Introduction to TypeScript

A friendly guide for JavaScript developers

What is TypeScript?

- A superset of JavaScript
- Adds static types
- Developed by Microsoft
- Compiles to plain JavaScript
- Catches errors early



Why Use TypeScript?

- Type safety: Find bugs before runtime
- Better IDE support: Autocomplete & refactoring
- Readable & maintainable code
- Popular in large projects

Basic Types

```
let isDone: boolean = false;
let age: number = 25;
let name: string = "Alice";
let numbers: number[] = [1, 2, 3];
```

- boolean → true/false
- number → integers & floats
- string → text
- array → list of values

Functions with Types

```
function greet(name: string): string {
  return `Hello, ${name}!`;
}
console.log(greet("Bob"));
```

- Parameters have types
- Functions can have return types

Interfaces

```
interface Person {
  name: string;
  age: number;
}
let user: Person = { name: "Alice", age: 30 };
```

- Define object shapes
- Catch mistakes like missing properties

→ Optional & Default Parameters

```
function greet(name: string, age?: number) {
  console.log(`Hello, ${name}, age ${age ?? "unknown"}`);
}
```

- ? → optional parameter
- = → default value

Type Inference

```
let message = "Hello TypeScript"; // inferred as string
```

- TypeScript can guess types
- Explicit typing is optional

X TypeScript vs JavaScript

Feature	JavaScript	TypeScript
Static Types	X	✓
Compile-time checks	×	✓
Object-oriented features	X	✓
IDE Autocomplete	Limited	Excellent

Getting Started

- 1. Install Node.js (includes npm)
- 2. Install TypeScript:

```
npm install -g typescript
```

3. Compile a file:

tsc app.ts

4. Run JavaScript:

node app.js

Resources

- TypeScript Docs
- TypeScript Handbook
- TypeScript Playground

Summary

- TypeScript = JavaScript + Types
- Catch errors early
- Interfaces & type annotations improve readability
- Compile TypeScript → JavaScript