

JAVASCRIPT

Array Methods

()

A comprehensive guide



Overview

JavaScript arrays are versatile data structures that allow you to store multiple values in a single variable.

Arrays come with a rich set of built-in methods that make it easy to manipulate, search, and transform data.

Understanding these methods is key to writing efficient and clean code.



Common Array methods

.push()

.filter()

.every()

.pop()

.reduce()

.split()

.shift()

.find()

.reverse()

.unshift()

.findIndex()

.join()

.slice()

.includes()

.splice()

.concat()

.forEach()


.sort()

.map()

.some()

.push() & .pop()

.push(): Adds one or more elements to the **end** of an array and returns the new length of the array.




```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana"];
2 fruits.push("orange");
3 console.log(fruits); // ["apple", "banana", "orange"]
```

orange gets added to the array



.pop(): Removes the **last** element from an array and returns that element.



```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana", "orange"];
2 let lastFruit = fruits.pop();
3 console.log(fruits); // ["apple", "banana"]
4 console.log(lastFruit); // "orange"
```


.shift() & .unshift()

.shift(): Removes the **first** element from an array and returns that element.

```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana", "orange"];
2 let firstFruit = fruits.shift();
3 console.log(fruits); // ["banana", "orange"]
4 console.log(firstFruit); // "apple"
```

apple removed from the beginning of the array


.unshift(): Adds one or more elements to the **beginning** of an array and returns the new length of the array.

```
1 let fruits = ["banana", "orange"];
2 fruits.unshift("mango");
3 console.log(fruits); // ["mango", "banana", "orange"]
```

mango added to the beginning of the array

.slice()

.slice(): Returns a **shallow copy** of a portion of an array into a new array object. It **does not** modify the original array.




```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date"];
2 let slicedFruits = fruits.slice(1, 3);
3 console.log(slicedFruits); // ["banana", "cherry"]
4 console.log(fruits); // ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date"]
```

The first argument specifies the **starting index**, and the second argument specifies the **ending index** (not included in the result).

.splice()

.splice(): Changes the contents of an array by removing, replacing, or adding elements.




```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"];
2 fruits.splice(1, 1, "orange");
3 console.log(fruits); // ["apple", "orange", "cherry"]
```

The first argument specifies the **index** at which to start changing the array, the second argument specifies the **number of elements** to remove, and the subsequent arguments specify the **elements to add**.

.forEach()

.forEach(): Executes a provided function once for **each** array element.




```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"];
2 fruits.forEach(function(fruit) {
3   console.log(fruit);
4 });
5 // Output:
6 // "apple"
7 // "banana"
8 // "cherry"
9
```

This method doesn't return anything; it's mainly used for iterating over arrays.

.map()

.map(): creates a new array by applying a provided function to each element of an existing array. It does not change the original array; instead, it returns a new array where each element is the result of the function applied to the corresponding element in the original array.




```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3];
2 let doubled = numbers.map(function(number) {
3   return number * 2;
4 });
5 console.log(doubled); // [2, 4, 6]
```

Returns a new array, leaving **the original array unchanged**. This is particularly useful when you need to transform every element in an array.

.filter()

.filter(): Creates a **new array** filled with elements that pass a test provided by a function. It **iterates** over each element in the original array, applying the test (callback function) to each element.



```
1 let newArray = array.filter(callback(element, index, array));
```

- **callback:** A function that is called for each element in the array. It takes up to three arguments:
- **element:** The current element being processed in the array.
- **index (optional):** The index of the current element being processed.
- **array (optional):** The array filter() was called upon.
- **newArray:** The new array containing the elements that passed the test.

Example:



```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];  
2 let evenNumbers = numbers.filter(function(number) {  
3   return number % 2 === 0;  
4 });  
5 console.log(evenNumbers); // [2, 4]
```

In this example, the `filter()` method is used to create a `new array`, `evenNumbers`, containing only the even numbers from the original `numbers` array.

The callback function checks if each number is divisible by 2 (`number % 2 === 0`).

If the condition is true, the number is included in the `evenNumbers` array.

.reduce()

.reduce(): Executes a reducer function on each element of the array, resulting in a single output value. Syntax:

```
1 array.reduce(callback(accumulator, currentValue, index, array), initialValue)
```

Example:

```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4];
2 let sum = numbers.reduce(function(accumulator, currentValue) {
3     return accumulator + currentValue;
4 }, 0);
5 console.log(sum); // Outputs: 10
```


The **reduce()** method sums up all the elements in the numbers array. The accumulator starts at 0 (provided as the initialValue), and each element is added to this accumulator until all elements have been processed.

