



# Introduction to JavaScript

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# Why JavaScript?

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- Adds interactivity and visual enhancement
- Mainly used for client-side execution
  - Processing client requests that do not require server processing
  - No Internet traffic
- Cons
  - The client may not have enough processing resources
  - JavaScript can be turned off for security reasons



# Origins...

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- Scripting language developed by Netscape – *Mocha, LiveScript*
- Netscape and Sun collaborated – *JavaScript* (1995)
- Microsoft creates *Jscript* (1996)
- *ECMAScript* is now the "standard"



# (JavaScript is not JAVA)

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1. No graphical user interface
2. No read/write file access on clients
3. Not a class-based object model
4. No multithreading
5. Does not need the Java Virtual Machine  
(needs a browser)



# What JavaScript can do

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- Client-side:
  - Control browser features
  - Modify document appearance
  - Modify document content
  - Store & use information about user
  - Manipulate images
  - React to state of browser and client system
  - More



# When to Use JavaScript

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- CSS can handle:
  - Hover and focus events
  - Image swaps
  - Basic animation
  - Drop-down menus
- JavaScript is used to achieve:
  - Visual enhancements that CSS can't do
  - Advanced animation



# Where Does One's JavaScript Code Go?

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- Two general scenarios ...



# 1. Embedding JavaScript in HTML

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```
<head>
```

```
  <title>JavaScript template</title>
```

```
  <script type="text/javascript">
```

```
    // JavaScript code goes here
```

```
  </script>
```

```
</head>
```

```
<body>
```

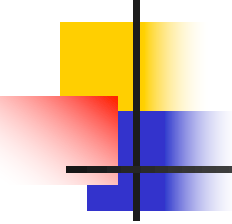
```
  ...
```

Actually,

- JavaScript code can be inserted anywhere in the HTML, including in the body.
- There are no limits on how many `<script>` tags can be embedded in the HTML code of a web page.



## 2. Putting the JavaScript in its Own File



```
<head>  
  <title>Client-side input validation</title>  
  <script src="inputValidator.js"  
    type="text/javascript"></script>  
</head>
```

### Attributes:

**src -** Specify URL of external code source.

**type -** specifies scripting language  
("text/javascript")

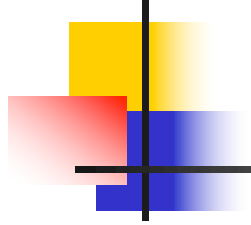
**This is the best way for code reuse.**



# Development Environment

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- *A text editor such as VS Code*
- *A browser* to run and debug code
  - Right-click on a page to open the browser's inspect tool (Need to enable the developer's menu in some browsers)
  - Use the JavaScript console to test your code



# The Language Basics



# Variables

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- Valid variable names
  - Consist of letters, digits, underscores, and dollar signs
  - Do not begin with a digit
  - Not a reserved JavaScript keyword
- JavaScript is **case sensitive**
- A *var* or *let* statement to declare a variable:  
`var varName=1;`



# Dynamic Types

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- JavaScript variables have dynamic data types

```
var length = 16;           // Number
var lastName = "Johnson"; // String
var cars = ["Saab", "Volvo", "BMW"]; // Array
var x = {firstName:"John", lastName:"Doe"}; // Object
```



# Arithmetic Operators...

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+	addition
-	subtraction
*	multiplication
/	division
%	modulus (remainder)
++	increment
--	decrement



## Example:

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```
var a=10;
```

```
var b;
```

```
b = a++;
```

(a=11, b=10)

```
b = ++a;
```

(a=11, b=11)

```
b = a--;
```

(a=9, b=10)

```
b = --a;
```

(a=9, b=9)



# Comparison Operators...

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Meaning	JavaScript	Example...
equal	==	(x==y)
strict equal	===	(x===y)
not equal	!=	(x!=y)
greater than	>	(x>y)
(or equal to)	>=	(x>=y)
less than	<	(x<y)
(or equal to)	<=	(x<=y)





## Example:

---

```
var a = 3;
```

```
var b = "3";
```

```
var c = (a==b);
```

(c=true)

```
var d = (a===b);
```

(d=false)



# Logical Operators...

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Meaning	JavaScript	Example...
And	&&	(A<B) && (C>D)
Or		(A<B)    (C>D)
Not	!	!(E>F)



# Assignment Operators...

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## JavaScript

## Example

## Same As

=

$x=y$

$x=y$

+=

$x+=y$

$x=x+y$

-=

$x-=y$

$x=x-y$

\*=

$x*=y$

$x=x*y$

/=

$x/=y$

$x=x/y$



# Comment Tags

---

// JavaScript comment

---

/\*  
Multiple line JavaScript comment  
\*/

---

<!-- HTML comment -->

---

<!--  
Multiple line HTML comment  
-->



# String Operators

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- String concatenation (+)

Ex.: `x = "hello " + "world"`      (`x="hello world"`)

`x = "hello" + 5`      (`x="hello5"`)

`x = "5" + 5`      (`x="55"`)

`x = Number("5") + 5`      (`x=10`)

Number is a Javascript function that converts a value to a number data type



# Work with Strings

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```
var x="University of Delaware"  
var y=x.length      (y=22)  
y=x.indexOf("i")    (y=2) //counts from 0  
y=x.lastIndexOf("e") (y=21)  
var z=x.substring(14,8) (z="Delaware")  
z=x.substr(14,8)      (z="Delaware")  
x=x.toUpperCase()    (z="DELAWARE")  
x=x.toLowerCase()   (z="delaware")
```

[Link to other string methods](#)



# Date and Time

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- `var a = new Date();` //current date and time
- Date methods:
  - `getHours` //0-23
  - `getDay` //0-6
  - `getDate` //1-31
  - `getMinutes` //0-59
  - `getMonth` //0-11
  - `getFullYear` //yyyy



# Control structures: Conditions

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```
if (condition) {  
    // area when condition is true  
}  
else {  
    // area when condition is false  
};
```





# Control structures: Conditions

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```
switch (expression) {  
    case n;  
        // code when case is true  
        break;  
  
    ...  
    default:  
        // default code  
        break;  
};
```

# Control structures:

## Loop

---

```
while (condition)
{
    // loop code goes here
};
```

# Control structures:

## Loop

---

do

{

// loop code goes here

} while (condition);

# Control structures:

## Loop

---

```
for(statement 1; condition; statement 2){  
    // loop code goes here  
};
```

Example:

```
for (var i=0; i<5; i++) {  
    ...  
};
```



# Input/Output in JavaScript

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**(Limited because of security)**

- Output

- `window.alert()` - popup message box
- `document.writeln()` or `document.write()`

- Input

- `window.prompt()` - input box
- `confirm()` - ok/cancel box

- Debug

- `console.log()`
- `Console.error()`



# Demo 1

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- a. Embedded (in *<head>* or in *<body>*):**
- b. Separate (external) JavaScript file:**



## Demo 2

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- Write JavaScript code to greet the user based on the current time



## Demo 3

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- Write JavaScript code to get student grades from the user, calculate the GPA for the class, and display the GPA