How to Learn JavaScript Properly

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Learn JavaScript Properly (For Beginners and Experienced Programmers)

This study guide, which I also refer to as a *course outline* and a *road map*, gives you a structured and instructive outline for learning JavaScript properly. In fact, you will find two study guides below, one for absolute beginners and the other for experienced programmer and web developers.

menu

Our Career Paths and Courses Website Is Now Live

Learn.Modern Developer Launched

Our first cohort is in session: 97% of our first cohort on target to graduate. Enroll in the second cohort. *Career Path 1: JavaScript Developer* and *Career Path 3: Modern Frontend Developer* **usually fill up quickly**.

https://learn.moderndeveloper.com

You do want to learn JavaScript. I presume you are here for that reason, and you have made a wise decision. For if you want to develop modern websites and web applications (including

an internet startup), or if you want a high-paying developer job ($75K to $250K+), JavaScript is undoubtedly the best web-development language to learn today, unless you want to develop native iOS or Android apps exclusively. And while there exist ample online resources to teach you JavaScript, finding the most efficient and beneficial method to learn the "language of the web" can be a frustrating endeavor. This study guide streamlines and simplifies the process; it has proven successful in helping thousands, and thousands more read and follow it each day.

Study Groups

People have started study groups for this study guide. You can find such groups on Reddit here and here, and other places, including Code Crew Meetup.

What You will Learn

You will learn the JavaScript language (up to advanced-intermediate, if you follow the "Beginners" study guide; or up to advanced, if you follow the "Experienced Programmers" study guide). You will also learn HTML, CSS, jQuery, and Git. And you will build a simple HTML/CSS website, an interactive HTML/CSS/JavaScript website, and a moderately sophisticated JavaScript quiz application.

How Will Your Life Change

Receive Updates

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After You *Learn JavaScript Properly?*

Maybe you will look more lovely and have a kinder, more pleasant personality after you learn JavaScript properly. Who knows? I don't know.

But I do know that you will emerge more confident, more assured in your ability, and amply trained with a highly valued skill—a skill more valuable than most college degrees. For as a JavaScript developer, you will have the capacity not only to create whatever startup or web app you imagine, but also to work, making a handsome salary, as a front-end or full-stack developer, developing modern and futuristic applications. In fact, if you have never developed any kind of application before, you will experience ecstasy, so exultant and euphoric that you will want to enthusiastically practice more and build something—anything, like a hungry chef discovering a furnished kitchen with every tool, every utensil, and a stocked refrigerator.

It is worth noting that unlike just a couple of years ago—when you needed to know a true server-side language (such as PHP, Rails, Java, Python, or Perl) to develop scalable, dynamic, and database-driven web applications—today you can do as much and more with JavaScript alone.

This is the flourishing and glorious age of the JavaScript developer.

Be Empowered

This course outline transcends an entire semester of college coursework. If you complete the study guide, you will have learned enough programming to develop modern web applications, and with a bit of experience and a couple of completed projects, you will have become a sought-after programmer. Indeed, JavaScript developers are in high demand today. But you must prove your worth by developing a few impressive (interesting and non-trivial, though not necessarily complex) web applications.

How NOT To Learn JavaScript

- Do not try to learn JavaScript the first time from bits of unrelated or related JavaScript tutorials online; this is the worst way to learn a programming language. It could work for some after countless such tutorials, but it is an inefficient process that lacks the proper hierarchical structure needed for learning a subject matter thoroughly. And this could lead to your being stuck quite frequently, when you start to build websites and web applications with the language. In short, you will not have the know-how—the comprehensive knowledge—you need to use that language as a tool—as your tool.

- In addition, some will recommend you learn JavaScript from "JavaScript: The Good Parts," by the venerable Douglas Crockford. While many regard Mr. Crockford as a JavaScript godfather, his book, *The Good Parts*, is not the best JavaScript book for beginners. It does not explain JavaScript's core concepts in a detailed, clear, and easily digestible form. I do recommend you follow Crockford's advanced videos, however, as part of the [Learn Advanced JavaScript](#) road map.

- And do not try to learn the language by using only Codecademy; while you will learn how to program bits of small JavaScript tasks, you will **not** have learned enough to build complex web applications. Nonetheless, below I do recommend Codecademy as a supplemental learning resource.

Resources for the Two Study Guides

I have outlined two different study guides below, one for beginners and one for experienced web developers.

1. Beginners should follow the *Learn JavaScript Properly Study Guide **for Beginners*** and get this book:
   [Beginning JavaScript](#).

   Experienced programmers and web developers should follow the *Learn JavaScript Properly Study Guide **for Experienced Programmers*** and get this book:

— The paperback Version: [Professional JavaScript for Web Developers (3rd Edition)](#)
— The Kindle Version: [Professional JavaScript for Web Developers (3rd Edition)](#)

2. Sign up for an account on [Stack Overflow](#) (a FREE service). It is a forum for asking and answering programming questions. This website will be considerably more useful than Codecademy for answering your programming questions, even very basic, seemingly stupid (remember, there is never a stupid question) questions.

3. Sign up for an account on [Codecademy](#). We will complete 4 Codecademy tracks. Codecademy is an online platform to learn programming: you can write code on their website, right in your browser. (It is also a FREE service.)

4. JavaScriptIsSexy.com (this blog 🙂): We will read 4 articles

5. CodeSchool.com: We will complete 1 free course

Study Guide for Beginners	Study Guide for Experienced Developers

Resources:

— [Beginning JavaScript (4th Edition)](#)

— JavaScriptIsSexy.com (4 articles)

— Codecademy.com (4 tracks)

— CodeSchool.com (1 short course)

— **Notice for Visual Learners:** If you are a visual learner, that is, if you prefer to see lots of images, schematics, and the like when learning a topic, you may find [JavaScript and jQuery: Interactive Front-End Web Development](#) more appealing than the *Beginning JavaScript* book. If you do get the *JavaScript and jQuery* book, note that the chapters are similar enough that you can use it (instead of *Beginning JavaScript*) to follow this study guide, though you will have to modify the sections a bit.

Learn JavaScript Properly Study Guide for Beginners

Prerequisite: Completed at least some high school (no programming experience necessary)

The Level of JavaScript Covered in this Study Guide: Absolute Beginner to Intermediate

💡 *An Important Note*

How to Get the Best Out of This Study Guide

Type out and test every example code you encounter in the book. You can type the code and tweak it (experiment with it) in Firefox's or Chrome's console. The browser *console* is an area of the browser where you can write and run JavaScript code. Or use JSFiddle. JSFiddle is a web application that allows you to write and test your code online, right in your browser. You can test all sorts of code, including a combination of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript (and jQuery).

Don't use Safari. I recommend Chrome, but if you use Firefox, get the Firebug Add on for Firefox; use it for testing and debugging your code.

Watch this Firefox's and Chrome's Console Tutorial on YouTube.

And watch this Chrome Dev Tools Tutorial (also on YouTube) to learn how to use Chrome Dev Tools.

Also, work all the end-of-chapter exercises.

Let's get to work.

Weeks 1 and 2

Week 1: Making a Website with HTML and CSS; Learn JavaScript Data Types, Functions, Control Flow, and Loops

1. Codecademy.com: If you do not already know HTML and CSS, complete the Web Fundamentals Track on Codecademy.
2. Codecademy.com: Then follow the Make a Website track to make your first little website, using what you learned above.
3. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 1 (Introduction to JavaScript and the Web) and Chapter 2 (Data Types and Variables).

4. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 3 (Decisions, Loops, and Functions).
5. Codecademy.com: Work through the [JavaScript Track](#) on Codecademy. Specifically, work through these sections: "Introduction to JavaScript," "Functions," "'For' Loops in JavaScript," "'While' Loops in JavaScript," and "Control Flow."
6. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 4 (Common Mistakes, Debugging, and Error Handling).

Week 2: Learn JavaScript Objects, the Browser Object Model (BOM), and Events; Learn jQuery

1. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 5 (JavaScript — An Object- Based Language).
2. JavaScriptIsSexy.com: Read my article, [JavaScript Objects in Detail](#)
3. Codecademy.com: Work through the last three sections of the Codecademy JavaScript track: "Data Structures," "Objects 1," and "Objects 2."
4. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 6 (Programming the Browser).
5. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read **Chapter 15** (JavaScript Frameworks), and stop just after you complete this section: "Digging Deeper Into jQuery".
6. Codecademy.com: Work through the entire [jQuery Track](#) on Codecademy.

Weeks 3 and 4

Week 3: HTML Forms and Frames; JavaScript Strings; Build Your First Interactive Website

1. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 7 (HTML Forms: Interacting with the User).
2. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 8 (Windows and Frames).
3. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 9 (String Manipulation).
4. Codecademy.com: Now, make your first cool website. Work through the entire [Make an Interactive Website](#) track on Codecademy.

