

## JavaScript : Module ⑥

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### ◊ Prototype :

- In JS, every object has a hidden property called `[[Prototype]]` (sometimes referred as `__proto__`).

• If you try to access a property or method of an object and it is not found, JS looks for it in object's prototype.

• This process continues upto prototype chain until it either finds the property or reaches the end (null).

i. To share methods & properties among many objects without duplicating code.

ii. Saves memory and keeps code efficient.

iii. Forms Backbone of inheritance in JS.

### ① Using `__proto__` (old way):

```
let computer = {cpu: 12};
```

```
let lenovo = {screen: "HD", __proto__: computer};
```

```
console.log(lenovo.cpu); // 12
```

→ lenovo doesn't have cpu → JS check lenovo.\_\_proto\_\_

→ finds computer → sees CPU = 12 → returns 12.

Similar approach

### ② Using `Object.getPrototypeOf` (Modern way):

```
let genericCar = {tyres: 4};
```

```
let tesla = {driver: "AI"};
```

```
Object.getPrototypeOf(tesla, genericCar);
```

→ tesla inherits from genericCar



### ↓ constructor :

- It is a special function used to create and initialize objects.
- It is a blueprint for objects.
- By convention, constructor function names start with capital letter.
- We call them with new keyword to create objects.

ex: `function Person (name, age) {`  
     `this.name = name; // 'this' refers to new object being create`  
     `this.age = age;`  
     `this.sayHello = function () {`  
         `console.log('Hi, I'm ' + this.name + ' and I'm ' + this.age + ' years old.');`  
     `}`  
     `}`  
     `let p1 = new Person('Alex', 20);`  
     `let p2 = new Person('Neha', 21);`  
     `p1.sayHello(); // Hi, I'm Alex and I'm 20 years old`  
     `p2.sayHello(); // Hi, I'm Neha and I'm 21 years old`

### \* constructor with prototype

- If we put methods inside the constructor, each object gets its own copy → not memory efficient.
- Better : put methods on the prototype.

ex: `function Person (name, age) {`  
     `this.name = name;`  
     `this.age = age;`  
     `}`



11 Shared by all objects

```
Person.prototype.sayHello = function () {  
  console.log ('Hi I'm $ {this.name} and I'm $ {this.age}  
    years old. ');  
};
```

```
let p1 = new Person ('Alex', 20);  
let p2 = new Person ('Neha', 21);  
p1.sayHello();
```

\* constructor safety check with new.target =

```
function Drink (name) {  
  if (!new.target) {  
    throw new Error ('Drink must be called with  
      new keyword');  
  }  
  this.name = name;  
}
```

```
let tea = new Drink ('chai'); // ✓
```

```
let coffee = Drink ('Coffee'); // ✗ Error
```

o) new.target is a special built in reference available inside constructor.

o) it's undefined if the function is not called with new.