

Switch statements and fall-through behavior

Sure! Let's explore `switch` statements in JavaScript and understand the concept of **fall-through behavior** in detail.

What is a `switch` Statement?

A `switch` statement is used to **evaluate an expression** and execute **one of many code blocks** based on the **matching case**.

It is often used as a cleaner alternative to multiple `if...else if...else` statements, especially when you're comparing the same variable to different values.

Basic Syntax:

```
switch (expression) {  
  case value1:  
    // code block  
    break;  
  case value2:  
    // code block  
    break;  
  default:  
    // code block if no match is found  
}
```

Example:

```
let day = 3;  
  
switch (day) {
```

```
case 1:
  console.log("Monday");
  break;
case 2:
  console.log("Tuesday");
  break;
case 3:
  console.log("Wednesday");
  break;
default:
  console.log("Invalid day");
}
```

 Output: `Wednesday`

Important Concepts

1. `break` Statement

- It **stops** the execution of more cases.
- If `break` is **not used**, **fall-through** occurs.

2. Fall-Through Behavior


If `break` is omitted, the program continues to execute the next case(s), **even if they don't match**.

Example:

```
let color = "red";

switch (color) {
  case "red":
    console.log("Color is red");
  case "blue":
    console.log("Color is blue");
}
```

```
case "green":  
  console.log("Color is green");  
default:  
  console.log("Unknown color");  
}
```


 Output:

```
Color is red  
Color is blue  
Color is green  
Unknown color
```

👉 This happens because there are **no** `break` statements, so it **falls through** all cases.

✅ **Corrected with** `break` :

```
switch (color) {  
  case "red":  
    console.log("Color is red");  
    break;  
  case "blue":  
    console.log("Color is blue");  
    break;  
  case "green":  
    console.log("Color is green");  
    break;  
  default:  
    console.log("Unknown color");  
}
```

 Output: `Color is red`


🌟 Default Case

- Acts like the `else` in `if...else`
- Runs when no case matches

Practical Example: Grading System

```
let grade = "B";

switch (grade) {
  case "A":
    console.log("Excellent!");
    break;
  case "B":
    console.log("Well done!");
    break;
  case "C":
    console.log("Good.");
    break;
  default:
    console.log("Grade not recognized.");
}
```

 Output: `Well done!`

Intentional Fall-Through (Advanced Use)

You can use fall-through **on purpose**, like grouping cases:

```
let fruit = "apple";

switch (fruit) {
  case "apple":
  case "banana":
  case "mango":
    console.log("Fruit is available.");
    break;
```

```
default:
  console.log("Fruit is not available.");
}
```

 Output: `Fruit is available.`



Summary

| Keyword | Purpose |
|----------------------|--|
| <code>switch</code> | Starts the switch block |
| <code>case</code> | Checks if the expression matches the value |
| <code>break</code> | Exits the switch block |
| <code>default</code> | Runs if no case matches |
| Fall-through | When no <code>break</code> , control passes to next case |

Would you like a **flowchart diagram**, a **comparison with if-else**, or some **practice questions**?