Week 4: JavaScript Date, Timers, and Cookies

1. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 10 (Date, Time, and Timers).
2. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 11 (Storing Information: Cookies).

Weeks 5 and 6

Week 5: JavaScript "this," Variable Scope, and Hoisting, the DOM, JavaScript XML, and AJAX

1. JavaScriptIsSexy.com: Read my post [JavaScript Variable Scope and Hoisting Explained](#)
2. JavaScriptIsSexy.com: Read my post [Understand JavaScript's "this" With Clarity, and Master It](#)
3. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 12 (Dynamic HTML and the W3C Document Object Model).
4. *Beginning JavaScript*: Read Chapter 14 (Ajax).

Week 6: Build a Real-World JavaScript Quiz Application

At this juncture, you have learned enough to build a solid JavaScript web application. Don't proceed any further until you can successfully build this application I describe below. Don't be afraid to ask questions on Stack Overflow, and do reread sections of the book to properly understand the concepts.

You are building a JavaScript quiz web application (you will use HTML and CSS as well) that will function as follows:

- It is a simple quiz that has radio button choices, and it will show the quiz taker his or her score upon completion.

- The quiz can show any number of questions and any number of choices.

- Tally the user's score and display the final score on the last page. The last page will only show the score, so remove the last question.

- Use an array to store all the questions. Each question, along with its choices and correct answer, should be stored in an object. The array of questions should look similar to this (Notice that only one question is in this example array; you will add many questions):

```
1   var allQuestions = [{question: "Who is Prime Minister of the United Kingdom?", choices: ["David Cameron", "Gordon Brown", "Winston Churchill", "Tony Blair"], correctAnswer:0}];
```

- Dynamically (with document.getElementById or jQuery) remove the current question and add the next question, when the user clicks the "Next" button. The Next button will be the only button to navigate this version of the quiz.

- You can ask for help in the comments below or preferably on Stack Overflow. You will likely to get a prompt and accurate answer on Stack Overflow.

Improve Your Quiz

You should be very comfortable with JavaScript, probably feeling like a Jedi. No, you are not. Not yet. You must keep using your newly acquired knowledge and skills as often as possible to keep learning and improving.

Improve Your Quiz Application From Earlier:

- Add client-side data validation: make sure the user answers each question before proceeding to the next question.

- Add a "Back" button to allow the user to go back and change her answer. The user can go back up to the first question. For the questions that the user has answered already, be sure to show the radio button selected, so that the user is not forced to answer the questions again, which she has completed.

- Use jQuery to add animation (fade out the current question and fade in the next question).

- Test the quiz on IE 9, and fix any bugs. This will give you a good workout 😉

- Store the quiz questions in an external JSON file.

- Add user authentication: allow users to log in, and save their login credentials to local storage (HTML5 browser storage).

- Use cookies to remember the user, and show a "Welcome, 'First Name'" message when the user returns to the quiz.

Week 7 (Extra Credit)

Getting Started with Git; Objective Oriented JavaScript; Improve Your Quiz Even More

1. CodeSchool.com: Take the FREE [Try Git](#) course.
2. JavaScriptIsSexy.com: Read my post, [OOP In JavaScript: What You NEED to Know](#).
3. **Improve Your Quiz Application Even Further:**
   — Use [Twitter Bootstrap](#) for the entire page layout, including the quiz elements to make it look more polished. As an added bonus, use the [tabs](#) user interface component from Twitter Bootstrap and show 4 different quizzes, one on each tab.
   — [Learn Handlebars.js](#) and add Handlebars.js templating to the quiz. You should no longer have any HTML in your JavaScript code. Your quiz is getting more advanced, bit by bit.
   — Keep a record of all the users who take the quiz and show each user how his or her score ranks among the scores from other quiz takers.
4. Later (after you have learned [Backbone.js](#) and [Node.js](#) or [Meteor.js](#)), you can use these technologies to refactor your quiz code and turn the same quiz into a sophisticated, single-page, modern web application built with the latest JavaScript frameworks. And you will store the users' authentication credentials and scores in a MongoDB database.
5. Next: Decide on a personal project to build, and start building your project promptly (while everything remains fresh in your memory). Use the book as a reference. And of course be an active member on Stack Overflow: ask questions and answer other programmers' questions. I am confident you will be able to

answer a number of questions.

Continue Improving

1. Learn Backbone.js Completely, if you want to be a front-end developer or learn how to develop web applications with a JavaScript front-end framework.
   Alternatively, if you want to develop complete applications, that is, the front-end and the backend, learn Meteor.js properly.

2. At this point, you will definitely need my book, *MongoDB for JavaScript Applications*, to help you build your own jQuery, Backbone.js, Node.js, or Meteor.js applications, since none of the noted resources, or any other book for that matter, cover MongoDB in depth for JavaScript applications.
3. Learn Intermediate and Advanced JavaScript
4. Learn Node.js Completely and With Confidence

Words of Encouragement

I wish you success with your studies and in your JavaScript career. Never give up! When you are struggling and feeling incompetent (you may from time to time), always remember that most (probably all) programmers, new and experienced alike, feel this way sometimes, or have felt this way at some point during their programming career.

Remember to dig deep and don't get frustrated; just carry on and stick with the task until you figure it out, for a worthwhile reward awaits you when you triumph in the end: programming is fun, liberating, and lucrative. The ecstasy one gets from building an application is a powerful feeling that you must experience to understand. Even more satisfying, however, is the empowerment you experience when you realize you have attained the skill and knowledge to build applications from scratch, to change the world with any idea you dream up.

The moment will come when you realize that all the difficulties you endured were worth while. Just as the millions before you have triumphed, so too, you will vanquish the toughest bugs, master the incomprehensible topics, and overcome the seemingly impossible tasks.

Feel free to share your links with us below when you build something, even if it is a tiny, itsy-bitsy project. 🙂

Posted in: JavaScript / Tagged: Beginner JavaScript, JavaScript, Learn JavaScript

Richard

Thanks for your time; please come back soon. Email me here: javascriptissexy at gmail email, or use the contact form.

646 Comments

April J

September 9, 2012 at 1:26 am / Reply

Excellent! I am just starting to learn javascript and getting a good outline like this is perfect! Thanks!

Panks

March 5, 2014 at 5:24 am / Reply

Hey, i wanna be learn JavaScript, so its compulsory for we start a c programming level then learn a java script?

Please Reply,

Panks

Jun

No programming knowledge or experience required.

Sanjay

Hi Panks,

C programming is not required to learn javascript . If you want, I will teach you javascript. Please reach me on my email.

Regards,
Sanjay

sumit kumar

Hello Sanjay,
I want to learn java script. will you teach me?

Regards,
Sumit Kumar

Shadab

contact me....I want to learn tooooo....
i'll be gratefull 2 u..
thanx in advce

Chris

July 17, 2014 at 10:16 am / Reply

I need help in understand JS, Is there any way that you can contact. Please, I would appreciate your time so much.

Chris

July 17, 2014 at 10:22 am /

Is there any way that you can contact me. *

Jennifer

July 17, 2014 at 9:00 pm / Reply

Is your offer to teach JavaScript still good? I would also like to learn. Thanks!

sree

July 25, 2014 at 2:06 am / Reply

Me too wanna learn javascript. please mail me the details. thanks in advance

Sri

August 23, 2014 at 3:20 am / Reply

Hi Sanjay,

I am looking for some good javascript tutorials and got Codecademy – it was fun doing it, but could not get much out of it.

Can you please guide me?

Thanks,
Sri

Dan Steward

August 30, 2014 at 9:47 pm / Reply

Hello Sanjay, I have basic programming skills. But on my new job, I need to learn JavaScript rather quickly.

Thanks for any help you can provide.
Dan Steward

chad

May 5, 2015 at 8:05 pm / Reply

Sanjay, would love to learn Js xxlesterlongxx@gmail.com is my email. would appreciete if you would reach out. thank you

Princess - Sanjay's fan

May 15, 2015 at 2:17 pm / Reply

Hi Sanjay,

I want to have kids from you. Please send me your email :))

Look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,
Princess

April J

May 23, 2015 at 1:03 am / Reply

http://www.psonline.xyz/ online photo editor

Eduardo

September 9, 2012 at 6:52 am / Reply

I'm also trying to learn Javascript, and I know that sometimes it's difficult to impose oneself a discipline to learn a new language. Because of this, I appreciate your advices. Thanks!.

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 9, 2012 at 10:41 am / Reply

You are welcome, April and Eduardo.

Note that I have just updated the post above with the jQuery course on Code Academy, which I mistakenly forgot to add.

Jatin

September 10, 2012 at 12:51 pm / Reply

Angular also!

Jeff

September 11, 2012 at 10:42 pm / Reply

This is fantastic!! I started with week 1 just yesterday! I would always get into codeacademy and would either get stuck or stop...this is a great roadmap that is easy to follow.

