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Pretty , isn't it?



Why Booleans ?

Because it's .. logical

- One of the core concepts of programming - decisions if-else.
- Javascript gives us some really cool opportunities to get stuff done with them, like: conditional rendering, truthy/falsy, casting, ternary operators, skipping var initializing
- I was struggling with them as well, in the beginning.
- Thanks for the suggestion Michael 👍

- The truth tables of boolean operators
- Types of booleans in JavaScript
- Boolean expressions
- Cool stuff
- Some links
- Some code

How is this gonna go ?



Logic/boolean Truth tables

True vs False is like **1** vs **0** or like **On** vs **Off** -> it's a binary state (**something-true** vs **something-false**)

Truth Tables for **boolean** Operators

&& (and)

| Value of A | Value of B | A && B |
|------------|------------|--------------|
| true | true | true |
| true | false | false |
| false | true | false |
| false | false | false |

|| (or)

| Value of A | Value of B | A B |
|------------|------------|--------------|
| true | true | true |
| true | false | true |
| false | true | true |
| false | false | false |

! (not)

| Value of A | !A |
|------------|--------------|
| true | false |
| false | true |

AND Truth Table

| Inputs | | Output |
|--------|---|-----------|
| A | B | $Y = A.B$ |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 |

OR Truth Table

| Inputs | | Output |
|--------|---|-----------|
| A | B | $Y = A+B$ |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 |

XOR Truth Table

| Inputs | | Output |
|--------|---|------------------|
| A | B | $Y = A \oplus B$ |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 |

NAND Truth Table

| Inputs | | Output |
|--------|---|----------------------|
| A | B | $Y = \overline{A.B}$ |
| 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 |



Boolean/logic.. things

- The actual values:
`true` is true
`false` is false
- An expression between boolean values:
`(true || false)` is true
`(false && true)` is false
`!true` is false
- An expression that evaluates to boolean
`(1 == 2)` is false
`(2 == 3-1)` is true
`(4==1 ? true : false)` is false
- Casted values (!!)- anything can be boolean
`!! "text"` is true
`!! 0` is false
- Truthy/Falsy things - everything is boolean (within context)
`zero`, `"`, `null`, `undefined`, `NaN` are falsey
anything else that has relevant value are truthy
Empty objects `{}` or arrays `[]` are considered truthy
- Truthy/Falsy is interpreted where a logical value is expected
- also called *implicit conversion* to boolean
- in if-else structures:
 if(**expr**) doSomething;
- in logical expressions:
 falseResult = ("Ana" && false) -> true && false = false
 trueResult = ("Joe"?true:false) -> true?true:false = true
 falseResult = !"Alabama" -> !true = false

Truthy/Falsy is powerful stuff, but *don't forget about it*, or the debugging is gonna be painful !!



Truthy/Falsy saves time and lines of code

```
if( userName.length() > 0 )      -> if( userName )  
if( myList.length > 0 )          -> if( myList.length )
```

```
let person = { name: 'Jack', age: 34 };  
console.log(person.job || 'unemployed'); // 'unemployed'
```



How do boolean expressions work?

- They are evaluated from left to right until it is not necessary to do it anymore, that is, if the result of the left side is enough, then the interpreter doesn't bother evaluating the rest of the expression
- OR expressions get evaluated until one is true
exprA || exprB || exprC → if **exprA** is true, there is no point in evaluating the rest, as **true || anything** is true
- AND expressions get evaluated until one is false
exprA && exprB && exprC → if **exprA** is false, the others don't get evaluated as **false && anything** is false
- This expression:
result = exprA && exprB || exprC || exprD && exprE && exprF
 - > if **exprA** is false then the others don't get evaluated because **false && anything** is false
 - > if **exprA && exprB** are both true, then the others don't get evaluated, **true || anything** is true
 - > in order for it all to be evaluated it should have these values:
exprA = true, exprB = false, exprC = false, exprD = true, exprE = true, exprF = true/false



Cool stuff you can do with it

- Test if an object exists before running it's method - this trick it's used literally everywhere
mox.doSomething() this throws an error if mox doesn't exist
mox && mox.doSomething() this does not, because if mox doesn't exist, it's falsy, then the expression is false and there's no point in evaluating the right side, therefore **mox.doSomething()** won't throw an error
- Test if a variable (any variable) is has value before using it
result = 5 + val throws an error if val is undefined
result = 5 + val || 0 it will work, regardless if val is defined or not, because **val** in **val || 0** is interpreted as truthy and if it has a truthy value it's considered true and that value is returned, if it's considered false, then the **0** from the right side of **||** is returned.
- Conditional rendering in react
return (
 (arrayItems.length == 0) && <p>the list is empty</p>
)



Some useful links

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Glossary/Truthy>

<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Glossary/Falsy>

<https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/how-to-convert-value-to-boolean-javascript/>

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Operators/Nullish_coalescing_operator

<https://codeburst.io/javascript-showdown-vs-7be792be15b5>

<https://codeburst.io/javascript-what-is-short-circuit-evaluation-ff22b2f5608c> → good article as well

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-u260xZ9e4M> → a good video discussing booleans

Some code in this gist:

<https://gist.github.com/bar-alex/c4665de4be12f2a05650cca6bb5cb8f2>