

## WHAT IS JAVASCRIPT?

- JavaScript was initially created to “make web pages alive”.
- Scripts : The programs in this language.
- They can be written right in a web page’s HTML and run automatically as the page loads.
- Scripts are provided and executed as plain text. They don’t need special preparation or compilation to run.
- Today, JavaScript can execute not only in the browser, but also on the server, or actually on any device that has a special program called the **JavaScript engine**.
- The browser has an embedded engine sometimes called a **“JavaScript virtual machine”**. Different engines have different “codenames”.
- For example:
  - ✓ V8 – Chrome, Opera and Edge.
  - ✓ SpiderMonkey – Firefox.
  - ✓ Chakra – IE
  - ✓ JavaScriptCore, Nitro and “SquirrelFish” for Safari
- JavaScript is the programming language of the Web.
- JavaScript was invented by Brendan Eich in 1995, and became an ECMA standard in 1997.
- ECMA-262 is the official name of the standard. ECMAScript is the official name of the language.