Any advice for a server side language, such as PHP?

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 12, 2012 at 9:55 pm / Reply

Jeff, I am happy to hear you have started learning JavaScript. Congratulations, you will be very happy you did, because you can do a lot, just about everything, with JavaScript nowadays.

As for a server-side language, the hot languages for startups and modern web applications are Rails, Python, and Scala (for larger web apps). But, with your JavaScript skills, you can use Node.js or Meteor.js (the future for web application development), and you need not learn a new programming language.

And it is worth noting that Meteor.js and Node.js are two of the fastest growing server-side frameworks today. So, if I had to tell you to learn one server-side language, I would say learn JavaScript very well, enough that you can use it skillfully to make any web application. Then learn Meteor.js and or Node.js and you would be preparing yourself for future web application development.

Having said that, it is always good to know at least one server-side language, and you cannot go wrong with Python or Rails, especially Rails.

Serge

December 6, 2013 at 2:50 pm / Reply

Hi Richard,

I finished the web fundamentals course on Codeacademy and started JavaScript track, but I'm gonna switch to your course because it's definitelly true that everything seems easy on Codeacademy but not so much when you try it on your own!

Just a short question, is there any special reason why you suggest Rails over Python (i guess we are talking about Django framework here)? Is it because of the better library or it's just your personal preference? People say Python is more similar to natural language and thus easier to master.
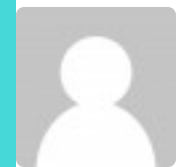
Jeff

September 14, 2012 at 8:01 am / Reply

Thanks for the reply!! I had learned enough PHP and Javascript to slap together a site, but perhaps as I work through this I can rewrite my little project using node instead. Thanks again for the awesome roadmap! Already most of the way through chapter 3 and looking forward to getting back into codecademy.

Andrew

September 16, 2012 at 4:19 am / Reply

Hi Richard,

do you have any suggestions for web application projects we should be attempting in week 4?

Richard Bovell (Author)

Andrew,

That is very good question, and I did ponder adding a web project to accompany the advanced chapters in the two JS books. But because I had not done the proper research to find the ideal project for the advanced chapters, I did not add a project to the post.

I will do the proper research over the next 2-3 days and update the post above with a web project for week 4.
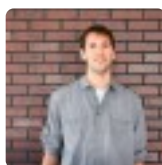
Andrew

Thanks! and thanks for the quick reply!

Look forward to seeing what the web project is.

Cole

Yeah I would like your suggestions for which web application projects we should do in week 4. So that way we can learn JS in properly way.

Richard Bovell (Author)

When I create the new roadmap, I will recommend an application.

Colin Jack

September 17, 2012 at 10:54 am / Reply

Be very interested in a post on angular.

Julio

September 17, 2012 at 2:34 pm / Reply

Thank you for the post. It would be interesting if you cover ember.js also

Michael

September 17, 2012 at 2:49 pm / Reply

I'd really appreciate an Angular.js tutorial. I'm trying to pick a "goto" javascript framework (yes, I know one tool doesn't fit every job but it's nice to have one you know well enough to prototype apps) and Angular is looking good, except I have no idea how to manipulate the DOM, and since it's new there aren't many resources.

So yeah +1 for angular

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 17, 2012 at 7:17 pm / Reply

Colin and Michael, I will likely add a post on Angular.js in about 3 – 5 weeks, sometime after I add the Node.js and Backbone.js posts, amongst other.

Julio, I am not sure about ember.js yet, but with enough requests, I will add it down the road.

Ameen

I've been trying to get to be able to write production level JS code. I've played around with JavaScript for a while but haven't really used it for anything other than simple programs similar to the ones at Codecademy.

I'm looking to venture into building Web Apps, and this could really help. Thanks 🙂

hod

Here is my journey

http://go.hodspot.com/2012/06/javascript-from-scratch.html

Bassam

So one has to read the whole book? That's how one usually does it anyway.

tuan anh

that's great article. I've just started Javascript yesterday 😀

Vaishali

December 26, 2012 at 10:49 am / Reply

Finally, some guidance! I was hopelessly jumping from one book review to another and now I see hope!! 😀

RyanF

December 28, 2012 at 3:45 am / Reply

Thank You so much!!

Mark

January 14, 2013 at 12:42 pm / Reply

Looking forward to working through this and Backbone!

Bwaxxlo

January 14, 2013 at 3:05 pm / Reply

Have you ever taken a look on CodeAvengers.com. I stopped learning JS on codecademy after realizing I was making little improvement. I learned Java back in college, so I had little experience with coding and most syntax used in programming languages (that's not to say the two are similar but some thought process is common in different languages). Avengers was more thorough and forced you to work on tasks as opposed to academy's way of chewing things for you. Plus, it was very easy for me after a week to be able to use my coding experience to build a simple website that, say, asks you for 2 numbers and gives you the sum and/or product. Learning on academy feels very different to applying JS on html. It doesn't even tell you how to nest your script on HTML code.

Henry

January 14, 2013 at 3:46 pm / Reply

Anyone complete this track? How many hours each week did you spend at it?

Mark

January 21, 2013 at 9:48 am / Reply

Took delivery of the first book today... its massive! Looking forward to getting stuck in. Thanks for your guidance.

Wilson van Heugten

January 24, 2013 at 12:30 pm / Reply

Thanks for posting this helpfull guide:-)
For your information, the URL to the Javascript track at Codecademy you use in your article points to a newer version of this track. The URL to the track you are reffering to is http://www.codecademy.com/tracks/javascript-original

Waldo Biddick

January 25, 2013 at 12:42 am / Reply

I just want to mention I am beginner to blogs and truly liked you're web-site. Likely I'm want to bookmark your blog . You certainly have incredible articles and reviews. Thanks for sharing with us your website page.

Sean

January 28, 2013 at 3:35 pm / Reply

Woww, awesome, please keep up the good tutorials on javascript... Thanks so much!!!

Boaz

January 29, 2013 at 3:43 pm / Reply

Hi ther Richard Bovell.

First of all i wanted to thank you cuase i got stucked while ago and now things getting real good!

but i see now that your post is not a to the date with the code academy site i spouse they changed the site (the are no further section then 8) so if you can post a new guide using the code academy it will be very appricited!!!

and agian thanks!

Andre Lashley

January 29, 2013 at 9:39 pm / Reply

Agreed! This post is excellent, all we need is an update to the codecademy track.

Wilson van Heugten

January 30, 2013 at 9:16 am / Reply

http://www.codecademy.com/tracks/javascript-original

Boaz

February 1, 2013 at 8:52 am / Reply

Thanks alot Wilson van Heugten

Rameş Aliyev

January 31, 2013 at 11:04 am / Reply

Thank you a lot Richard, I'm in JavaScript world about 3-4 year, but i fell

something missing in my knowledge and this program will fix it 🙂

Tom Phillips

February 4, 2013 at 6:52 pm / Reply

Hello Richard-

Just wanted to confirm that this book is indeed appropriate for the beginner w/o a background in programming. Many of the reviews warn beginners that this book isn't for beginners so I'm a bit concerned.

Cheers!

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 4, 2013 at 8:18 pm / Reply

@Tom Phillips

Excellent question. I went and took this directly from the book:

_____
WHO THIS BOOK IS FOR
This book is aimed at three groups of readers:
➤ Experienced developers familiar with object-oriented programming who are looking to learn JavaScript as it relates to traditional OO languages such as Java and C++.
➤ Web application developers attempting to enhance the usability of their web sites and web applications.
➤ Novice JavaScript developers aiming to better understand the language.

_____

But since you are using Codecademy along with the book, and taking in to account the manner in which I setup the course outline,

I believe you will make it through the course, though you should go at a much slower pace.

Codecademy will be very helpful for you (you needn't have any programming background), and definitely read the corresponding chapters in the book so that you can better understand what you are learning on Codecademy.

Tom Phillips

Great. I'm going for it. I've been doing the JavaScript track on CodeAcademy already and have had great success with the general syntax. Sometimes I'm getting bogged down on the logic side of things. Hopefully the book will better shed light on why and how to structure my code.

Dustin Koerner

I just want to say I am all new to blogging and site-building and definitely loved you're website. Almost certainly I'm going to bookmark your site . You absolutely have tremendous articles. Regards for sharing your web page.

Matt

Do you have any thoughts on the book Eloquent Javascript? I have heard it recommended quite often for beginners, plus the web version is free.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 10, 2013 at 4:13 pm / Reply

I actually tried Eloquent JavaScript when I was learning JavaScript a while ago, but I did not find it as thorough and as instructive as I needed it to be, to teach me JavaScript properly. So I didn't use it it much and I went ahead and buy the 2 books I noted in the post.

