```
myArray[0]    = "pink";
```

```
myArray[3]    = "purple";
```

```
myArray[5]    = null;
```

```
myArray[6]    = 4;
```

PROPERTIES & METHODS

// property

```
console.log(myArray.length);
```

// modifiers

```
myArray.pop();           // updates array
```

```
myArray.push(item);      // updates array
```

```
myArray.concat(second_array); // new array
```

```
myArray.join(joiner);    // new string
```

```
myArray.slice(2,4);      // new array starting at index 2 and ending at index 3
```

```
myArray.splice(2,1,"brown");
```

```
myArray.includes("brown");
```

LOOPS

- while
- do...while
- for
- for...in

WHILE LOOPS

Repeat a block of code until a condition remains true:

```
let maxTime = 7;
```

```
while (maxTime < 10){
```

```
    console.log("Keep working. It's still only " + maxTime); maxTime++;
```

```
}
```

```
let maxTime = 10;
```

```
while (maxTime--){
```

```
    console.log("Keep working. It's still only " + maxTime);
```

```
}
```

DO...WHILE LOOPS

Run a block of code at least once and then until a condition remains true:

```
let maxTime = 7;
```

```
do {
```

```
    console.log("Keep working. It's still only " + maxTime); maxTime++;
```

```
} while (maxTime < 10);
```

FOR LOOPS

Keeps all loop-related vars in one place:

```
for (var maxTime = 7; maxTime < 10; maxTime++) {  
    console.log ("Keep working. It's still only "+maxTime);  
  
    var myArray = ["blue", "red", "green"];  
  
    for (var i = 0; i < myArray.length; i++) {  
        console.log("The selected color: " + myArray [i] );  
  
    }  
}
```

FOR...OF LOOPS

New in ES6 for looping over arrays:

```
let myArray = ["blue", "red", "green"];

for (const value of myArray) {

  console.log("The selected color: "+value);

}
```

* **ES6** refers to version 6 of the ECMA Script programming language. ECMA Script is the standardized name for JavaScript, and version 6 is the next version after version 5, which was released in 2011. ECMAScript, or **ES6**, was published in June 2015. It was subsequently renamed to ECMAScript 2015.



FUNCTIONS

Functions encapsulate a block of code that does a specific task to make it reusable.



BUILT-IN FUNCTIONS

// typical built-in functions

myString.charAt(1); //returns a string

parseInt(12.34); //returns integer

Math.random(); //returns a floating number

[1,2,3,4].map(); //returns array



NEW FUNCTIONS

```
// a new basic function - pretty useless
function randomNumber() {
  console.log('I am returning', Math.random());
}
```

```
// a new basic function - better function
convertToCelsius(deg_fah) {
  let converted_deg = (deg_fah-32) * 5/9;
  console.log('The converted temperature is', converted_deg);
}
```



CALLING FUNCTIONS

```
// this returns the actual reference, not the function evaluation
```

```
randomNumber;
```

```
// this executes the function
```

```
randomNumber();
```

FUNCTION PARAMETERS / ARGUMENTS

- Parameters: variables needed by the function itself to run. These are set and then destroyed once complete
- Arguments: the vars or values sent to the function when called.

```
function convertToCelsius(deg_fah) {  
  
    let converted_deg = (deg_fah-32) * 5/9;  
    return(converted_deg);  
  
}  
  
console.log( convertToCelsius(32) );
```



EXAMPLES

// a new basic function - better

```
function convertToCelsius(deg_fah) {  
  let converted_deg = (deg_fah-32) * 5/9; return(converted_deg);  
  
}  
  
let converted_deg;  
  
for ( let i = -148; i <= 212; i = i+10) {  
  converted_deg = convertToCelsius(i);  
  
  console.log('The converted temperature of',i,' is', converted_deg);  
}
```

Assignment:

Create a flow diagram on a decision-based activity and create small quiz or text adventure.

