



CHAPTER 2

BASIC JAVASCRIPT INSTRUCTIONS



STATEMENTS



Each individual step in a script is known as a **statement**.



Each statement should end with a semi-colon.



```
document.write('Welcome!');
```

SEMI-COLON



COMMENTS



You should use **comments** to explain what your code does.

They help you remember it and others understand it.



MULTI-LINE COMMENTS



```
/* Anything between  
these characters is  
a comment and will  
not be processed. */
```



```
/* Anything between  
these characters is  
a comment and will  
not be processed. */
```



SINGLE-LINE COMMENTS



```
// Anything after the two  
// forward slashes is also  
// a comment and will not  
// be processed.
```



```
// Anything after the two  
// forward slashes is also  
// a comment and will not  
// be processed.
```



VARIABLES



Scripts often need to store bits of information temporarily in order to achieve their tasks.



These bits of information - or data - are stored in **variables**.



DECLARING A VARIABLE



```
var quantity;
```



```
var quantity;
```

KEYWORD



```
var quantity;
```

VARIABLE NAME



ASSIGNING A VALUE TO A VARIABLE



```
quantity = 3;
```



```
quantity = 3;
```

VARIABLE NAME



```
quantity = 3;
```

|
ASSIGNMENT OPERATOR



```
quantity = 3;
```

|
VALUE



DATA TYPES



JavaScript distinguishes between **numbers**, **strings**, and `true` or `false` values known as **Booleans**.



1

1

NUMBERS

0.75

NO QUOTES



1

NUMBERS

0.75

NO QUOTES

2

1

NUMBERS

0.75

NO QUOTES

2

STRINGS

'Hi Ivy!'

ENCLOSED IN QUOTES
WHICH CAN BE SINGLE
OR DOUBLE QUOTES,
BUT MUST MATCH



1

NUMBERS

0.75

NO QUOTES

2

STRINGS

'Hi Ivy!'

ENCLOSED IN QUOTES
WHICH CAN BE SINGLE
OR DOUBLE QUOTES,
BUT MUST MATCH

3

1

NUMBERS

0.75

NO QUOTES

2

STRINGS

'Hi Ivy!'

ENCLOSED IN QUOTES
WHICH CAN BE SINGLE
OR DOUBLE QUOTES,
BUT MUST MATCH

3

BOOLEAN

true

EITHER TRUE OR FALSE



ARRAYS



An **array** is a special type of variable. It doesn't just store one value; it stores a list of values.



```
colors = [                ];
```



```
colors = ['pink'          ];
```



```
colors = ['pink','yellow'  ];
```



```
colors = ['pink','yellow','green'];
```



```
colors = ['pink', 'yellow', 'green'];
```

```
colors[ ];
```



```
colors = ['pink', 'yellow', 'green'];
```

```
colors[0];
```



```
colors = ['pink', 'yellow', 'green'];
```

```
colors[1];
```



```
colors = ['pink', 'yellow', 'green'];
```

```
colors[2];
```



ARITHMETIC OPERATORS



JavaScript uses mathematics
to get some tasks done.



```
var width = 3;
```



```
var width = 3;  
var height = 2;
```



```
var width = 3;  
var height = 2;  
  
area = width * height;
```



```
var width = 3;  
var height = 2;  
  
area = width * height;
```



```
var width = 3;  
var height = 2;  
  
area = width * height;
```



```
var width = 3;  
var height = 2;  
  
area = width * height;
```



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CONCATENATING STRINGS



There is just one string
operator: the `+` symbol.

It is used to join strings on
either side of it.



```
var greeting = 'Howdy ';
```



```
var greeting = 'Howdy ';  
var name = 'Molly';
```



```
var greeting = 'Howdy ';  
var name = 'Molly';  
  
var message = greeting + name;
```



```
var greeting = 'Howdy ';  
var name = 'Molly';  
  
var message = greeting + name;
```



```
var greeting = 'Howdy ';  
var name = 'Molly';  
  
var message = greeting + name;
```



```
var greeting = 'Howdy ';  
var name = 'Molly';  
  
var message = greeting + name;
```



Howdy Molly