Anthony

February 26, 2013 at 1:08 pm / Reply

I didn't jive with that book as well, in fact the Wrox book is a good read, I like his approach and style, Zakas is a guru!

Mack

February 9, 2013 at 11:21 pm / Reply

Challenge accepted!

Felix

February 10, 2013 at 1:55 am / Reply

The Main problem i have had when learning to code is not having a complete roadmap to follow. Its so annoying, and i have just been dumping money everywhere.

This is an exciting solution because no matter how abstract the concept i am leatrning may be at a particular time, i am confident that if i go through it, i will be able to build something at the end. That and as the Javascript language has been the most friendly to me over the past 3 months(and i have tried ruby and python).

I'll complete this course and report black; in fact i might even run a live blog about it.

Thanks again for creating it
Felix

flo

February 10, 2013 at 12:23 pm / Reply

Thanks a lot for providing this guidance. It's really super-helpful if someone picks a selection of resources among the vast amount of what's out there.

I just started this course by taking the 'Web Fundamentals' track on Codeacademy, and it seems they have changed the structure a bit. There are no chapters 7 and 8 on JavaScript anymore in this track. So you might want to check your course elements that involve Codeacademy tracks and chapters.

Also, I was really surprised to see that the tracks and lessons on Codeacademy are actually free (they are, aren't they?). Maybe include this explicitly in your course outline, so that people won't be put off by thinking they would have to pay for it.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 10, 2013 at 4:10 pm / Reply

You made some good points, Flo. I will find some time soon to update the post to match the new JavaScript track on Codecademy. And I will note that it is free 🙂

Ahad Bokhari

February 11, 2013 at 10:21 am / Reply

Try throwing in a spaced repetition program such as [Anki] to help you retain your knowledge. The problem is syntax and retention and if you use those flash cards that you create you'll be well on your way on the path to mastery!

Check these links out:

[Want to Remember Everything You'll Ever Learn? Surrender to This Algorithm](#)

[The 20 rules of formulating knowledge in learning](#)

[Using spaced repetition systems to learn and retain technical knowledge.](#)

Good luck!!

Anthony
February 26, 2013 at 1:12 pm / Reply

Thanks for the links, that's my problem, remembering the syntax. I code in js, ruby, python and php as well as playing with BackboneJS and friends, so remember the syntax is a problem

Michael Walmsley
February 12, 2013 at 12:26 pm / Reply

Anyone wanting to learn JavaScript should definitely give http://codeavengers.com ago. It is much more fun and effective for beginners than CodeCademy.

CodeCademy is good... but CodeAvengers is better.

Peter T
February 12, 2013 at 6:48 pm / Reply

Hi Richard,

Thanks for sharing this. In your opinion would it be ok to buy the JavaScript ebooks and learn off the Kindle?

My initial thoughts were the screen is quite small and might be a pain having to flick back and forth as you tend to do with a large technical book. What do you think?

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 12, 2013 at 7:30 pm / Reply

@Peter T

I used to prefer reading from PDF eBooks, until I got my iPad and quickly learned that no matter the subject matter, it is a pleasurable, engrossing experience reading on the iPad. So I buy all my books for the iPad nowadays. Making notes, adding bookmarks, and searching the book are super easy compared with reading a paper book or PDF book.

And I suspect the experience is similar on the Kindle. So, if the Kindle is your preferred reading device, you should get the books for the Kindle.

AstonJ

February 13, 2013 at 12:17 pm / Reply

Wow – thanks for this awesome post!

I did something similar for Ruby & Rails (http://astonj.com/tech/best-way-to-learn-ruby-rails/) and have been looking for something similar for JS for ages!

I will let you know how I get on 🙂

JavaScript Programming

February 14, 2013 at 1:18 pm / Reply

Good work.

Matthew

February 14, 2013 at 5:22 pm / Reply

Hey Richard,

Thanks for this post. This is exactly what I needed. I have absolutely no programming background but am now getting more and more comfortable with the language.

I wanted to reach out to get some tips on applying all this material in the reading b/c 1,000+ pages is A LOT of reading. I've followed your instructions to practice on Codecademy. My experience with Codecademy has been inconsistent — some of their lessons are great but others not so much.

With all the reading, there are a lot of concepts that aren't really sinking in. What other ways would you suggest that I get these concepts soaked in and apply my learning. I have been supplementing your track with youtube videos on concepts I don't fully grasp. Should I just start building my idea now or wait till weeks 5 & 6?

Thanks!

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 15, 2013 at 1:20 pm / Reply

@Matthew and others who are having trouble with this roadmap.

I do realize the roadmap is not ideal (it could be a lot better) for beginners, and it is not streamlined for people who already have some programming experience.

To fix this problem and to make the instructions more tailored, I will create two separate roadmaps: one for beginners and one for experienced programmers. And I will create an eBook to help both groups.

In a few days (within a week), I will create the new roadmap for beginners. Stay tuned.

Matthew

February 16, 2013 at 2:12 pm / Reply

Thanks Richard!

Looking forward to the new roadmap.

Seth Hall

February 17, 2013 at 7:12 pm / Reply

Wow, thanks man. This is great. I am starting this roadmap ASAP. I have already been on Code Academy and Treehouse, but this is such a detailed and intentional roadmap. I think it will work well for me. I am looking forward to the beginners road map.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 22, 2013 at 8:19 pm / Reply

@Matthew

Definitely start building your project or building small projects ON YOUR OWN (not in Codecademy) as soon as you can. Do this from day 2.

And signup for an account on Stack Overflow and ask questions there when you are stuck.

Divine

February 14, 2013 at 10:32 pm / Reply

I just started with your suggestions on learning JavaScript. I've been trying to learn for a few months using codeacademy and tutorials in the net. This is the first time I'm going to follow a book. Hope it helps.

Pedro

February 15, 2013 at 12:11 pm / Reply

Excellent post. I'm learning Javascript during the last month with the Team Tree House Course and with the book Eloquent Javascript, but I think that I'm now in a good level. Do you recommend to start from scratch and follow this guide? Now I'm starting with jQuery and with backbone

What do you think about the book Eloquent Javacript?

thanks.

Sandy

February 16, 2013 at 3:10 am / Reply

Thanks for this wonderful article. Will learn it in my forth coming holidays.
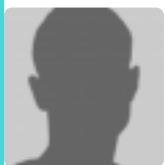
Arun

February 16, 2013 at 7:32 am / Reply

It seems Codeacdemy has changed it's track structure. Javascript

fundamentals doesnt have anything like Chapter 11 and 12. Chapter 8th is the last one.

You are referring to http://www.codecademy.com/tracks/javascript , right?

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 17, 2013 at 1:54 am / Reply

Thanks, Arun, I will update the article in a few days to reflect the Codecademy changes. I have to make two new roadmaps, as I have noted above; one for absolute beginners and one for programmers with some experience.

Juan Solano

February 16, 2013 at 9:49 am / Reply

Excellent article, great information.

Henry

February 18, 2013 at 5:52 pm / Reply

Do you suggest typing out all of the code examples in Professional JavaScript for Web Developers?

Andre Lashley

February 20, 2013 at 12:13 am / Reply

I've tried this approach to learning a language before and I find that it hinders the process more than anything. You get caught up in syntactical details instead of seeing the big picture the author is trying to convey.

My personal recommendation is to read the chapters, and then think of a feature that each thing you read about can be used for in the context of a larger application. Alternatively, if you still want to type out the examples, maybe use a see, copy, do approach where you read the chapter once, copy the examples, and then use them in your own app. This takes a fair bit longer though!

Maybe Richard has some other ideas on how to get the most out of the reading material.

Paul

February 20, 2013 at 6:23 am / Reply

Thanks for the challenge! I'v been flirting with JS for ages but never found it never stuck I even ticked of all three of your starter 'not to', made me laugh.

I'v been doing a 9 week online course 'Introduction to Databases' and the more formal structure has made it far more beneficial than lots of little blog post opinions scattered all over the web. So really looking forward to your path as well.

Just got the books through as well, was a heavy box. Feel like I got good value, just may take a while 🙂

Acami

February 20, 2013 at 3:26 pm / Reply

Great article. It will be helpful is we can get links or ideas about a project..

Thanks

John DeVries

February 21, 2013 at 5:03 pm / Reply

Richard, you've put together an amazing resource here. So, thank you for that.

I'm very excited to follow the more regimented program that you've offered here. I don't want to take too much of your time here. However, I was wondering if you'd answer a few very short questions for me and your audience:

1. Aside from learning from tutorials, scattered knowledge in books, etc... what is the most common mistake novice programmers make when learning Javascript?

2. Do you know of anyone who struggled with programming, but learned JS (or another language) regardless of their ineptitude? If so, what about their approach was effective in your opinion?

3. After completing your course, what type of application could a student build to impress potential employers – showing off their JS proficiency?