.find() & .findIndex()

.find(): Returns the **value of the first element** in the array that satisfies the provided testing function. If no values satisfy the testing function, **undefined** is returned.

```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4];
2 let firstEven = numbers.find(function(number) {
3   return number % 2 === 0;
4 });
5 console.log(firstEven); // 2
```

.findIndex(): Returns the **index of the first element** in the array that satisfies the provided testing function. If no values satisfy the testing function, **-1** is returned.



```
1 let firstEvenIndex = numbers.findIndex(function(number) {
2   return number % 2 === 0;
3 });
4 console.log(firstEvenIndex); // 1
```



.includes() & .concat()

.includes(): Determines whether an array includes a certain value among its entries, returning **true** or **false**.



```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"];
2 console.log(fruits.includes("banana")); // true
3 console.log(fruits.includes("grape")); // false
```

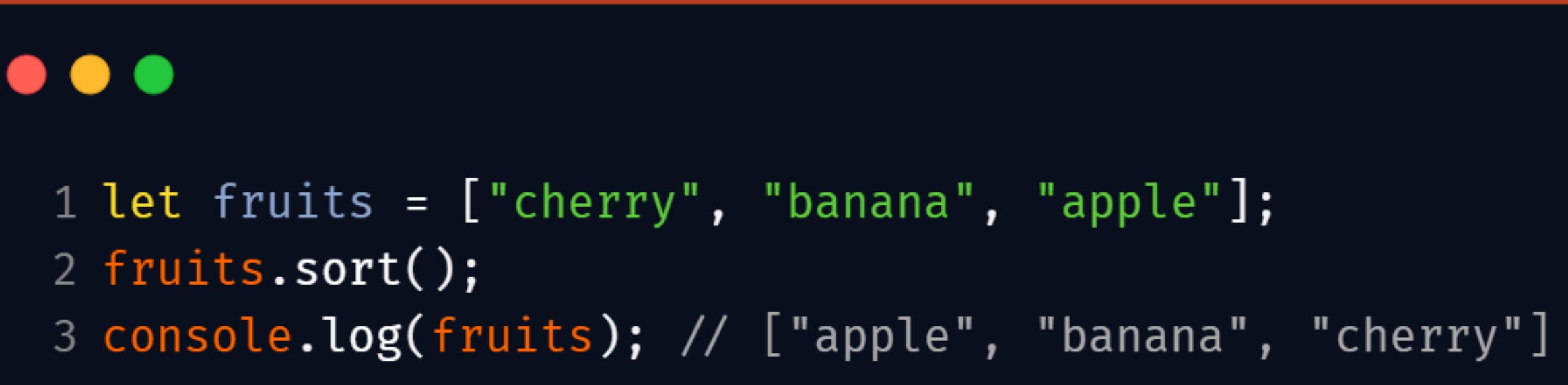
.concat(): Merges two or more arrays into one. It **does not change** the existing arrays but instead returns a **new array**.



```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana"];
2 let moreFruits = ["cherry", "date"];
3 let allFruits = fruits.concat(moreFruits);
4 console.log(allFruits); // ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "date"]
```

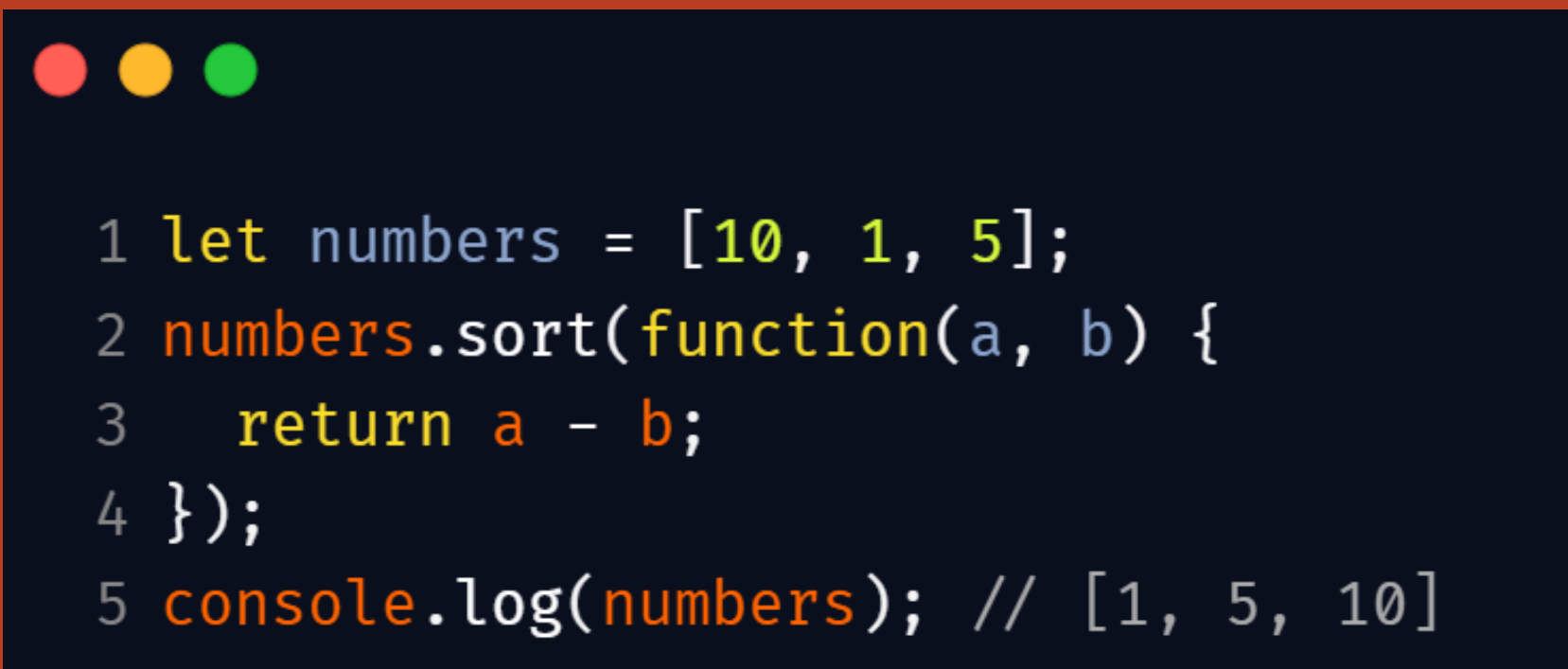
.sort()

