JAVASCRIPT Notes

• **JavaScript can be used to create cookies** - A JavaScript can be used to store and retrieve information on the visitor's computer.

JavaScript Variables

Variables are "containers" for storing information.

JavaScript variables are used to hold values or expressions.

A variable can have a short name, like x, or a more descriptive name, like carname.

Rules for JavaScript variable names:

- Variable names are case sensitive (y and Y are two different variables)
- Variable names must begin with a letter or the underscore character

Note: Because JavaScript is case-sensitive, variable names are case-sensitive.

Example

A variable's value can change during the execution of a script. You can refer to a variable by its name to display or change its value.

```
<html>
<body>
<script type="text/javascript">
var firstname;
firstname="Welcome";
document.write(firstname);
document.write("<br />");
firstname="XYZ";
document.write(firstname);
</script>
The script above declares a variable,
assigns a value to it, displays the value, change the value,
and displays the value again.
</body>
</html>
Output:
Welcome
```

The script above declares a variable, assigns a value to it, displays the value, change the value, and displays the value again.

XYZ

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Declaring (Creating) JavaScript Variables

Creating variables in JavaScript is most often referred to as "declaring" variables.

You can declare JavaScript variables with the **var statement**:

```
var x;
var carname;
```

After the declaration shown above, the variables are empty (they have no values yet).

However, you can also assign values to the variables when you declare them:

```
var x=5;
var carname="Scorpio";
```

After the execution of the statements above, the variable \mathbf{x} will hold the value $\mathbf{5}$, and $\mathbf{carname}$ will hold the value $\mathbf{Scorpio}$.

Note: When you assign a text value to a variable, use quotes around the value.

Assigning Values to Undeclared JavaScript Variables

If you assign values to variables that have not yet been declared, the variables will automatically be declared.

These statements:

```
x=5;
carname=''Scorpio'';
```

have the same effect as:

```
var x=5;
var carname=''Scorpio'';
```

Redeclaring JavaScript Variables

If you redeclare a JavaScript variable, it will not lose its original value.

```
var x=5;
var x;
```

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After the execution of the statements above, the variable x will still have the value of x . The value of x is not reset (or cleared) when you redeclare it.