Seth Hall

February 21, 2013 at 5:10 pm / Reply

Great questions John. I am looking forward to the answers. Thanks for a great blog Richard. It will be essential to my further education as a developer.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 22, 2013 at 8:13 pm / Reply

@John

I answered all of your questions. Look at the bottom of this post (above the comments), I added a section called: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers.

@Seth

See my answers to John's questions in the FAQ.

John

February 24, 2013 at 9:09 pm / Reply

Thank you SO much, Richard. GREAT tips there. Going to get started this week! I'll make sure to document the process on my blog and link back here!

HowToSolutionsNET

February 23, 2013 at 3:34 am / Reply

Great article.

I always learned javascript / jQuery just enough to solve any problems I had and never bothered to learn it properly.

Resources on this post seems like a good way to do it.

Ab

February 23, 2013 at 5:04 am / Reply

Thanks for this great post. I'm just wondering when the announced "master in 1 week" blog post will come. Any news on that?

William

February 23, 2013 at 1:26 pm / Reply

Richard, What are your thoughts regarding Derby.js?

http://derbyjs.com/

Peter

February 24, 2013 at 2:15 pm / Reply

Thanks so much for that posting/roadmap. Really love the approach.
One thing I would find great is small projects to work on while moving along.

Somewhat the courses all are somewhat decent explaining a if/then statement but more help for practical applications/small projects would be awesome.

Acami

February 24, 2013 at 3:49 pm / Reply

Waiting for the post updated ..

Andy

February 24, 2013 at 7:12 pm / Reply

1. You posted this early.
2. "after 7pm PST" means some time after that time. It does not mean right at that time.
3. Most importantly, don't whine.

Acami

February 24, 2013 at 7:38 pm / Reply

Hey I know if not going to be exactly a 7 PM. Lol

Acami

February 24, 2013 at 7:45 pm / Reply

Andy, most importantly do not be a "LAMBON".. Ki... a..S

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 24, 2013 at 7:33 pm / Reply

It is my fault. I was too optimistic with the time estimate. I know a lot of readers are waiting eagerly for the update. I am hopeful the post will be helpful.

I will upload the absolute beginner update shortly (about 1-1/2 hour from now). With the advanced and experienced programmers posts to follow a few hours after that.

To everyone waiting eagerly: I am sorry about the delay. Drink a cup of tea or coffee and watch some Oscars and come back in about 2 hours :). It will be ready for sure by then. Or read chapter 1 of "JavaScript, The Definitive Guide" in the mean time.

Acami

February 24, 2013 at 8:24 pm / Reply

You were not too optimistic with time but you forgot that tonight were the Oscars 🙂

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 25, 2013 at 12:57 am / Reply

He he he. Nah, I didn't watch the Oscars, but I will later.

aarsh

Hey Richard have you tried out sublime text 2? I personally use this one because if its vast features

Richard Bovell (Author)

I do use it, but not for full JS applications. Only to edit files. I added a note about this to the post.

Ben S

Thanks so much for this, Richard. I am an entry-level .Net developer who learned mostly all I have on my own, and from my programmer brother who informally tutored me. So I have some know-how, but am not there yet. Considering how important JavaScript is to know for a .Net guy, I was glad to find your course and started the first iteration of it (that was just replaced with this new format). I was about 2 weeks in. Any advice on where I should go in this new format? Thanks!

Richard Bovell (Author)

I suspect there are quite a few who are in the same position as you. I will add a section to the roadmap about this tonight.

Jeff

I am also about two weeks in. I had been going back and reading the first chapters of The Definitive Guide anyways. So I plan to keep with that (which sort of jives with the new roadmap). In addition, I was going to finish up the codecademy from the first two weeks of the original roadmap then do step 4, 5, and 6 for weeks 3 and 4 on the new roadmap. That should get me to the project point. I will probably start the project now anyways, even before I get to the jQuery part of the roadmap....just to start noodling around with something of my own.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 25, 2013 at 9:47 pm / Reply

Sounds good, Jeff. Since you have the "JavaScript: The Definitive Guide" book, it is easy to transition indeed, and this new track a lot easier and more effective. The old one had too many unimportant chapters from the other tougher book.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 25, 2013 at 9:45 pm / Reply

Ben,
I was just about to add some notes for you, but then I remember the old track had the "JavaScript: The Definitive Guide" book, too, so it is very easy to transition to this new track. This new track is actually a lot easier (and more effective, I imagine) than the old one.

Do you have "JavaScript: The Definitive Guide"?

John O

February 25, 2013 at 1:34 pm / Reply

In Week 1 and 2 of this course steps 4, 6 and 8 are conflicting unless you mean to redo the track over and over? Would you be able to clarify this please? Or are they referring to a different track?

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 25, 2013 at 1:44 pm / Reply

Thanks much for pointing that out, John O. I had forgotten to delete a bullet point. I just fixed it.

John O

February 25, 2013 at 2:31 pm / Reply

Glad I could help. This blog is doing wonders for me and my Final Year Project in college. Thanks for that.

Sean

February 26, 2013 at 6:59 am / Reply

Hey Richard, I was in the middle of learning javascript from your old post reading Nicholas Zakas Professional Javasscript etc... I think it has tremendously helped me... Now should I keep reading that and still go along with this new revise post... ????? thanks

Sean

February 26, 2013 at 7:25 am / Reply

Quick Update – Even tho Nicholas Zackas is a bit confusing at times, he does break down each concept that i do understand... I actually purchased the book, so re reading this post assumes I will have to buy The Defenitive Guide Book and start from scratch????? thanks

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 27, 2013 at 11:08 am / Reply

Sean,

No, you don't have to buy the Definitive Guide book. See my reply.

jesus miguel

February 26, 2013 at 7:25 am / Reply

The last year I restart to learn JavaScript and I found Object-Oriented JavaScript very useful. For me, it's more easy to understand some concepts like variables scope with that book that with "JavaScript: The Definitive Guide".

Thank you for your work creating a roadmap to learn JavaScript.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 27, 2013 at 11:10 am / Reply

Hi Jesus,

I promptly added back the Professional JS for Web Developers book yesterday, after many readers requested it. So you can use **either** book now. Ever time I referenced one of the books I referenced the other.

Anthony

February 26, 2013 at 11:44 am / Reply

I thought I was losing my mind (I could have sworn, I was suppose to read the Wrox book first)

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 26, 2013 at 12:52 pm / Reply

@Ben S, @Sean, @jesus miguel, @Anthony, and others who have purchased the "Professional JavaScript for Web Developers" book or otherwise stared the old track, I just updated the post with complete coverage for the Professional JavaScript book. This updated roadmap is more streamlined and better than the old one.

I noted which chapters of this book you should read in each section. Now you can follow the entire course with either book.

"Professional JavaScript" is still my preference, but it is best read if you have at least a bit of web dev experience, while the other book is better for first-time programmers.

Anthony

February 26, 2013 at 1:37 pm / Reply

Richard,

I would like to thank you for all your hard work, this site is a great resource. The backbone, JavaScript tutorials look great as well as all the other material on this site. Great job bud!!

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 27, 2013 at 10:57 am / Reply

Thanks much, Anthony. I am happy to hear the site is helpful.
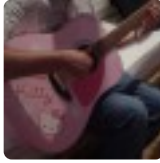
jesus miguel

February 26, 2013 at 6:41 pm / Reply

Nice to you to update the roadmap with "Professional JavaScript for Web Developers" I think that people who started to learn JS some time ago and is now, as me, trying to learn in the proper way could find this very useful.
For these people I think that Object-Oriented JavaScript by Stoyan Stefanov is also a good lecture.

Thank you to help us to become JS ninjas.

skyler

February 27, 2013 at 5:14 am / Reply

I just started this about a week ago, i'm already on week two and now its all changed T_T, now i'm just confused

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 27, 2013 at 11:04 am / Reply

Hello Skyler,
First, I apologize for the change that was indeed disruptive for some readers, for a day. But I promptly added back the Professional JS for Web Developers book yesterday, after many readers

requested it. So you can use either book now. Ever time I referenced one of the books I reference the other.

In addition, you can follow this new roadmap with a seamless transition from the old one (no disruption). The new roadmap is much better than the previous one, because the previous one had too much unnecessary technical reading and a few other shortcomings, which I fixed and improved in this new track.

skyler

Thanks for the quick reply. I appreciate the effort in bringing back the Professional JS for Web Developers book.

After I first saw the update, some of the steps that I had already been working on got removed and I was a little confused as to whether I should continue on with the old course or transition to the new course.

I guess it was just a bit of a shock :]. I've taken the time to re-examine the new course and I've figured out how I can transition from the old to the new.

The new refined course actually does look a lot better, and more strait-forward. Thanks for keeping this up to date, and thanks for this great course!

