

Ξ

↑ Current Skill Introduction to JavaScript

## Introduction to JavaScript

JavaScript is the most widely used scripting language on Earth. It has the largest library ecosystem of any programming language.

JavaScript is the core language of the web and the only programming language that can run in all major web browsers.

The programs in JavaScript are called scripts. They can be written right into a web page's HTML and run automatically as the page loads.

Keep in mind, JavaScript has nothing to do with Java.



## Introduction to JavaScript

Inside the browser, JavaScript can do everything related to webpage manipulation, interaction with the user, and the webserver.

For instance, inside the browser JavaScript is able to:

- Add new HTML to the page, change the existing content, and modify styles.
- React to user actions, run on mouse clicks, pointer movements, and key presses.
- Send requests over the network to remote servers and download and upload files (so-called AJAX and COMET technologies).

• Get and set cookies, ask questions to the visitor, and show messages.



## Introduction to JavaScript

JavaScript was standardized in 1997 under the name ECMAScript. Since then, the language has undergone several rounds of improvements to fix awkwardness and support new features.

This course uses the ES2015 standardized version of JavaScript, also called ES6.

This version brings a lot of interesting novelties to the table. It is now well-supported by most environments and platforms, starting with web browsers (more details in this compatibility table).

## **ECMAScript Releases**



Previous next >

Ш

P

\*

0

•