

Comment Your JavaScript Code

Comments are lines of code that JavaScript will intentionally ignore. Comments are a great way to leave notes to yourself and to other people who will later need to figure out what that code does.

There are two ways to write comments in JavaScript:

Using `//` will tell JavaScript to ignore the remainder of the text on the current line:

```
// This is an in-line comment.
```

You can make a multi-line comment beginning with `/*` and ending with `*/`:

```
/* This is a  
multi-line comment */
```

Best Practice

As you write code, you should regularly add comments to clarify the function of parts of your code. Good commenting can help communicate the intent of your code—both for others *and* for your future self.

Declare JavaScript Variables

In computer science, *data* is anything that is meaningful to the computer. JavaScript provides eight different *data types* which are `undefined`, `null`, `boolean`, `string`, `symbol`, `bigint`, `number`, and `object`.

For example, computers distinguish between numbers, such as the number `12`, and `strings`, such as `"12"`, `"dog"`, or `"123 cats"`, which are collections of characters. Computers can perform mathematical operations on a number, but not on a string.

Variables allow computers to store and manipulate data in a dynamic fashion. They do this by using a "label" to point to the data rather than using the data itself. Any of the eight data types may be stored in a variable.

`Variables` are similar to the `x` and `y` variables you use in mathematics, which means they're a simple name to represent the data we want to refer to. Computer `variables` differ from mathematical variables in that they can store different values at different times.

We tell JavaScript to create or *declare* a variable by putting the keyword `var` in front of it, like so:

```
var ourName;
```

creates a `variable` called `ourName`. In JavaScript we end statements with semicolons. `Variable` names can be made up of numbers, letters, and `$` or `_`, but may not contain spaces or start with a number.

Storing Values with the Assignment Operator

In JavaScript, you can store a value in a variable with the *assignment* operator (`=`).

```
myVariable = 5;
```

This assigns the `Number` value `5` to `myVariable`.

If there are any calculations to the right of the `=` operator, those are performed before the value is assigned to the variable on the left of the operator.

```
var myVar;
```

```
myVar = 5;
```

First, this code creates a variable named `myVar`. Then, the code assigns `5` to `myVar`. Now, if `myVar` appears again in the code, the program will treat it as if it is `5`.

Assigning the Value of One Variable to Another

After a value is assigned to a variable using the *assignment* operator, you can assign the value of that variable to another variable using the *assignment* operator.

```
var myVar;
```

```
myVar = 5;
```

```
var myNum;
```

```
myNum = myVar;
```

The above declares a `myVar` variable with no value, then assigns it the value `5`. Next, a variable named `myNum` is declared with no value. Then, the contents of `myVar` (which is `5`) is assigned to the variable `myNum`. Now, `myNum` also has the value of `5`.

Initializing Variables with the Assignment Operator

It is common to *initialize* a variable to an initial value in the same line as it is declared.

```
var myVar = 0;
```

Creates a new variable called `myVar` and assigns it an initial value of `0`.

Understanding Uninitialized Variables

When JavaScript variables are declared, they have an initial value of `undefined`. If you do a mathematical operation on an `undefined` variable your result will be `NaN` which means *"Not a Number"*. If you concatenate a string with an `undefined` variable, you will get a literal *string* of `"undefined"`.

Understanding Case Sensitivity in Variables

In JavaScript all variables and function names are case sensitive. This means that capitalization matters.

`MYVAR` is not the same as `MyVar` nor `myvar`. It is possible to have multiple distinct variables with the same name but different casing. It is strongly recommended that for the sake of clarity, you *do not* use this language feature.

Best Practice

Write variable names in JavaScript in *camelCase*. In *camelCase*, multi-word variable names have the first word in lowercase and the first letter of each subsequent word is capitalized.

Examples:

```
var someVariable;  
var anotherVariableName;  
var thisVariableNameIsSoLong;
```

Add Two Numbers with JavaScript

`Number` is a data type in JavaScript which represents numeric data.

Now let's try to add two numbers using JavaScript.

JavaScript uses the `+` symbol as an addition operator when placed between two numbers.

Example:

```
myVar = 5 + 10; // assigned 15
```

Subtract One Number from Another with JavaScript

We can also subtract one number from another.

JavaScript uses the `-` symbol for subtraction.

Example

```
myVar = 12 - 6; // assigned 6
```

Multiply Two Numbers with JavaScript

We can also multiply one number by another.

JavaScript uses the `*` symbol for multiplication of two numbers.

Example

```
myVar = 13 * 13; // assigned 169
```

Divide One Number by Another with JavaScript

We can also divide one number by another.

JavaScript uses the `/` symbol for division.

Example

```
myVar = 16 / 2; // assigned 8
```

Increment a Number with JavaScript

You can easily *increment* or add one to a variable with the `++` operator.

```
i++;
```

is the equivalent of

```
i = i + 1;
```

Note

The entire line becomes `i++;`, eliminating the need for the equal sign.

Decrement a Number with JavaScript

You can easily *decrement* or decrease a variable by one with the `--` operator.

```
i--;
```

is the equivalent of

```
i = i - 1;
```

Note

The entire line becomes `i--;`, eliminating the need for the equal sign.

Create Decimal Numbers with JavaScript

We can store decimal numbers in variables too. Decimal numbers are sometimes referred to as *floating point* numbers or *floats*.

Note

Not all real numbers can accurately be represented in *floating point*. This can lead to rounding errors. [Details Here](#).

Finding a Remainder in JavaScript

The *remainder* operator `%` gives the remainder of the division of two numbers.

Example

`5 % 2 = 1` because

`Math.floor(5 / 2) = 2` (Quotient)

`2 * 2 = 4`

`5 - 4 = 1` (Remainder)

Usage

In mathematics, a number can be checked to be even or odd by checking the remainder of the division of the number by 2.

`17 % 2 = 1` (17 is Odd)

`48 % 2 = 0` (48 is Even)

Note

The *remainder* operator is sometimes incorrectly referred to as the "modulus" operator. It is very similar to modulus, but does not work properly with negative numbers.

Compound Assignment With Augmented Addition

In programming, it is common to use assignments to modify the contents of a variable. Remember that everything to the right of the equals sign is evaluated first, so we can say:

```
myVar = myVar + 5;
```

to add 5 to `myVar`. Since this is such a common pattern, there are operators which do both a mathematical operation and assignment in one step.