Amaury

After someone learn Javascript in what order should he/she learn these

technologies:

> Node.js

> Knockout.js

> Backbone.js

> JQUERY

> Coffescript

> TypeScript

> Bootstrap

Thanks

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 27, 2013 at 10:29 pm / Reply

Amaury,

I answered this question on the Backbone.js post. here is my response:

First, if you follow the Learn JS Properly course, you will see that you will learn jQuery at the same time as you are learning JS.

1. I recommend you learn JS properly (it includes jQuery), then read the "Effective JavaScript" book (it is one of the books I recommend in the Advanced JS roadmap). And it is easy to read: it is comprised of 68 excellent JS tips.

2. Then learn Twitter Bootstrap.

3. Now, it is very tricky to recommend a JS framework, because there are so many good ones to choose from and they are as similar as they are different. For now, I would say learn Backbone.js, because it is relatively easy to use, it is lightweight (not a big

behemoth), there are many Backbone.js resources, and it is the most popular. No need to learn knockout.js plus backbone.js.

4. Then learn Node.js, and you are good to go. You can skip the rest, they are not necessary; most are alternatives to what you would have learned already.

Amaury

February 28, 2013 at 12:59 pm / Reply

Thanks Richard for the information. I am good to go now...

aarsh

February 27, 2013 at 4:47 pm / Reply

Hey Richard, I have trouble learning client side javascript. There are so many things you need to memorize and its really difficult to do so. Do you have any tips that can help me enhance my knowledge on this specific topic. Thanks

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 27, 2013 at 10:12 pm / Reply

Aarsh, you don't have to memorize all the technical stuff. As long as you know how to use the concepts and you can program, you can Google or keep a JS book next to your computer. The best programmers don't waste time memorizing the endless stream of technical details.

Learn JS properly, then learn Backbone.js, then you are good to go. Give yourself 6 – 8 weeks, and stick to it. Don't quit.

Vic

First, my thanks for this guide to thorough learning of Javascript. It looks very well thought out, and the fact that you're revising and improving it as the materials you refer to change and users give their comments means it will be valuable to many people for a long time to come.

My knowledge of Javascript and other web languages is very limited (at present), so I have one question: If I want to get content from a server-side MySQL database, then it seems to me that I can't use client-side Javascript. Is that correct? and if so, is there a way round this, or do I have to use something like PHP for the parts of a web page that depend on database access?

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 27, 2013 at 10:19 pm / Reply

If you know PHP, use that on the backend, along with jQuery AJAX on the client.

Otherwise, learn Node.js, it is very easy to learn; you only have to learn some of the Node.js API, to get started.

Vic

February 27, 2013 at 11:02 pm / Reply

@Richard and @Anthony
Thanks, that clears it up for me. I know just a little PHP, but I'd rather get Javascript thoroughly under my belt and use that.

The Ajax PDFs will be useful when I get to that point.

Anthony

February 27, 2013 at 10:21 pm / Reply

@Vic, JavaScript is used to talk to MySQL databases, the technique is called AJAX and is standard practice now a days.
There are many ways to do this, you can do it all in PHP or you can do it with JavaScript (writing to the page)

Anthony

February 27, 2013 at 10:31 pm / Reply

Here are some PDF's on AJAX

http://dl.dropbox.com/u/5884010/Slideshare_AJAX.zip

Ernesto

February 28, 2013 at 2:10 am / Reply

Hello,
I am excited about just starting out on this course track, though I have yet to purchase the books. I however have had a chance to peruse the opening chapters of both of them. Although I do not have a web development background, I must admit I like the presentation and the style of Zakas slightly more than that of the Definitive Guide from what I've initially seen. Would the difference between the two have an significant effect later on in if I went with Professional JS despite my background? Many thanks.

Richard Bovell (Author)

February 28, 2013 at 1:02 pm / Reply

Use Zakas's book if you like it and understand it. It is better and it

covers up to advanced topics, so in the long run, it is a better book.

Ernesto

February 28, 2013 at 1:40 pm / Reply

Will do, thanks!

Rashid

February 28, 2013 at 5:47 pm / Reply

I was wondering if javascript object orientated is easy to learn and use in the real web applications? Do you use object orientation in your web apps? Thanks...

Richard Bovell (Author)

March 7, 2013 at 12:42 pm / Reply

Yes, Object-Oriented JavaScript is considerably easier than in many languages. And it is definitely used extensively to develop JavaScript web applications.

Paul

March 1, 2013 at 2:32 am / Reply

Richard, thanks so much for your awesome roadmap. It really helps.

As a sort of a thank you gift, I would like to share a tutorial on how to integrate WebStorm, SmartGit, and bitbucket to check all exercise files into a Git repo (in this example, bitbucket.org).

http://2oahu.com/blog/bitbucket-webstorm-javascript/

Instead of studying js, I spent most of my free time today writing this up. Hope it helps.

Thank you!

Richard Bovell (Author)

March 1, 2013 at 5:45 pm / Reply

Thanks, Paul,

You should created a tutorial for getting started with WebStorm. I imagine many users will need such a tutorial, which I had planned to write but I simple don't have the time to do it.

If you do, I will link to in in the Learn JS post.

BTW, I like the image of the tropics that you have on your website. It makes me want to take a vacation.

Paul

March 3, 2013 at 3:41 pm / Reply

Done. It's at http://2oahu.com/blog/webstorm-javascript/

Please leave comments with any suggestions/comments.

The pics are from Oahu that I took on my visits. 🙂

Richard Bovell (Author)

March 4, 2013 at 3:40 am / Reply

Very good work, Paul. Thanks much. I added a link on the post.
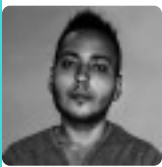
Robert

March 3, 2013 at 3:16 pm / Reply

Hello,

Many thanks for these awesome guidelines. I really want to learn Javascript, although I am a beginner. I have only HTML and CSS knowledge and I guess Javascript will be helpful in the future.

A couple of weeks ago I found out about Codecademy, I did a few tasks on Javascript but what can I say, I didn't like their process of learning.

I am in my early 20s and as you said, sometimes frustration may be present. However, I am really eager to learn this and if you have the right resources you can do it easily, in my opinion.

Hopefully in 2-3 months I will be able to create my own stuff and have a good knowledge of Javascript. I also took Javascript The Definitive Guide, as you recommended for beginners.

Seth Hall

March 4, 2013 at 3:21 pm / Reply

Hey Richard,

Can you tell us more of what WebStorm offers that makes it better that ST2? I have been using the trail but I am not sure what features to look for and there is a slight learning curve, considering I am so used to ST2 and my work flow is so integrated with ST2.

Thanks.

Richard Bovell (Author)

March 7, 2013 at 12:40 pm / Reply

Seth,

I really should write a blog post comparing the two, because this requires a thorough review. Nonetheless, if you are already very comfortable with Sublime Text 2, you should keep using it for now.

Later, when you are ready to develop complex JavaScript web applications, you will have outgrown Sublime Text 2 and that would be a good time to look into WebStorm.

Indeed, there is a moderate learning curve for WebStorm, but it is similar to using Sublime Text 2, except it has many more specific JavaScript features and integration with JavaScript libraries and frameworks, including Node.js, CoffeeScript, jQuery, and a lot more.

Seth Hall

March 7, 2013 at 12:53 pm / Reply

Thanks for the feedback. I hear what you are saying.

I will keep trying WS during the trial and go from there.

A comparison post and an in depth look into the benefits of WS would be good content for your blog,

Domen

March 9, 2013 at 7:36 am / Reply

It would really help if you made an article about WebStorm. I need someone to tell me about features, so I have a solid reason to pay for it. Maybe include in

article some extra links about using the program.

Burak

March 8, 2013 at 9:12 am / Reply

Thanks for this creating this guide, It's really helpful track for non-programmers.

But I find it tedious to study over trivial parts, such as chapter 4, I mean do I really need to read beforehand how "+" operator works, isn't that obvious how it works?

Jonathan Kempf

March 8, 2013 at 1:47 pm / Reply

Richard,

Thank you so much for this tutorial on learning JS. As a designer, I found myself using jQuery widgets a lot on webpages, but I always wanted to learn JS properly.

Now I am on week 3-4 and starting to grasp Objects, but I have run into a problem regarding the 'hacking' away part of the lesson: Most everything that I think of doing to practice with JS has already been solved by either jQuery UI or CSS3, and I can't really think of any good exercises that I could experiment with to further develop my skills. Do you have a resource that could give me some practical problems so that I can practice solving them? I'm not looking for a Codeacademy-type hand holding, but left to my own devices, I can't think of any good problems that I can solve at this level of skill.

Thanks again!

Richard Bovell (Author)

March 25, 2013 at 2:27 am / Reply

HI Jonathan,

I think you should build the quiz application I noted in the post above. It will help you develop a complete JavaScript web application that starts off simple and gets increasingly more advanced. See the details in the post above.

