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The '===' operator is a strict equality operator in many programming languages such as JavaScript, TypeScript, and PHP. It compares two values for equality without performing any type conversion or coercion.

When using the '===' operator, both the value and the type of the operands are compared. If the values are equal and of the same type, the result is true. Otherwise, the result is false. For example, the expression `1 === 1` evaluates to true because both operands are the number 1 and are of the same type. However, the expression `1 === "1"` evaluates to false because the operands are not of the same type.

The '===' operator is often used in situations where type coercion could cause unexpected behavior. For example, in JavaScript, the '==' operator performs type coercion before comparing values, which can lead to unexpected results. Therefore, when comparing values in JavaScript, it is generally recommended to use the '===' operator instead of '=='.