One such operator is the `+=` operator.

```
var myVar = 1;  
myVar += 5;  
console.log(myVar); // Returns 6
```

Compound Assignment With Augmented Subtraction

Like the `+=` operator, `-=` subtracts a number from a variable.

```
myVar = myVar - 5;
```

will subtract 5 from `myVar`. This can be rewritten as:

```
myVar -= 5;
```

Compound Assignment With Augmented Multiplication

The `*=` operator multiplies a variable by a number.

```
myVar = myVar * 5;
```

will multiply `myVar` by 5. This can be rewritten as:

```
myVar *= 5;
```

Compound Assignment With Augmented Division

The `/=` operator divides a variable by another number.

```
myVar = myVar / 5;
```

Will divide `myVar` by 5. This can be rewritten as:

```
myVar /= 5;
```

Declare String Variables

Previously we have used the code

```
var myName = "your name";
```

`"your name"` is called a *string literal*. It is a string because it is a series of zero or more characters enclosed in single or double quotes.

Escaping Literal Quotes in Strings

When you are defining a string you must start and end with a single or double quote. What happens when you need a literal quote: `"` or `'` inside of your string?

In JavaScript, you can *escape* a quote from considering it as an end of string quote by placing a *backslash* (`\`) in front of the quote.

```
var sampleStr = "Alan said, \"Peter is learning JavaScript\".";
```

This signals to JavaScript that the following quote is not the end of the string, but should instead appear inside the string. So if you were to print this to the console, you would get:

```
Alan said, "Peter is learning JavaScript".
```

Quoting Strings with Single Quotes

String values in JavaScript may be written with single or double quotes, as long as you start and end with the same type of quote. Unlike some other programming languages, single and double quotes work the same in JavaScript.

```
doubleQuoteStr = "This is a string";
```

```
singleQuoteStr = 'This is also a string';
```

The reason why you might want to use one type of quote over the other is if you want to use both in a string. This might happen if you want to save a conversation in a string and have the conversation in quotes. Another use for it would be saving an `<a>` tag with various attributes in quotes, all within a string.

```
conversation = 'Finn exclaims to Jake, "Algebraic!";
```

However, this becomes a problem if you need to use the outermost quotes within it. Remember, a string has the same kind of quote at the beginning and end. But if you have that same quote somewhere in the middle, the string will stop early and throw an error.

```
goodStr = 'Jake asks Finn, "Hey, let\'s go on an adventure?";  
badStr = 'Finn responds, "Let\'s go!"; // Throws an error
```

In the *goodStr* above, you can use both quotes safely by using the backslash `\` as an escape character.

Note: The backslash `\` should not be confused with the forward slash `/`. They do not do the same thing.

Escape Sequences in Strings

Quotes are not the only characters that can be *escaped* inside a string. There are two reasons to use escaping characters:

1. To allow you to use characters you may not otherwise be able to type out, such as a carriage return.
2. To allow you to represent multiple quotes in a string without JavaScript misinterpreting what you mean.

We learned this in the previous challenge.

<u>Code</u>	<u>Output</u>
<code>\'</code>	single quote
<code>\"</code>	double quote
<code>\\</code>	backslash

Code

Output

`\n`

newline

`\r`

carriage return

`\t`

tab

`\b`

word boundary

`\f`

form feed

Note that the backslash itself must be escaped in order to display as a backslash.

Concatenating Strings with Plus Operator

In JavaScript, when the `+` operator is used with a `String` value, it is called the *concatenation* operator. You can build a new string out of other strings by *concatenating* them together.

Example

```
'My name is Alan,' + ' I concatenate.'
```

Note

Watch out for spaces. Concatenation does not add spaces between concatenated strings, so you'll need to add them yourself.

Example:

```
var ourStr = "I come first. " + "I come second.";
// ourStr is "I come first. I come second."
```

Concatenating Strings with the Plus Equals Operator

We can also use the `+=` operator to *concatenate* a string onto the end of an existing string variable. This can be very helpful to break a long string over several lines.

Note

Watch out for spaces. Concatenation does not add spaces between concatenated strings, so you'll need to add them yourself.

Example:

```
var ourStr = "I come first. ";  
ourStr += "I come second.";   
// ourStr is now "I come first. I come second."
```

Constructing Strings with Variables

Sometimes you will need to build a string, [Mad Libs](#) style. By using the concatenation operator (+), you can insert one or more variables into a string you're building.

Example:

```
var ourName = "freeCodeCamp";  
var ourStr = "Hello, our name is " + ourName + ", how are you?";  
// ourStr is now "Hello, our name is freeCodeCamp, how are you?"
```

Appending Variables to Strings

Just as we can build a string over multiple lines out of string *literals*, we can also append variables to a string using the plus equals (+=) operator.

Example:

```
var anAdjective = "awesome!";  
var ourStr = "freeCodeCamp is ";  
ourStr += anAdjective;  
// ourStr is now "freeCodeCamp is awesome!"
```

Find the Length of a String

You can find the length of a `String` value by writing `.length` after the string variable or string literal.

```
"Alan Peter".length; // 10
```

For example, if we created a variable `var firstName = "Charles"`, we could find out how long the string "Charles" is by using the `firstName.length` property.

Use Bracket Notation to Find the First Character in a String

Bracket notation is a way to get a character at a specific `index` within a string.

Most modern programming languages, like JavaScript, don't start counting at 1 like humans do. They start at 0. This is referred to as *Zero-based* indexing.

For example, the character at index 0 in the word "Charles" is "C". So if `var firstName = "Charles"`, you can get the value of the first letter of the string by using `firstName[0]`.

Example:

```
var firstName = "Charles";  
var firstLetter = firstName[0]; // firstLetter is "C"
```

Understand String Immutability

In JavaScript, `String` values are *immutable*, which means that they cannot be altered once created.

For example, the following code:

```
var myStr = "Bob";  
myStr[0] = "J";
```

cannot change the value of `myStr` to "Job", because the contents of `myStr` cannot be altered. Note that this does *not* mean that `myStr` cannot be changed, just that the individual characters of a *string literal* cannot be changed. The only way to change `myStr` would be to assign it with a new string, like this:

```
var myStr = "Bob";  
myStr = "Job";
```

Use Bracket Notation to Find the Nth Character in a String

You can also use *bracket notation* to get the character at other positions within a string.

Remember that computers start counting at 0, so the first character is actually the zeroth character.

Example:

```
var firstName = "Ada";  
var secondLetterOfFirstName = firstName[1]; //  
secondLetterOfFirstName is "d"
```

Use Bracket Notation to Find the Last Character in a String

In order to get the last letter of a string, you can subtract one from the string's length.

For example, if `var firstName = "Charles"`, you can get the value of the last letter of the string by using `firstName[firstName.length - 1]`.

Example:

```
var firstName = "Charles";  
var lastLetter = firstName[firstName.length - 1]; // lastLetter is  
"s"
```

Use Bracket Notation to Find the Nth-to-Last Character in a String

You can use the same principle we just used to retrieve the last character in a string to retrieve the Nth-to-last character.

