

Hoisting (variables and functions)

Let's explore **hoisting** in JavaScript in detail — it's a foundational concept that can help you avoid tricky bugs.



What Is Hoisting?

Hoisting is JavaScript's default behavior of **moving declarations to the top of their scope** before code execution.

It applies to:

- **Variables** (`var`, `let`, `const`)
- **Functions** (function declarations)



Key Principle

| JavaScript only hoists declarations, not initializations.



```
greet();  
  
function greet() {  
  console.log("Hello!");  
}
```

Output:

Hello!

- Function declarations are fully hoisted — both **name and definition**.
- You can **call them before** they're declared.

Function Expressions (Not Hoisted the Same Way)

```
greet(); //  TypeError: greet is not a function
```

```
var greet = function () {  
    console.log("Hi!");  
};
```

- Only the **variable `greet` is hoisted** (as `undefined`), not the function.
- You get a **TypeError**, not a ReferenceError, because `greet` exists but isn't callable yet.

Variable Hoisting

Using `var` :

```
console.log(a); // undefined  
var a = 10;
```

- The declaration `var a` is hoisted, but the assignment happens later.
- So `a` exists but is `undefined`.

Behind the scenes:

```
var a; // hoisted  
console.log(a); // undefined  
a = 10;
```

Using `let` and `const` (Temporal Dead Zone)

```
console.log(b); // ❌ ReferenceError  
let b = 20;
```

- `let` and `const` are also hoisted **but not initialized**.
 - Accessing them before the declaration results in a **ReferenceError**.
 - The time between entering the scope and the declaration is called the **Temporal Dead Zone (TDZ)**.
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Hoisting Order

- Function declarations are hoisted **before** variables.
- But if a variable has the **same name** as a function, the variable can **overwrite** the function reference.

```
console.log(foo()); // ❌ TypeError: foo is not a function
```

```
var foo = function () {  
    return "bar";  
};  
  
function foo() {  
    return "baz";  
}
```

- Function `foo()` is hoisted first.
 - Then `var foo` hoists the variable (as `undefined`), overwriting the function reference.
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Summary

Declaration Type	Hoisted	Initialized	Access Before Declaration
<code>var</code>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (<code>undefined</code>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (value: <code>undefined</code>)
<code>let</code> / <code>const</code>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ReferenceError (TDZ)
<code>function</code>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Function expression (<code>var</code>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (variable only)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TypeError

Would you like a visual diagram of the hoisting process or TDZ next?