

JavaScript `if` Statement: A Guide

Introduction

In JavaScript, the `if` statement is a vital control structure that allows you to execute specific blocks of code based on whether a given condition is true or false. It serves as the foundation for creating decision-making logic in your scripts.

what is if:

The `if` statement in JavaScript allows you to execute a block of code based on the evaluation of an expression.

- a conditional statement that allows you to execute code based on the value of an expression.
- it checks whether or not a condition evaluates as true, and executes a block of statements accordingly.

Basic `if` Statement

The basic `if` statement is a fundamental programming concept that allows the computer to make decisions based on the truth or falsity of a condition. It consists of an `if` keyword, a condition, and a code block. The condition is typically a comparison between two values or a Boolean expression that evaluates to either `True` or `False`.

Example 1: Checking Temperature

```
let temperature = 25;

if (temperature > 30) {
  console.log("It's a hot day!");
}
```

- Checks if the temperature is greater than 30.
- If true, prints "It's a hot day!";

Example 2: Checking If a Number is Positive

```
let number = -5;

if (number > 0) {
  console.log("The number is positive.");
}
```

- Verifies if the number is positive.
- Prints "The number is positive." if true;

Example 3: Checking if a String is Empty

```
let message = "";

if (message !== "") {
  console.log("The message is not empty.");
}
```

- Examines if the string `message` is empty.
- Prints "The message is not empty."

if-else Statement

The "if" part of the statement checks a condition, such as the value of a variable or the result of a function. If the condition is true, the program executes the code block associated with the "if" keyword. If the condition is false, it will execute any code block that follows immediately after the "else" keyword.

Example 1: Greeting Based on Hour

```
let hour = 15;

if (hour < 12) {
  console.log("Good morning!");
} else {
  console.log("Good afternoon or evening!");
}
```

- `hour` is evaluated to be 15.
- The `if` condition checks if `hour` is less than 12 (morning). Since 15 is not less than 12, it moves to the `else` block.
- The `else` block is executed, printing "Good afternoon or evening!"

Example 2: Checking if a Number is Even or Odd

```
let num = 7;

if (num % 2 === 0) {
  console.log("The number is even.");
} else {
  console.log("The number is odd.");
}
```

- `num` is assigned the value 7.
- The `if` condition checks if `num` modulo 2 is equal to 0 (even). Since `7 % 2` is not equal to 0, it moves to the `else` block.

- The `else` block is executed, printing "The number is odd."

Example 3: Checking Eligibility for Voting

```
let age = 17;

if (age >= 18) {
  console.log("You are eligible to vote!");
} else {
  console.log("You are not eligible to vote yet.");
}
```

- `age` is assigned the value 17.
- The `if` condition checks if `age` is greater than or equal to 18 (voting age). Since 17 is less than 18, it moves to the `else` block.
- The `else` block is executed, printing "You are not eligible to vote yet."

if-else if-else Statement

- An `if-else if-else` statement allows you to perform different actions based on multiple conditions.
- If none of the conditions in an `if-else if-else` chain are true, the code inside the final `else` block will execute.

Example 1: Grading System

```
let score = 85;

if (score >= 90) {
  console.log("A");
} else if (score >= 80) {
  console.log("B");
} else {
  console.log("C or below");
}
```

- `score` is assigned the value 85.
- The `if` condition checks if `score` is greater than or equal to 90 (A grade). Since 85 is not greater than or equal to 90, it moves to the first `else if` condition.
- The first `else if` condition checks if `score` is greater than or equal to 80 (B grade). Since 85 is greater than 80, it prints "B."
- If neither of the above conditions is met, the `else` block is executed, printing "C or below."

Example 2: Time of the Day Greeting

```
let currentHour = 18;
```

```
if (currentHour < 12) {  
  console.log("Good morning!");  
} else if (currentHour < 18) {  
  console.log("Good afternoon!");  
} else {  
  console.log("Good evening!");  
}
```

- `currentHour` is assigned the value 18.
- The first `if` condition checks if `currentHour` is less than 12 (morning). Since 18 is not less than 12, it moves to the second `else if` condition.
- The second `else if` condition checks if `currentHour` is less than 18 (afternoon). Since 18 is equal to 18, it prints "Good evening."
- If neither of the above conditions is met, the `else` block is executed.

Example 3: Classifying Triangles

```
let sideA = 3;  
let sideB = 4;  
let sideC = 5;  
  
if (sideA === sideB && sideB === sideC) {  
  console.log("Equilateral triangle");  
} else if (sideA === sideB || sideB === sideC || sideA === sideC) {  
  console.log("Isosceles triangle");  
} else {  
  console.log("Scalene triangle");  
}
```

- Three sides of a triangle are given (3, 4, 5).
- The first `if` condition checks if all sides are equal, printing "Equilateral triangle" if true.
- The second `else if` condition checks if at least two sides are equal (Isosceles), printing "Isosceles triangle" if true.
- If neither condition is met, it prints "Scalene triangle."

Nested `if` Statements

Nested `if` statements allow for more complex decision-making by allowing multiple conditions to be checked in sequence.

Each nested `if` statement

- has its own set of parentheses enclosing the conditional expression and any associated code blocks.
- can also include additional `else if` statements to further refine the logic flow.
- can have an optional `else` clause that executes when none of the previous conditions are satisfied.

Example 1: Checking Number Parity

```
let numberToCheck = 15;

if (numberToCheck > 0) {
  if (numberToCheck % 2 === 0) {
    console.log("The number is a positive even number.");
  } else {
    console.log("The number is a positive odd number.");
  }
} else {
  console.log("The number is not positive.");
}
```

- `numberToCheck` is assigned the value 15.
- The outer `if` condition checks if `numberToCheck` is positive. Since 15 is positive, it proceeds to the inner `if` condition.
- The inner `if` condition checks if `numberToCheck` modulo 2 is equal to 0 (even). Since $15 \% 2$ is not equal to 0, it prints "The number is a positive odd number."

Example 2: Ticket Price Based on Age

```
let passengerAge = 25;

if (passengerAge < 18) {
  console.log("Child ticket: $10");
} else {
  if (passengerAge < 60) {
    console.log("Adult ticket: $20");
  } else {
    console.log("Senior citizen ticket: $15");
  }
}
```

- `passengerAge` is assigned the value 25.
- The outer `if` condition checks if `passengerAge` is less than 18 (child). Since 25 is not less than 18, it moves to the inner `if` condition.
- The inner `if` condition checks if `passengerAge` is less than 60 (adult). Since 25 is less than 60, it prints "Adult ticket: \$20."

Example 3: Validating User Input

```
let userInput = "admin";
let password = "1234";

if (userInput === "admin") {
  if (password === "1234") {
    console.log("Login successful!");
  } else {
    console.log("Password incorrect.");
  }
}
```

```
        console.log("Incorrect password.");
    }
} else {
    console.log("Invalid username.");
}
```

- `userInput` is "admin," and `password` is "1234."
- The outer `if` condition checks if `userInput` is "admin." If true,
- it moves to the inner `if` condition.
- The inner `if` condition checks if `password` is "1234." Since it is, it prints "Login successful!"

Why `if` Statements Matter ?

- `if` statements are essential for creating dynamic and responsive programs.
- They allow you to control the flow of your code based on conditions, enabling different paths for different scenarios.
- Understanding and mastering `if` statements is foundational to writing effective JavaScript code.

This detailed explanation and examples should help you grasp the concepts of `if` statements in JavaScript and how to use them effectively.