

SpeechSynthesis API

This document contains everything you need to know, to get started in using the Javascript SpeechSynthesis API.

Abstract

The **SpeechSynthesis** API, is a browser API that allows you to convert plain text into human-like speech. The API is supported by most browsers and can be used with **Javascript**.

Creating a SpeechSynthesis Object

```
const synth = window.speechSynthesis;
```

List available voices

```
const voices = speechSynthesis.getVoices();
voices.forEach(voice => {
  console.log(voice); // Logging voice object
});
```

Generate speech

```
...

if(synth.speaking) {
  console.error("A voice is already speaking");
  return;
}

const utterThis = new SpeechSynthesisUtterance("sample text");
const firstVoice = speechSynthesis.getVoices()[0]; // Selecting first voice

utterThis.voice = firstVoice;

synth.speak(utterThis);

...
```

In this example we are using the first voice that is available as our voice. Note that you can use the **getVoice()** method, to select an appropriate voice. See [List available device](#).

Speak function

Below you see the code for the the speak function which you can use to abstract the SpeechSynthesis method.

```
function speak(text, voice) {  
  if(synth.speaking) {  
    console.error("Error: A voice is already speaking!");  
    return;  
  }  
  
  const utterThis = new SpeechSynthesisUtterance(text);  
  utterThis.voice = voice;  
  synth.speak(utterThis);  
}
```