For example, you can get the value of the third-to-last letter of the `var firstName = "Charles"` string by using `firstName[firstName.length - 3]`

Example:

```
var firstName = "Charles";  
var thirdToLastLetter = firstName[firstName.length - 3]; //  
thirdToLastLetter is "l"
```

Store Multiple Values in one Variable using JavaScript Arrays

With JavaScript `array` variables, we can store several pieces of data in one place.

You start an array declaration with an opening square bracket, end it with a closing square bracket, and put a comma between each entry, like this:

```
var sandwich = ["peanut butter", "jelly", "bread"].
```

Nest one Array within Another Array

You can also nest arrays within other arrays, like below:

```
[["Bulls", 23], ["White Sox", 45]]
```

This is also called a *multi-dimensional array*.

Access Array Data with Indexes

We can access the data inside arrays using *indexes*.

Array indexes are written in the same bracket notation that strings use, except that instead of specifying a character, they are specifying an entry in the array. Like strings, arrays use *zero-based* indexing, so the first element in an array has an index of 0.

Example

```
var array = [50,60,70];  
array[0]; // equals 50  
var data = array[1]; // equals 60
```

Note

There shouldn't be any spaces between the array name and the square brackets, like `array [0]`. Although JavaScript is able to process this correctly, this may confuse other programmers reading your code.

Modify Array Data With Indexes

Unlike strings, the entries of arrays are *mutable* and can be changed freely.

Example

```
var ourArray = [50,40,30];  
ourArray[0] = 15; // equals [15,40,30]
```

Note

There shouldn't be any spaces between the array name and the square brackets, like `array [0]`. Although JavaScript is able to process this correctly, this may confuse other programmers reading your code.

Access Multi-Dimensional Arrays With Indexes

One way to think of a *multi-dimensional* array, is as an *array of arrays*. When you use brackets to access your array, the first set of brackets refers to the entries in the outer-most (the first level) array, and each additional pair of brackets refers to the next level of entries inside.

Example

```
var arr = [  
  [1,2,3],  
  [4,5,6],  
  [7,8,9],  
  [[10,11,12], 13, 14]  
];  
arr[3]; // equals [[10,11,12], 13, 14]  
arr[3][0]; // equals [10,11,12]  
arr[3][0][1]; // equals 11
```

Note

There shouldn't be any spaces between the array name and the square brackets, like `array [0][0]` and even this `array [0] [0]` is not allowed. Although JavaScript is able to process this correctly, this may confuse other programmers reading your code.

Manipulate Arrays With push()

An easy way to append data to the end of an array is via the `push()` function.

`.push()` takes one or more *parameters* and "pushes" them onto the end of the array.

Examples:

```
var arr1 = [1,2,3];
arr1.push(4);
// arr1 is now [1,2,3,4]

var arr2 = ["Stimpson", "J", "cat"];
arr2.push("happy", "joy");
// arr2 now equals ["Stimpson", "J", "cat", "happy", "joy"]
```

Manipulate Arrays With pop()

Another way to change the data in an array is with the `.pop()` function.

`.pop()` is used to "pop" a value off of the end of an array. We can store this "popped off" value by assigning it to a variable. In other words, `.pop()` removes the last element from an array and returns that element.

Any type of entry can be "popped" off of an array - numbers, strings, even nested arrays.

```
var threeArr = [1, 4, 6];
var oneDown = threeArr.pop();
console.log(oneDown); // Returns 6
console.log(threeArr); // Returns [1, 4]
```

Manipulate Arrays With shift()

`pop()` always removes the last element of an array. What if you want to remove the first?

That's where `.shift()` comes in. It works just like `.pop()`, except it removes the first element instead of the last.

Example:

```
var ourArray = ["Stimpson", "J", ["cat"]];
var removedFromOurArray = ourArray.shift();
// removedFromOurArray now equals "Stimpson" and ourArray now
equals ["J", ["cat"]].
```

Manipulate Arrays With unshift()

Not only can you `shift` elements off of the beginning of an array, you can also `unshift` elements to the beginning of an array i.e. add elements in front of the array.

`.unshift()` works exactly like `.push()`, but instead of adding the element at the end of the array, `unshift()` adds the element at the beginning of the array.

Example:

```
var ourArray = ["Stimpson", "J", "cat"];
ourArray.shift(); // ourArray now equals ["J", "cat"]
ourArray.unshift("Happy");
// ourArray now equals ["Happy", "J", "cat"]
```

Write Reusable JavaScript with Functions

In JavaScript, we can divide up our code into reusable parts called *functions*.

Here's an example of a function:

```
function functionName() {
  console.log("Hello World");
}
```

You can call or *invoke* this function by using its name followed by parentheses, like this: `functionName()`; Each time the function is called it will print out the message "Hello World" on the dev console. All of the code between the curly braces will be executed every time the function is called.

Passing Values to Functions with Arguments

Parameters are variables that act as placeholders for the values that are to be input to a function when it is called. When a function is defined, it is typically defined along with one or more parameters. The actual values that are input (or "*passed*") into a function when it is called are known as *arguments*.

Here is a function with two parameters, `param1` and `param2`:

```
function testFun(param1, param2) {  
  console.log(param1, param2);  
}
```

Then we can call `testFun`: `testFun("Hello", "World");` We have passed two arguments, "Hello" and "World". Inside the function, `param1` will equal "Hello" and `param2` will equal "World". Note that you could call `testFun` again with different arguments and the parameters would take on the value of the new arguments.

Global Scope and Functions

In JavaScript, *scope* refers to the visibility of variables. Variables which are defined outside of a function block have *Global* scope. This means, they can be seen everywhere in your JavaScript code.

Variables which are used without the `var` keyword are automatically created in the *global* scope. This can create unintended consequences elsewhere in your code or when running a function again. You should always declare your variables with `var`.

Local Scope and Functions

Variables which are declared within a function, as well as the function parameters have *local* scope. That means, they are only visible within that function.

Here is a function `myTest` with a local variable called `loc`.

```
function myTest() {  
  var loc = "foo";  
  console.log(loc);  
}  
  
myTest(); // logs "foo"  
console.log(loc); // loc is not defined
```

`loc` is not defined outside of the function.

Global vs. Local Scope in Functions

It is possible to have both *local* and *global* variables with the same name. When you do this, the `local` variable takes precedence over the `global` variable.

In this example:

```
var someVar = "Hat";  
function myFun() {  
  var someVar = "Head";  
  return someVar;  
}
```

The function `myFun` will return "Head" because the `local` version of the variable is present.

Return a Value from a Function with Return

We can pass values into a function with *arguments*. You can use a `return` statement to send a value back out of a function.

Example

```
function plusThree(num) {  
  return num + 3;  
}  
  
var answer = plusThree(5); // 8
```

`plusThree` takes an *argument* for `num` and returns a value equal to `num + 3`.

