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JavaScript and Server-side JavaScript

JavaScript is one of the three basic and essential program languages uses on the Word Wide Web. Along with HTML and CSS, it is a text-based language used to create websites and web applications and is supported by all forms of Web Browsers. JavaScript is the code that gives the websites its behaviors and actions. It causes popups, buttons to work, and for text input fields to work properly. It also collects data and executes it based of what is needed for the webpage or what is entered into the fields. JavaScript uses basic mathematic functions, objects, arrays, and variables to work and to be executed. Because JavaScript is now a standardly used code for all forms of web browsers without the use of plugins, the web browsers have some of the code built into the browsers. When a user request a web page from a server, the information is sent to the server and then returned back to the client or users web browser.

JavaScript code is executed based off its typed up, whether it’s server-side based or client side based. Lets say that the JavaScript is Client-Side. That means that when the browser loads the webpage, it executes the code when the request for the webpage is returned back from the server to the client, or users web browser. When it does this it uses some JavaScript code that is built into the web browsers. This makes it easier for the browser to execute the code and makes the loading process faster. However this also allows any user to gain access to the JavaScript code. With this it makes theft of web page codes easier. This also means that the webpage does not get customized specifically for the browser until the code returns back to the client.

Now Server-Side JavaScript is a different story. Server-Side JavaScript is some JavaScript code that is already written on the server and sends the information back partly executed. It also customizes the webpage to the web browser instead of configuring based off which browser is being used when it gets to the client. This makes it easier for more complex and high-end code to be executed. Server-Side JavaScript also makes it nearly impossible for the code to be copied or stolen. Because the code is housed in a offsite server there is no way the user can see the break down of the code unless they somehow had access to the server itself. “Corporate Web sites aren't novelties any more. More and more, these sites are viewed as critically important to an organization's success, driving a burgeoning need for industrial-strength sites with applications to match. Netscape's server-side JavaScript is one of the most powerful technologies available for meeting this need” (Stanek, William Robert 1999). However there is a major issue with Server-Side JavaScript. Because there is more complex data being sent back from the server to the client, it takes longer for the browser to execute the code.

The best way to execute JavaScript code is to use a combination of both Sever-Side and Client-Side JavaScript. This way the webpage can get executed using the customized configuration, complexity, and the security of Server-Side, and the speed of the Client-Side JavaScript. Most Websites nowadays use this technique in their coding.

Reference:

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