

Bitwise operators

Absolutely! Let's go in-depth on **Bitwise Operators** in JavaScript — an advanced but powerful topic that manipulates data at the **bit level** (0s and 1s).

What Are Bitwise Operators?

Bitwise operators treat operands as **32-bit binary numbers** and operate on each **bit**.

For example:

5 (decimal) = 0101 (binary)

3 (decimal) = 0011 (binary)



Bitwise Operators Table

Operator	Name	Description	Example	Result
<code>&</code>	AND	Sets each bit to 1 if both bits are 1	<code>5 & 3</code>	<code>1</code>
<code> </code>	OR	Sets each bit to 1 if one of two bits is 1	<code>5 3</code>	<code>7</code>
<code>^</code>	XOR	Sets each bit to 1 if only one bit is 1	<code>5 ^ 3</code>	<code>6</code>
<code>~</code>	NOT	Inverts all the bits	<code>~5</code>	<code>-6</code>
<code><<</code>	Left Shift	Shifts bits to the left and fills with 0s	<code>5 << 1</code>	<code>10</code>
<code>>></code>	Right Shift	Shifts bits to the right	<code>5 >> 1</code>	<code>2</code>

>>>	Zero-fill Right Shift	Same as >> but fills left bits with 0	-5 >>> 1	Big Num
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Breakdown of Each Operator

& Bitwise AND

- Only returns 1 if **both bits are 1**

5 & 3 // 0101 & 0011 = 0001 → 1

| Bitwise OR

- Returns 1 if **either bit is 1**

5 | 3 // 0101 | 0011 = 0111 → 7

^ Bitwise XOR (Exclusive OR)

- Returns 1 if **only one** of the bits is 1

5 ^ 3 // 0101 ^ 0011 = 0110 → 6

~ Bitwise NOT

- Inverts each bit (1 → 0, 0 → 1)

~5 // ~0101 = 1010 (in 2's complement: -6)

<< Left Shift

- Shifts all bits to the left, adds 0 on the right
- Equivalent to multiplying by 2

```
5 << 1 // 0101 << 1 = 1010 → 10
```

>> Right Shift

- Shifts all bits to the right, keeps the sign bit (for negatives)

```
5 >> 1 // 0101 >> 1 = 0010 → 2
```

>>> Zero-fill Right Shift

- Like **>>**, but fills left with **0** regardless of sign

```
-5 >>> 1 // Converts to a big positive number
```

Common Use Cases

- Low-level programming
- Performance optimization
- Working with binary flags
- Graphics and hardware programming
- Hashing and encryption algorithms

Example in JS

```
let a = 5; // 0101
let b = 3; // 0011

console.log(a & b); // 1
console.log(a | b); // 7
console.log(a ^ b); // 6
console.log(~a);    // -6
```

```
console.log(a << 1); // 10  
console.log(a >> 1); // 2
```

Let me know if you'd like a visual diagram of how bits shift or a quiz to test your understanding!