BTW, I am sorry about the late reply to your post. I don't know how I missed your comment. I have only now stumbled upon it.

Seth Hall

March 25, 2013 at 10:46 am / Reply

I am working through this track slowly but surely. Things are starting to fall into place. I am also building my first web app with Meteor as I go (I need to apply while I learn, if I just read, I will not grasp anything and will probably fall asleep). So I am learning JS, JS programming and the Meteor framework at the same time. I will get there, I will get there, I will get there.

Richard Bovell (Author)

March 27, 2013 at 3:36 pm / Reply

Meteor.js is great. I plan to use it to develop my next two projects. I highly recommend it, even though it is still in its infancy.

Seth Hall

March 27, 2013 at 7:53 pm / Reply

Meteor is awesome and I highly recommend it as well.

Robert

March 26, 2013 at 5:32 pm / Reply

Is this a typo in the section for weeks 3 & 4? Where is the "Prototype Pattern" material located? Thanks.

can read up to "Prototype Pattern." The other object patterns are quite dense for you at this juncture and they are not necessary for you to know now.

Richard Bovell (Author)

March 27, 2013 at 3:34 pm / Reply

The Prototype Pattern is on page 184 of Professional Javascript for Web Developers.

jhonnatan

March 29, 2013 at 12:43 am / Reply

i just wanted to say thank you, before reading your blog post i didnt have a road map to follow in order to learn javascript, i also got stuckevery time on codeacademy javascript challenges, by now its been almost a month since i started reading the books and following the roadmap.....im so exited because today with the knowladge in javascript and using jquery i made the challenge of make my own dynamic quiz application and it feels so good to know im improving!!!!!!...im so looking forward to keep improving and improve the quiz as it follows!!!!!

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 1, 2013 at 8:48 pm / Reply

Congrats, Jhonnatan. I am very happy to hear about your progress, and I am sure many others will be inspired by your determination.

Yuichi

March 31, 2013 at 8:01 pm / Reply

Thank you for the great tutorial guide, so helpful for beginner like me who don't know where to start learning Javascript. I got the book, now I'm ready to learn properly 🙂
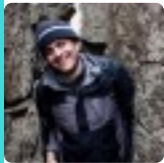
Emiliano Jordan

April 2, 2013 at 11:17 am / Reply

Thanks for the brilliant post. I'd just like to ask you one thing before I dive headfirst into this. Could you consider another link than Amazon? O'Reilly might be a good alternative or at least an option. They're a very progressive publisher leading a lot of modern trends. Plus they're in support of a more open web not limiting their eBook downloads to a proprietary format. Of course if you're going to do all the work to write this I wouldn't mind supporting you.

http://oreilly.com/affiliates/

Again, great work. Thanks.

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 2, 2013 at 11:08 pm / Reply

Thanks for the information, Emiliano (great name by the way 🙂)
I will look into adding some of the links to O'Reilly books.

franklin

April 2, 2013 at 7:55 pm / Reply

Hi, I was just wondering if this is still relevant or not. I'm always concerned about stuff being outdated. Also, I've programmed in C and some Java. Should I go with "Javascript for Web Developers"?

Thanks so much for all this info, it is exactly what I've been looking for.
Can one get a job after going through all of this?
I'm was a ruby guy but man I'm loving javascript so much.

Richard Bovell (Author)
April 2, 2013 at 11:07 pm / Reply

@Franklin
This blog post is very new; it was originally written about 5 months and it was updated just 2 months ago.

Yes, get Professional JavaScript for Web Developers (3rd Edition)

You can definitely get a great job once you have learned JavaScript properly (including jQuery) and then learn Backbone.js. Front-end developers are in great demand right now.

All the best with your studying and coding.

Eric Elliott
April 7, 2013 at 7:45 pm / Reply

Very thorough and wonderful resource. I've been sharing this link. Thanks for taking the time to do this!

Linda Gausman
April 11, 2013 at 2:13 pm / Reply

Richard, I'm using the Professional JavaScript for Web Developers guide. In

week 4, you ask us to read chapter 19 of JavaScript: The Definitive Guide for the JQuery chapter. Is there another resource that covers this or do we need to purchase a second book?

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 11, 2013 at 10:05 pm / Reply

Very food question, Linda. I just updated the roadmap. Instead of learning jQuery on Codecademy or in the JS the Definitive Guide book (as I had originally recommended), I now recommend this link:

http://try.jquery.com/

Dragan

April 12, 2013 at 7:47 am / Reply

Greetings from Bosnia,
thank you for doing this, it is very helpful for beginners like me, I have a question. I want to learn javascript but also C #, which language is better to start, thanks again 🙂

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 14, 2013 at 3:52 pm / Reply

If you want to develop websites or web applications, you should definitely learn JavaScript.

Lars Finsen

April 14, 2013 at 8:05 am / Reply

"Don't use Safari"? Why not exactly?

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 14, 2013 at 3:51 pm / Reply

Safari developer (debugging) tools are not as good as the developer tools on Firefox and Chrome.

Antonis

April 15, 2013 at 9:01 am / Reply

Hi Richard, congrats for your excellent work. I am currently on week 4 and I am a little confused about the "Javascript or jQuery" subject and can't figure out the right answer.

Should someone has a very solid understanding of JS and only then move to jQuery, or he has to learn both parallel?

As far as the quiz is concerned, should I write it in pure JS or jQuery?

I really want to hear your opinion because you have real experience. My aim isn't just to start coding and see quick results. I 'd like to be able to use HTML/CSS/JS for a lot of uses, even for mobile apps for example. Not just some webpage effects etc...

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 16, 2013 at 3:07 pm / Reply

@Antonis

In hindsight, I think I should recommend jQuery (for DOM manipulation) for the first go at the quiz (and not pure JS), because everyone will be using jQuery afterwards anyway.

So, no need to use pure JS for DOM manipulation in the first

iteration of the quiz.

However, if anyone wants to use pure JS, go for it; you will learn how to manipulate the DOM with JS, which is important to know as a JS developer, in case you ever have to do it without jQuery. And you will also understand how jQuery actually works. But it is not **necessary** to use pure JS for the DOM manipulation, if you can do it much easier and quicker with jQuery.

Yuichi

April 16, 2013 at 3:33 pm / Reply

Hello, I am beginner, I am learning with "Professional Javascript for Web Developers" book but I was wondering if real life developers(front-end) use everything covered in the steps often or necessary to know them? or some topics are rarely used?

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 17, 2013 at 7:21 pm / Reply

No. No one uses everything from a programming book in real life, just like no one uses most of what he learns in school in real life. In the roadmap above, I recommended you skip many parts of the book. See the roadmap for more.

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 17, 2013 at 7:22 pm / Reply

As I wrote to Sean below:

Derek Sivers is the first to complete the quiz and post his code, you can checkout his code and learn from his efforts. Here is his code in **pure JS**:

https://github.com/sivers/jsisquiz

Mateusz

April 16, 2013 at 2:30 am / Reply

Great roadmap!

I am very aprecieted about all of you articles. It is like a good book, with growing level of complexity, very motivaiting and well structured.

My javascript developer career will move on a fast track thanks to you 🙂

Keep up the excelent work.
I'll be your faithful reader.

Thanks!

Franklin De Los Santos

April 16, 2013 at 2:35 am / Reply

Right? I love the author for writing this. It's so hard to find a path on how to learn tech it's not funny(frustrating?).
I feel the same way, this is marvelous.

JavaScript is so Sexy

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 16, 2013 at 3:12 pm / Reply

Great comment, Franklin. 🙂

Sean

April 16, 2013 at 3:44 pm / Reply

Hey Richard, im a bit confused about the Quiz.. Im wondering how will i access the object in the array.. Im trying to access the array/object such as.. allQuestions[0] or making acessing the property of that object/array such as allQuestions.question..

Im guessin it would be a bit easier if i created three seperated objects or arrays such as below.. thanxx
var allQuestions = {};
var allAnswers ={};
var Choices = {};

Sean

April 16, 2013 at 5:42 pm / Reply

Never mind I figured it out :), to access a object inside an array as the Quiz stated, one would need to do the following:
allQuestions[0].question; etc..

what was confusing me , as well as getting errors, was the second choice array inside of this array.. i just took that second array out (choices) and i figured it out.. Richard was that a good idea to take that second array out?? thanks

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 17, 2013 at 7:19 pm / Reply

@Sean, I am glad to hear about your progress and your struggles 🙂 Welcome to the life of a programmer.

Derek Sivers is the first to complete the quiz and post his code, you

can checkout his code and learn from his efforts. Here is his code in **pure JS**:

https://github.com/sivers/jsisquiz

And the coolest part is that he will keep updating his code as he learn jQuery and other technologies. So keep an eye on the link.

