

# KNOCKOUTJS - OVERVIEW

[http://www.tutorialspoint.com/knockoutjs/knockoutjs\\_overview.htm](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/knockoutjs/knockoutjs_overview.htm)

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## What is KnockoutJS?

KnockoutJS is basically a library written in JavaScript that is based on MVVM pattern that helps developers building rich and responsive websites. This separates the application's Model *stored data*, View *UI* and View Model *JavascriptRepresentation of model*.

KO is an abbreviation used for KnockoutJS.

## History

KnockoutJS was developed and is maintained as an open source project by *Steve Sanderson*, a Microsoft employee on *July 5, 2010*.

## Features

- **Declarative Binding** - HTML DOM elements are connected to model through data-bind attribute using very simple syntax. It is made easy to achieve responsiveness using this feature.
- **Automatic UI Refresh** - Any changes made to view model data are reflected in UI automatically and vice-versa. No need of writing extra code for this.
- **Dependency Tracking** - Relationship between KO attributes and KO library functions/components is transparent. Automatically tracks data changes in KO attribute and update respective affected areas.
- **Templating** - Templates are a simple and convenient way to build complex UI structures - with possibility of repeating or nesting blocks - as a function of view model data.
- **Extensible** - Extends custom behavior very easily.

## Why use KnockoutJS?

- KnockoutJS library provides an easy and clean way to handle complex data-driven interfaces. One can create self-updating UIs for Javascript objects.
- It is pure JavaScript Library and works with any web framework. It's not a replacement of JQuery but can work as supplement providing smart features.
- KnockoutJS library file is very small & lightweight.
- KnockoutJS is independent of any other framework. And is compatible with other client or server side technologies.
- Most important of all KnockoutJS is open source and hence free for use.
- KnockoutJS is fully documented. The official site has full documentation including API docs, live examples and interactive tutorials.

## Browser Support

KO supports all mainstream browsers - IE 6+, Firefox 3.5+, Chrome, Opera, Safari *desktop/mobile*.

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