Understanding Undefined Value returned from a Function

A function can include the `return` statement but it does not have to. In the case that the function doesn't have a `return` statement, when you call it, the function processes the inner code but the returned value is `undefined`.

Example

```
var sum = 0;
function addSum(num) {
    sum = sum + num;
}
addSum(3); // sum will be modified but returned value is undefined
```

`addSum` is a function without a `return` statement. The function will change the global `sum` variable but the returned value of the function is `undefined`.

Assignment with a Returned Value

If you'll recall from our discussion of [Storing Values with the Assignment Operator](#), everything to the right of the equal sign is resolved before the value is assigned. This means we can take the return value of a function and assign it to a variable.

Assume we have pre-defined a function `sum` which adds two numbers together, then:

```
ourSum = sum(5, 12);
```

will call `sum` function, which returns a value of `17` and assigns it to `ourSum` variable.

Understanding Boolean Values

Another data type is the *Boolean*. `Booleans` may only be one of two values: `true` or `false`. They are basically little on-off switches, where `true` is "on" and `false` is "off." These two states are mutually exclusive.

Note

`Boolean` values are never written with quotes. The strings `"true"` and `"false"` are not `Boolean` and have no special meaning in JavaScript.

Use Conditional Logic with If Statements

If statements are used to make decisions in code. The keyword `if` tells JavaScript to execute the code in the curly braces under certain conditions, defined in the parentheses. These conditions are known as `Boolean` conditions and they may only be `true` or `false`.

When the condition evaluates to `true`, the program executes the statement inside the curly braces. When the Boolean condition evaluates to `false`, the statement inside the curly braces will not execute.

Pseudocode

```
if (condition is true) {  
    statement is executed  
}
```

Example

```
function test (myCondition) {  
    if (myCondition) {  
        return "It was true";  
    }  
    return "It was false";  
}  
  
test(true); // returns "It was true"  
test(false); // returns "It was false"
```

When `test` is called with a value of `true`, the `if` statement evaluates `myCondition` to see if it is `true` or not. Since it is `true`, the function returns "It was true". When we call `test` with a value of `false`, `myCondition` is *not* `true` and the statement in the curly braces is not executed and the function returns "It was false".

Comparison with the Equality Operator

There are many *comparison operators* in JavaScript. All of these operators return a boolean `true` or `false` value.

The most basic operator is the equality operator `==`. The equality operator compares two values and returns `true` if they're equivalent or `false` if they are not. Note that equality is different from assignment (`=`), which assigns the value on the right of the operator to a variable on the left.

```
function equalityTest(myVal) {  
  if (myVal == 10) {  
    return "Equal";  
  }  
  return "Not Equal";  
}
```

If `myVal` is equal to `10`, the equality operator returns `true`, so the code in the curly braces will execute, and the function will return `"Equal"`. Otherwise, the function will return `"Not Equal"`. In order for JavaScript to compare two different *data types* (for example, `numbers` and `strings`), it must convert one type to another. This is known as "Type Coercion". Once it does, however, it can compare terms as follows:

```
1 == 1    // true  
1 == 2    // false  
1 == '1'  // true  
"3" == 3  // true
```

Comparison with the Strict Equality Operator

Strict equality (`===`) is the counterpart to the equality operator (`==`). However, unlike the equality operator, which attempts to convert both values being compared to a common type, the strict equality operator does not perform a type conversion.

If the values being compared have different types, they are considered unequal, and the strict equality operator will return `false`.

Examples

```
3 === 3    // true  
3 === '3'  // false
```

In the second example, `3` is a `Number` type and `'3'` is a `String` type.

Comparison with the Inequality Operator

The inequality operator (`!==`) is the opposite of the equality operator. It means "Not Equal" and returns `false` where equality would return `true` and *vice versa*. Like the equality operator, the inequality operator will convert data types of values while comparing.

Examples

```
1 !== 2      // true
1 !== "1"    // false
1 !== '1'    // false
1 !== true   // false
0 !== false  // false
```

Comparison with the Strict Inequality Operator

The strict inequality operator (`!==`) is the logical opposite of the strict equality operator. It means "Strictly Not Equal" and returns `false` where strict equality would return `true` and *vice versa*. Strict inequality will not convert data types.

Examples

```
3 !== 3      // false
3 !== '3'    // true
4 !== 3      // true
```

Comparison with the Greater Than Operator

The greater than operator (`>`) compares the values of two numbers. If the number to the left is greater than the number to the right, it returns `true`. Otherwise, it returns `false`.

Like the equality operator, greater than operator will convert data types of values while comparing.

Examples

```
5 > 3      // true
7 > '3'    // true
2 > 3      // false
'1' > 9     // false
```

Comparison with the Greater Than Or Equal To Operator

The greater than or equal to operator (`>=`) compares the values of two numbers. If the number to the left is greater than or equal to the number to the right, it returns `true`. Otherwise, it returns `false`.

Like the equality operator, `greater than or equal to` operator will convert data types while comparing.

Examples

```
6    >= 6    // true
7    >= '3'   // true
2    >= 3     // false
'7'  >= 9     // false
```

Comparison with the Less Than Operator

The *less than* operator (`<`) compares the values of two numbers. If the number to the left is less than the number to the right, it returns `true`. Otherwise, it returns `false`. Like the equality operator, *less than* operator converts data types while comparing.

Examples

```
2    < 5     // true
'3'  < 7     // true
5    < 5     // false
3    < 2     // false
'8'  < 4     // false
```

Comparison with the Less Than Or Equal To Operator

The less than or equal to operator (`<=`) compares the values of two numbers. If the number to the left is less than or equal to the number to the right, it returns `true`. If the number on the left is greater than the number on the right, it returns `false`. Like the equality operator, `less than or equal to` converts data types.

Examples

```
4    <= 5     // true
'7'  <= 7     // true
```

```
5   <= 5  // true
3   <= 2  // false
'8' <= 4  // false
```

Comparisons with the Logical And Operator

Sometimes you will need to test more than one thing at a time. The *logical and* operator (`&&`) returns `true` if and only if the *operands* to the left and right of it are true.

The same effect could be achieved by nesting an if statement inside another if:

```
if (num > 5) {
  if (num < 10) {
    return "Yes";
  }
}
return "No";
```

will only return "Yes" if `num` is greater than 5 and less than 10. The same logic can be written as:

```
if (num > 5 && num < 10) {
  return "Yes";
}
return "No";
```

Comparisons with the Logical Or Operator

The *logical or* operator (`||`) returns `true` if either of the *operands* is `true`. Otherwise, it returns `false`.

The *logical or* operator is composed of two pipe symbols: (`||`). This can typically be found between your Backspace and Enter keys.