.sort(): Sorts the elements of an array in place and returns the array. The default sort order is built upon converting the elements into strings, then comparing their sequences of UTF-16 code units values.



```
1 let fruits = ["cherry", "banana", "apple"];
2 fruits.sort();
3 console.log(fruits); // ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]
```

To sort numbers correctly, you often need to provide a compare function:



```
1 let numbers = [10, 1, 5];
2 numbers.sort(function(a, b) {
3   return a - b;
4 });
5 console.log(numbers); // [1, 5, 10]
```

.reverse(), .join(), .split()

.reverse(): Reverses the **order** of the elements in an array in place and returns the array.

```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3];  
2 numbers.reverse();  
3 console.log(numbers); // [3, 2, 1]
```

.join(): Joins all elements of an array into a **string** and returns this string. You can specify a **separator** to insert between the elements.


```
1 let fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"];  
2 let fruitString = fruits.join(", ");  
3 console.log(fruitString); // "apple, banana, cherry"
```

.split(): Splits a string into an **array of substrings**, and returns the new array. This method is the **opposite** of **join()**.

```
1 let fruitString = "apple, banana, cherry";  
2 let fruits = fruitString.split(", ");  
3 console.log(fruits); // ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]
```

.some()

.some(): Checks if at least one element in the array passes a test (provided as a function). If it finds an element for which the provided function returns true, it immediately returns true and stops. Otherwise, it returns false.




```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2 let hasEvenNumber = numbers.some(function(number) {
3     return number % 2 === 0;
4 });
5 console.log(hasEvenNumber); // true, because there are even numbers (2 and 4)
```

In this example, **some()** checks if there are any even numbers in the numbers array. Since 2 and 4 are even, it returns true.

This is particularly useful when you want to know if **any** element in an array meets a particular condition.

.every()

.every(): Checks if all elements in the array **pass a test** (provided as a function). If all elements pass the test, it returns true. If any element fails the test, **it returns false and stops**.



```
1 let numbers = [2, 4, 6, 8];
2 let allEven = numbers.every(function(number) {
3     return number % 2 === 0;
4 });
5 console.log(allEven); // true, because all numbers are even
```

In this example, **every()** checks if all the numbers in the array are even. Since they are, it returns true.

This is particularly useful when you want to know if **all** element in an array meets a particular condition.

Combining Array Methods for Powerful Data Manipulation

Array methods can be chained together to perform complex data manipulations with minimal code.

Here is an example:

You have an array named `products` that contains objects representing different products. Each product has a `name`, `price`, and `inStock` status.



```
1 const products = [  
2   { name: 'Laptop', price: 999, inStock: true },  
3   { name: 'Mouse', price: 25, inStock: true },  
4   { name: 'Keyboard', price: 75, inStock: false },  
5   { name: 'Monitor', price: 150, inStock: true }  
6 ];  
7  
8 const totalPrice = products  
9   .filter(product => product.inStock && product.price > 50)  
10  .reduce((acc, curr) => acc + curr.price, 0);  
11  
12 console.log(totalPrice); // Output: 1149
```

Explanation:

- The `filter()` method is used to create a new array that only includes products that are both in stock (`inStock: true`) and have a price greater than \$50 (`price > 50`).
- The `reduce()` method then takes the filtered array and sums up the prices of the remaining products. The `acc` variable accumulates the total price, starting at 0.
- The `totalPrice` variable will hold the sum of the prices of the products that passed the filter. In this case, the `Laptop ($999)` and `Monitor ($150)` are both in stock and cost more than \$50, so their prices are added together.



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