The pattern below should look familiar from prior waypoints:

```
if (num > 10) {
  return "No";
}
```



```
if (num < 5) {  
    return "No";  
}  
return "Yes";
```

will return "Yes" only if `num` is between 5 and 10 (5 and 10 included). The same logic can be written as:

```
if (num > 10 || num < 5) {  
    return "No";  
}  
return "Yes";
```

Introducing Else Statements

When a condition for an `if` statement is true, the block of code following it is executed. What about when that condition is false? Normally nothing would happen. With an `else` statement, an alternate block of code can be executed.

```
if (num > 10) {  
    return "Bigger than 10";  
} else {  
    return "10 or Less";  
}
```

Introducing Else If Statements

If you have multiple conditions that need to be addressed, you can chain `if` statements together with `else if` statements.

```
if (num > 15) {  
    return "Bigger than 15";  
} else if (num < 5) {  
    return "Smaller than 5";  
} else {  
    return "Between 5 and 15";  
}
```

Logical Order in If Else Statements

Order is important in `if`, `else if` statements.

The function is executed from top to bottom so you will want to be careful of what statement comes first.

Take these two functions as an example.

Here's the first:

```
function foo(x) {  
  if (x < 1) {  
    return "Less than one";  
  } else if (x < 2) {  
    return "Less than two";  
  } else {  
    return "Greater than or equal to two";  
  }  
}
```

And the second just switches the order of the statements:

```
function bar(x) {  
  if (x < 2) {  
    return "Less than two";  
  } else if (x < 1) {  
    return "Less than one";  
  } else {  
    return "Greater than or equal to two";  
  }  
}
```

While these two functions look nearly identical if we pass a number to both we get different outputs.

```
foo(0) // "Less than one"  
bar(0) // "Less than two"
```

Chaining If Else Statements

`if/else` statements can be chained together for complex logic. Here is *pseudocode* of multiple chained `if / else if` statements:

```
if (condition1) {  
    statement1  
} else if (condition2) {  
    statement2  
} else if (condition3) {  
    statement3  
    . . .  
} else {  
    statementN  
}
```

Selecting from Many Options with Switch Statements

If you have many options to choose from, use a *switch* statement. A `switch` statement tests a value and can have many *case* statements which define various possible values. Statements are executed from the first matched `case` value until a `break` is encountered.

Here is an example of a `switch` statement:

```
switch(lowercaseLetter) {  
    case "a":  
        console.log("A");  
        break;  
    case "b":  
        console.log("B");  
        break;  
}
```

`case` values are tested with strict equality (`===`). The `break` tells JavaScript to stop executing statements. If the `break` is omitted, the next statement will be executed.

Adding a Default Option in Switch Statements

In a `switch` statement you may not be able to specify all possible values as `case` statements. Instead, you can add the `default` statement which will be executed if no matching `case` statements are found. Think of it like the final `else` statement in an `if/else` chain.

A `default` statement should be the last case.

```
switch (num) {  
  case value1:  
    statement1;  
    break;  
  case value2:  
    statement2;  
    break;  
  ...  
  default:  
    defaultStatement;  
    break;  
}
```

Multiple Identical Options in Switch Statements

If the `break` statement is omitted from a `switch` statement's `case`, the following `case` statement(s) are executed until a `break` is encountered. If you have multiple inputs with the same output, you can represent them in a `switch` statement like this:

```
var result = "";  
switch(val) {  
  case 1:  
  case 2:  
  case 3:  
    result = "1, 2, or 3";  
    break;  
  case 4:  
    result = "4 alone";  
}
```

```
}
```

Cases for 1, 2, and 3 will all produce the same result.

Replacing If Else Chains with Switch

If you have many options to choose from, a `switch` statement can be easier to write than many chained `if/else if` statements. The following:

```
if (val === 1) {  
    answer = "a";  
} else if (val === 2) {  
    answer = "b";  
} else {  
    answer = "c";  
}
```

can be replaced with:

```
switch(val) {  
    case 1:  
        answer = "a";  
        break;  
    case 2:  
        answer = "b";  
        break;  
    default:  
        answer = "c";  
}
```

Returning Boolean Values from Functions

You may recall from [Comparison with the Equality Operator](#) that all comparison operators return a boolean `true` or `false` value.

Sometimes people use an if/else statement to do a comparison, like this:

```
function isEqual(a,b) {  
  if (a === b) {  
    return true;  
  } else {  
    return false;  
  }  
}
```

But there's a better way to do this. Since `===` returns `true` or `false`, we can return the result of the comparison:

```
function isEqual(a,b) {  
  return a === b;  
}
```

Return Early Pattern for Functions

When a `return` statement is reached, the execution of the current function stops and control returns to the calling location.

Example

```
function myFun() {  
  console.log("Hello");  
  return "World";  
  console.log("byebye")  
}  
myFun();
```

The above outputs "Hello" to the console, returns "World", but "byebye" is never output, because the function exits at the `return` statement.

Build JavaScript Objects

You may have heard the term `object` before.

Objects are similar to `arrays`, except that instead of using indexes to access and modify their data, you access the data in objects through what are called `properties`.

Objects are useful for storing data in a structured way, and can represent real world objects, like a cat.

Here's a sample cat object:

```
var cat = {  
  "name": "Whiskers",  
  "legs": 4,  
  "tails": 1,  
  "enemies": ["Water", "Dogs"]  
};
```

In this example, all the properties are stored as strings, such as - `"name"`, `"legs"`, and `"tails"`. However, you can also use numbers as properties. You can even omit the quotes for single-word string properties, as follows:

```
var anotherObject = {  
  make: "Ford",  
  5: "five",  
  "model": "focus"  
};
```

However, if your object has any non-string properties, JavaScript will automatically typecast them as strings.

Accessing Object Properties with Dot Notation

There are two ways to access the properties of an object: dot notation (`.`) and bracket notation (`[]`), similar to an array.

Dot notation is what you use when you know the name of the property you're trying to access ahead of time.

Here is a sample of using dot notation (`.`) to read an object's property:

```
var myObj = {  
  prop1: "val1",  
  prop2: "val2"  
};  
var prop1val = myObj.prop1; // val1  
var prop2val = myObj.prop2; // val2
```

Accessing Object Properties with Bracket Notation

The second way to access the properties of an object is bracket notation (`[]`). If the property of the object you are trying to access has a space in its name, you will need to use bracket notation.

However, you can still use bracket notation on object properties without spaces.

Here is a sample of using bracket notation to read an object's property:

```
var myObj = {  
  "Space Name": "Kirk",  
  "More Space": "Spock",  
  "NoSpace": "USS Enterprise"  
};  
myObj["Space Name"]; // Kirk  
myObj['More Space']; // Spock  
myObj["NoSpace"];    // USS Enterprise
```

Note that property names with spaces in them must be in quotes (single or double).

Accessing Object Properties with Variables

Another use of bracket notation on objects is to access a property which is stored as the value of a variable. This can be very useful for iterating through an object's properties or when accessing a lookup table.

Here is an example of using a variable to access a property:

```
var dogs = {  
  Fido: "Mutt",  Hunter: "Doberman",  Snoopie: "Beagle"  
};  
var myDog = "Hunter";
```



```
var myBreed = dogs[myDog];  
console.log(myBreed); // "Doberman"
```

Another way you can use this concept is when the property's name is collected dynamically during the program execution, as follows:

```
var someObj = {  
  propName: "John"  
};  
function propPrefix(str) {  
  var s = "prop";  
  return s + str;  
}  
var someProp = propPrefix("Name"); // someProp now holds the value  
'propName'  
console.log(someObj[someProp]); // "John"
```

Note that we do *not* use quotes around the variable name when using it to access the property because we are using the *value* of the variable, not the *name*.

Updating Object Properties

After you've created a JavaScript object, you can update its properties at any time just like you would update any other variable. You can use either dot or bracket notation to update.

For example, let's look at `ourDog`:

```
var ourDog = {  
  "name": "Camper",  
  "legs": 4,  
  "tails": 1,  
  "friends": ["everything!"]  
};
```

Since he's a particularly happy dog, let's change his name to "Happy Camper". Here's how we update his object's name property: `ourDog.name = "Happy Camper"`; or `ourDog["name"] = "Happy Camper"`; Now when we evaluate `ourDog.name`, instead of getting "Camper", we'll get his new name, "Happy Camper".

Add New Properties to a JavaScript Object

You can add new properties to existing JavaScript objects the same way you would modify them.

Here's how we would add a "bark" property to `ourDog`:

```
ourDog.bark = "bow-wow";
```

or

```
ourDog["bark"] = "bow-wow";
```

Now when we evaluate `ourDog.bark`, we'll get his bark, "bow-wow".

Example:

```
var ourDog = {  
  "name": "Camper",  
  "legs": 4,  
  "tails": 1,  
  "friends": ["everything!"]  
};  
  
ourDog.bark = "bow-wow";
```

Delete Properties from a JavaScript Object

We can also delete properties from objects like this:

```
delete ourDog.bark;
```

Example:

```
var ourDog = {  
  "name": "Camper",  
  "legs": 4,  
  "tails": 1,  
  "friends": ["everything!"],  
  "bark": "bow-wow"  
};
```

```
delete ourDog.bark;
```

After the last line shown above, `ourDog` looks like:

```
{  
  "name": "Camper",  
  "legs": 4,  
  "tails": 1,  
  "friends": ["everything!"]  
}
```

Using Objects for Lookups

Objects can be thought of as a key/value storage, like a dictionary. If you have tabular data, you can use an object to "lookup" values rather than a `switch` statement or an `if/else` chain. This is most useful when you know that your input data is limited to a certain range.

Here is an example of a simple reverse alphabet lookup:

```
var alpha = {  
  1: "Z",  
  2: "Y",  
  3: "X",  
  4: "W",  
  ...  
  24: "C",  
  25: "B",  
  26: "A"  
};  
  
alpha[2]; // "Y"  
alpha[24]; // "C"  
  
var value = 2;  
alpha[value]; // "Y"
```

Testing Objects for Properties

Sometimes it is useful to check if the property of a given object exists or not. We can use the `.hasOwnProperty(propname)` method of objects to determine if that object has the given property name. `.hasOwnProperty()` returns `true` or `false` if the property is found or not.

Example

```
var myObj = {  
  top: "hat",  
  bottom: "pants"  
};  
myObj.hasOwnProperty("top");    // true  
myObj.hasOwnProperty("middle"); // false
```

Manipulating Complex Objects

Sometimes you may want to store data in a flexible *Data Structure*. A JavaScript object is one way to handle flexible data. They allow for arbitrary combinations of *strings*, *numbers*, *booleans*, *arrays*, *functions*, and *objects*.

Here's an example of a complex data structure:

```
var ourMusic = [  
  {  
    "artist": "Daft Punk",  
    "title": "Homework",  
    "release_year": 1997,  
    "formats": [  
      "CD",  
      "Cassette",  
      "LP"  
    ],  
    "gold": true  
  }  
];
```

This is an array which contains one object inside. The object has various pieces of *metadata* about an album. It also has a nested `"formats"` array. If you want to add

more album records, you can do this by adding records to the top level array. Objects hold data in a property, which has a key-value format. In the example above, "artist": "Daft Punk" is a property that has a key of "artist" and a value of "Daft Punk". [JavaScript Object Notation](#) or JSON is a related data interchange format used to store data.

```
{
  "artist": "Daft Punk",
  "title": "Homework",
  "release_year": 1997,
  "formats": [
    "CD",
    "Cassette",
    "LP"
  ],
  "gold": true
}
```

Note

You will need to place a comma after every object in the array, unless it is the last object in the array.

Accessing Nested Objects

The sub-properties of objects can be accessed by chaining together the dot or bracket notation.

Here is a nested object:

```
var ourStorage = {
  "desk": {
    "drawer": "stapler"
  },
  "cabinet": {
    "top drawer": {
      "folder1": "a file",
      "folder2": "secrets"
    },
  },
}
```

```
    "bottom drawer": "soda"
  }
};
ourStorage.cabinet["top drawer"].folder2; // "secrets"
ourStorage.desk.drawer; // "stapler"
```

Accessing Nested Arrays

As we have seen in earlier examples, objects can contain both nested objects and nested arrays. Similar to accessing nested objects, Array bracket notation can be chained to access nested arrays.

Here is an example of how to access a nested array:

```
var ourPets = [
  {
    animalType: "cat",
    names: [
      "Meowzer",
      "Fluffy",
      "Kit-Cat"
    ]
  },
  {
    animalType: "dog",
    names: [
      "Spot",
      "Bowser",
      "Frankie"
    ]
  }
];
ourPets[0].names[1]; // "Fluffy"
ourPets[1].names[0]; // "Spot"
```

Iterate with JavaScript While Loops

You can run the same code multiple times by using a loop.

The first type of loop we will learn is called a `while` loop because it runs "while" a specified condition is true and stops once that condition is no longer true.

```
var ourArray = [];  
var i = 0;  
while(i < 5) {  
  ourArray.push(i);  
  i++;  
}
```

In the code example above, the `while` loop will execute 5 times and append the numbers 0 through 4 to `ourArray`.

Let's try getting a while loop to work by pushing values to an array.

Iterate with JavaScript For Loops

You can run the same code multiple times by using a loop.

The most common type of JavaScript loop is called a `for` loop because it runs "for" a specific number of times.

For loops are declared with three optional expressions separated by semicolons:

```
for ([initialization]; [condition]; [final-expression])
```

The `initialization` statement is executed one time only before the loop starts. It is typically used to define and setup your loop variable.

The `condition` statement is evaluated at the beginning of every loop iteration and will continue as long as it evaluates to `true`. When `condition` is `false` at the start of the iteration, the loop will stop executing. This means if `condition` starts as `false`, your loop will never execute.

The `final-expression` is executed at the end of each loop iteration, prior to the next `condition` check and is usually used to increment or decrement your loop counter.

In the following example we initialize with `i = 0` and iterate while our condition `i < 5` is true. We'll increment `i` by 1 in each loop iteration with `i++` as our `final-expression`.

```
var ourArray = [];  
for (var i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
  ourArray.push(i);  
}
```

`ourArray` will now contain `[0,1,2,3,4]`.

Iterate Odd Numbers With a For Loop

For loops don't have to iterate one at a time. By changing our `final-expression`, we can count by even numbers.

We'll start at `i = 0` and loop while `i < 10`. We'll increment `i` by 2 each loop with `i += 2`.

```
var ourArray = [];  
for (var i = 0; i < 10; i += 2) {  
  ourArray.push(i);  
}
```

`ourArray` will now contain `[0,2,4,6,8]`. Let's change our `initialization` so we can count by odd numbers.

Count Backwards With a For Loop

A for loop can also count backwards, so long as we can define the right conditions.

In order to decrement by two each iteration, we'll need to change our initialization, condition, and final-expression.

We'll start at `i = 10` and loop while `i > 0`. We'll decrement `i` by 2 each loop with `i -= 2`.

```
var ourArray = [];  
for (var i = 10; i > 0; i -= 2) {  
  ourArray.push(i);  
}
```

`ourArray` will now contain `[10,8,6,4,2]`. Let's change our initialization and final-expression so we can count backward by twos by odd numbers.

Iterate Through an Array with a For Loop

A common task in JavaScript is to iterate through the contents of an array. One way to do that is with a `for` loop. This code will output each element of the array `arr` to the console:

```
var arr = [10, 9, 8, 7, 6];  
for (var i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {  
  console.log(arr[i]);  
}
```

Remember that arrays have zero-based indexing, which means the last index of the array is `length - 1`. Our condition for this loop is `i < arr.length`, which stops the loop when `i` is equal to `length`. In this case the last iteration is `i === 4` i.e. when `i` becomes equal to `arr.length` and outputs `6` to the console.

Nesting For Loops

If you have a multi-dimensional array, you can use the same logic as the prior waypoint to loop through both the array and any sub-arrays. Here is an example:

```
var arr = [
  [1,2], [3,4], [5,6]
];
for (var i=0; i < arr.length; i++) {
  for (var j=0; j < arr[i].length; j++) {
    console.log(arr[i][j]);
  }
}
```

This outputs each sub-element in `arr` one at a time. Note that for the inner loop, we are checking the `.length` of `arr[i]`, since `arr[i]` is itself an array.

Iterate with JavaScript Do...While Loops

The next type of loop you will learn is called a `do...while` loop. It is called a `do...while` loop because it will first `do` one pass of the code inside the loop no matter what, and then continue to run the loop `while` the specified condition evaluates to `true`.

```
var ourArray = [];
var i = 0;
do {
  ourArray.push(i);
  i++;
} while (i < 5);
```

The example above behaves similar to other types of loops, and the resulting array will look like `[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]`. However, what makes the `do...while` different from other loops is how it behaves when the condition fails on the first check. Let's see this in action: Here is a regular `while` loop that will run the code in the loop as long as `i < 5`:

```

var ourArray = [];
var i = 5;
while (i < 5) {
  ourArray.push(i);
  i++;
}

```

In this example, we initialize the value of `ourArray` to an empty array and the value of `i` to 5. When we execute the `while` loop, the condition evaluates to `false` because `i` is not less than 5, so we do not execute the code inside the loop. The result is that `ourArray` will end up with no values added to it, and it will still look like `[]` when all of the code in the example above has completed running. Now, take a look at a `do...while` loop:

```

var ourArray = [];
var i = 5;
do {
  ourArray.push(i);
  i++;
} while (i < 5);

```

In this case, we initialize the value of `i` to 5, just like we did with the `while` loop. When we get to the next line, there is no condition to evaluate, so we go to the code inside the curly braces and execute it. We will add a single element to the array and then increment `i` before we get to the condition check. When we finally evaluate the condition `i < 5` on the last line, we see that `i` is now 6, which fails the conditional check, so we exit the loop and are done. At the end of the above example, the value of `ourArray` is `[5]`. Essentially, a `do...while` loop ensures that the code inside the loop will run at least once. Let's try getting a `do...while` loop to work by pushing values to an array.

Replace Loops using Recursion

Recursion is the concept that a function can be expressed in terms of itself. To help understand this, start by thinking about the following task: multiply the first `n` elements of an array to create the product of those elements. Using a `for` loop, you could do this:

```

function multiply(arr, n) {
  var product = 1;
  for (var i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    product *= arr[i];
  }
}

```

```
    return product;
}
```

However, notice that

$$\text{multiply}(\text{arr}, n) == \text{multiply}(\text{arr}, n - 1) * \text{arr}[n - 1]$$

That means you can rewrite `multiply` in terms of itself and never need to use a loop.

```
function multiply(arr, n) {
  if (n <= 0) {
    return 1;
  } else {
    return multiply(arr, n - 1) * arr[n - 1];
  }
}
```

The recursive version of `multiply` breaks down like this. In the *base case*, where $n \leq 0$, it returns 1. For larger values of n , it calls itself, but with $n - 1$. That function call is evaluated in the same way, calling `multiply` again until $n \leq 0$. At this point, all the functions can return and the original `multiply` returns the answer.

Note: Recursive functions must have a base case when they return without calling the function again (in this example, when $n \leq 0$), otherwise they can never finish executing.

Generate Random Fractions with JavaScript

Random numbers are useful for creating random behavior.

JavaScript has a `Math.random()` function that generates a random decimal number between 0 (inclusive) and not quite up to 1 (exclusive). Thus `Math.random()` can return a 0 but never quite return a 1

Note

Like [Storing Values with the Equal Operator](#), all function calls will be resolved before the `return` executes, so we can `return` the value of the `Math.random()` function.

Generate Random Whole Numbers with JavaScript

It's great that we can generate random decimal numbers, but it's even more useful if we use it to generate random whole numbers.

1. Use `Math.random()` to generate a random decimal.
2. Multiply that random decimal by 20.
3. Use another function, `Math.floor()` to round the number down to its nearest whole number.

Remember that `Math.random()` can never quite return a 1 and, because we're rounding down, it's impossible to actually get 20. This technique will give us a whole number between 0 and 19.

Putting everything together, this is what our code looks like:

```
Math.floor(Math.random() * 20);
```

We are calling `Math.random()`, multiplying the result by 20, then passing the value to `Math.floor()` function to round the value down to the nearest whole number.

Generate Random Whole Numbers within a Range

Instead of generating a random whole number between zero and a given number like we did before, we can generate a random whole number that falls within a range of two specific numbers.

To do this, we'll define a minimum number `min` and a maximum number `max`.

Here's the formula we'll use. Take a moment to read it and try to understand what this code is doing:

```
Math.floor(Math.random() * (max - min + 1)) + min
```

Use the parseInt Function

The `parseInt()` function parses a string and returns an integer. Here's an example:

```
var a = parseInt("007");
```

The above function converts the string "007" to an integer 7. If the first character in the string can't be converted into a number, then it returns NaN.

Use the parseInt Function with a Radix

The `parseInt()` function parses a string and returns an integer. It takes a second argument for the radix, which specifies the base of the number in the string. The radix can be an integer between 2 and 36.

The function call looks like:

```
parseInt(string, radix);
```

And here's an example:

```
var a = parseInt("11", 2);
```

The radix variable says that "11" is in the binary system, or base 2. This example converts the string "11" to an integer 3.

Use the Conditional (Ternary) Operator

The *conditional operator*, also called the *ternary operator*, can be used as a one line if-else expression.

The syntax is:

```
condition ? expression-if-true : expression-if-false;
```

The following function uses an if-else statement to check a condition:

```
function findGreater(a, b) {  
  if(a > b) {  
    return "a is greater";  
  }  
}
```

```

}
else {
    return "b is greater";
}
}

```

This can be re-written using the `conditional operator`:

```

function findGreater(a, b) {
    return a > b ? "a is greater" : "b is greater";
}

```

Use Multiple Conditional (Ternary) Operators

In the previous challenge, you used a single conditional operator. You can also chain them together to check for multiple conditions.

The following function uses `if`, `else if`, and `else` statements to check multiple conditions:

```

function findGreaterOrEqual(a, b) {
    if (a === b) {
        return "a and b are equal";
    }
    else if (a > b) {
        return "a is greater";
    }
    else {
        return "b is greater";
    }
}

```

The above function can be re-written using multiple conditional operators:

```

function findGreaterOrEqual(a, b) {
    return (a === b) ? "a and b are equal"
        : (a > b) ? "a is greater"
        : "b is greater";
}

```

It is considered best practice to format multiple conditional operators such that each condition is on a separate line, as shown above. Using multiple conditional operators without proper indentation may make your code hard to read. For example:

```
function findGreaterOrEqual(a, b) {  
  return (a === b) ? "a and b are equal" : (a > b) ? "a is greater" :  
  "b is greater";  
}
```

Use Recursion to Create a Countdown

In a [previous challenge](#), you learned how to use recursion to replace a for loop. Now, let's look at a more complex function that returns an array of consecutive integers starting with 1 through the number passed to the function.

As mentioned in the previous challenge, there will be a *base case*. The base case tells the recursive function when it no longer needs to call itself. It is a simple case where the return value is already known. There will also be a *recursive call* which executes the original function with different arguments. If the function is written correctly, eventually the base case will be reached.

For example, say you want to write a recursive function that returns an array containing the numbers 1 through n . This function will need to accept an argument, n , representing the final number. Then it will need to call itself with progressively smaller values of n until it reaches 1. You could write the function as follows:

```
function countup(n) {  
  if (n < 1) {  
    return [];  
  } else {  
    const countArray = countup(n - 1);  
    countArray.push(n);  
    return countArray;  
  }  
}  
  
console.log(countup(5)); // [ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ]
```

At first, this seems counterintuitive since the value of n *decreases*, but the values in the final array are *increasing*. This happens because the push happens last, after the

recursive call has returned. At the point where `n` is pushed into the array, `countup(n - 1)` has already been evaluated and returned `[1, 2, ..., n - 1]`.

Add Key-Value Pairs to JavaScript Objects

At their most basic, objects are just collections of *key-value* pairs. In other words, they are pieces of data (*values*) mapped to unique identifiers called *properties* (*keys*). Take a look at an example:

```
const tekkenCharacter = {  
  player: 'Hwoarang',  
  fightingStyle: 'Tae Kwon Doe',  
  human: true  
};
```

The above code defines a Tekken video game character object called `tekkenCharacter`. It has three properties, each of which map to a specific value. If you want to add an additional property, such as "origin", it can be done by assigning `origin` to the object:

```
tekkenCharacter.origin = 'South Korea';
```

This uses dot notation. If you were to observe the `tekkenCharacter` object, it will now include the `origin` property. Hwoarang also had distinct orange hair. You can add this property with bracket notation by doing:

```
tekkenCharacter['hair color'] = 'dyed orange';
```

Bracket notation is required if your property has a space in it or if you want to use a variable to name the property. In the above case, the property is enclosed in quotes to denote it as a string and will be added exactly as shown. Without quotes, it will be evaluated as a variable and the name of the property will be whatever value the variable is. Here's an example with a variable:

```
const eyes = 'eye color';
```

```
tekkenCharacter[eyes] = 'brown';
```

After adding all the examples, the object will look like this:

```
{
```

```
player: 'Hwoarang',
fightingStyle: 'Tae Kwon Doe',
human: true,
origin: 'South Korea',
'hair color': 'dyed orange',
'eye color': 'brown'
};
```

Use the delete Keyword to Remove Object Properties

Now you know what objects are and their basic features and advantages. In short, they are key-value stores which provide a flexible, intuitive way to structure data, **and**, they provide very fast lookup time. Throughout the rest of these challenges, we will describe several common operations you can perform on objects so you can become comfortable applying these useful data structures in your programs.

In earlier challenges, we have both added to and modified an object's key-value pairs. Here we will see how we can *remove* a key-value pair from an object.

Let's revisit our `foods` object example one last time. If we wanted to remove the `apples` key, we can remove it by using the `delete` keyword like this:

```
delete foods.apples;
```

Check if an Object has a Property

Now we can add, modify, and remove keys from objects. But what if we just wanted to know if an object has a specific property? JavaScript provides us with two different ways to do this. One uses the `hasOwnProperty()` method and the other uses the `in` keyword. If we have an object `users` with a property of `Alan`, we could check for its presence in either of the following ways:

```
users.hasOwnProperty('Alan');
'Alan' in users;
// both return true
```