Josh Forbes

April 17, 2013 at 10:48 pm / Reply

I love the link to Derek Sivers quiz code. I just pushed another revision to my own quiz app so I am at a point where I am looking forward to sitting down and looking over his code to see how someone else approached the application.

In the spirit of sharing, here is my code as well:

https://github.com/joshdforbes/dynamicquiz

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 18, 2013 at 6:29 pm / Reply

Way to go, Josh. Excellent, Mate. I like that you went for an OOP quiz. I will link to both yours and Derek's in the article above in a few days. Heck, I will tweet about your effort right now 🙂

If you aren't already, you should join the Reddit study group at the link below (or at least drop by and show them your quiz):
http://www.reddit.com/r/learnjavascript/comments/1bx5uq/learning_js

Antonis

April 20, 2013 at 6:34 pm / Reply

I just finished the 1st version of my quiz in pure JS and wanna share with you guys! Here it is: http://jsfiddle.net/zryHu/ . I think that I have written some parts not with the best way, but the main purpose was to get it work!
My code is heavily commented so maybe someone finds the help he/she needs!

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 22, 2013 at 1:07 pm / Reply

Very Cool, Antonio. Excellent job. Keep adding on to it, and very soon you will be developing full-scale JS applications.

Acami

April 21, 2013 at 8:25 pm / Reply

Richard,

From the book "Professional JavaScript for Web Developers.",?
which topics are the most important?

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 22, 2013 at 1:08 pm / Reply

@Acami In the roadmap above, I list the specific sections of the book that are important to read.

Dylan Ribb

April 24, 2013 at 1:53 pm / Reply

I have to say that I am -incredibly- grateful for this post. I started a few weeks ago and I'm already feeling great after completing the first iteration of the

quiz project, and I'm continually motivated to learn more and learn about JavaScript every single day. In just the last few weeks, I went from knowing next to nothing to actually building things and even learning CoffeeScript in the process. Thank you for the great post and helpful information!

If anyone would like to see the quiz I've built, you can find it here:
http://dylanribb.com/projects/javascript/jsquiz

Richard Bovell (Author)

April 25, 2013 at 8:40 pm / Reply

Very well done, Dylan. I like the fade and the well organized structure of your UI.

You should probably show the question number (1 of 10), so the user has an idea which question he is on and how many more questions to come.

Boaz

April 28, 2013 at 9:14 am / Reply

Hey Dylan,
first of all i saw the amazing quiz that you did
and it looks great!
can you please add some comments explaining what you did in each section of your code?
it would be very helpful

Dylan

April 28, 2013 at 11:23 am / Reply

Hi, Boaz.

Thanks for the feedback. I've added some comments to make it easier to understand what's happening and uploaded the new js file. 🙂

Dylan

sneha

May 3, 2013 at 7:08 am / Reply

Outstanding guidance for those developers(like me) who are new in javascript..

Tim

May 7, 2013 at 10:50 pm / Reply

Awesome article mate…just what I needed to learn javascript

Sean

May 8, 2013 at 7:37 am / Reply

Hey whats up Richard, I finished my Justin Timberlake Quiz. Its Pure JS, it still needs some work, hopefully you'll check it out..

http://seanshoats.com/jtquiz.html

Im loving javascript.. my main goal is to build modern mobile apps & web apps using javascript and node.js etc….

Hopefully my quiz can be some help to some guys who are stuck like I was lol….. thanks so much for this blog!!! Richard You Rock!! 🙂

Richard Bovell (Author)

May 8, 2013 at 9:09 pm / Reply

You rock, Sean.

Congrats, Bro. I am really inspired by you guys. Keep up the good work and keep making your quiz more advance as you learn more advance topics.

Niraj

May 9, 2013 at 2:52 am / Reply

I like it.It's cool.

javascript1618

May 15, 2013 at 5:47 pm / Reply

Thank you taking the time to provide guidance and clear direction. I have tried many times to become proficient in javascript. I am fortunate to now have a mentor. I stumbled upon your site looking for information on backbone.js
In my area NYC surrounding the income compensation is worth the effort. Thank you for providing a clear path to achievement

adam baker

May 16, 2013 at 5:08 pm / Reply

great post.

I know this might be outside the focus of this website, but since it still is related to web development I would appreciate an article about "how to learn php properly", especially since a lot of programmers learn it the wrong way.

Anyhow, great article.

Martins

May 18, 2013 at 4:03 am / Reply

Hey!

Good job on the course so far. I just wanted to point out a little 'bug'. I think that the link for web-storm description has changed from http://2oahu.com/blog/webstorm-javascript/ (doesn't work) to http://2oahu.com/posts/2013/webstorm-javascript/. It' s not that hard to find the correct one, but would be nice if you changed it here as well.

Paul

May 20, 2013 at 2:11 pm / Reply

@Martins

Hello, this is Paul running 2oahu.com.

The 'bug' is actually my fault, not R. Bovell. When R. Bovell first wrote about my 2oahu.com blog, I was using WordPress and I kept everything under blog/. However I recently decided to ditch WordPress and went for Pelican and in the process switched around the urls. I did include html forwards in the new site for more popular pages but my deployment script for deploying the html files didn't know about the html forwards.

I've updated my deployment script to make sure the html forwarders are included.

Sorry about that Richard.

Peter

May 24, 2013 at 1:08 pm / Reply

Hi Richard,

I'm trying to work through the tutorial and made it already to week 5-6. But I'm having a bit problems implementing the changes.

Questions: Is there any possibility for code review? e.g. somebody looking through the code and suggesting how to do things "better". Also, do you have any suggestions for keeping a better structure? I'm trying to stuff things into functions to keep somewhat the different effects seperated, but is there any recommended way of doing this?

Thanks so much for this great roadmap!

Richard Bovell (Author)

May 27, 2013 at 10:11 am / Reply

Thanks for your questions, Peter, and sorry about the late reply. There is a study group on Twitter that would be very happy to help you out with the code by reviewing your code and answering all of your questions.

The group members, especially the organizer, are very helpful and they have been helping out each for weeks now. Here is the link: http://www.reddit.com/r/learnjavascript/comments/1ceefw/learn_javas

Stacey

May 25, 2013 at 5:11 am / Reply

Its such as you read my mind! You appear to grasp so much about this, like you wrote the guide in it or something.

I feel that you just can do with a few % to force the message home a bit, but other than that, this is excellent blog.

A great read. I'll certainly be back.

Rasheed

Great guide!

I was wondering– what's the difference between Ruby Mine and Webstorm? They are both by jetbrains but Ruby Mine seems to include a few more features than Webstorm.

What would you recommend?

Sean

Hey Richard, I was wondering on my journey to learning javascript, should I also learn php/msql to create data driven as well as CMS web apps? Where a user has complete control in the backend (admin settings etc)...Or Should I learn node.js for this, I thought node.js is mainly for server side driven apps (chat apps etc.) Thanks!

Richard Bovell (Author)

This is an interesting question, Sean. If you want to know (and you should) how to develop general websites, customize CMS and blogs, and the like, it makes sense to learn PHP/MySQL. Many huge web apps are built with PHP, so it is worth knowing. But you should still Node.js or at least Meteor.js.

Vincent

Hello !

Thank you so much for this helpful post. I'm just wondering how many hours per week you had in mind in your estimate?

Is it full-time study or more like 2,3h/day?

I just would like to know the pace I'm about to face!

Thanks again,
– Vincent

Richard Bovell (Author)
June 21, 2013 at 2:00 am / Reply

I would say about 10 to 20 hours a week would be good. Or try for at least 2 hours every day.

boaz
June 7, 2013 at 8:00 pm / Reply

Hey richard.
First i want to thank you it is a great guide for learning JS.
Now lets get to my problem 🙂
Im trying to build the first edition of the quz and im stuck for a long time.
Basically i have done an object that looks like your array example.
And i made an html basic file with h1 as a title qusetion
A 4 li with radio buttons.
And a next buttons.
Just to note i all of rhe html tags are empty the only one who as value and attributes is the next button.
And my simple thinking was for every qistion in allqustion object.is to show the first quseion (position 0) and append it to h1 using jQuery.

Next for every choice append chicice (start with position 0) to li num1 after that go to the next li abd append the next choice. Untilthere are no li tags to fill.
Now when the client click next i check the value of the radio if its not undfinded meaning it is not empty procced to next qustion by earsing the current h1 value and doing the same as i explained above for qusetion position 1.
If the value of the choosen radio button is equals to the qusetion answer.
Then correcAnswer get +1 to it.

I think that the way i think of how to build this app is fine.
I just cant seem to "translate" it to javascript code.
I have read all the chapters agian from the js book and still im stuck.
Is there any hope for me to learn JS?
im really intresting in learning js/meteoe/node.js/backbone.js

Jhon

June 11, 2013 at 10:15 am / Reply

Do I also need to learn HTML5 and CSS3 apart from Javascript, Backbone, and Node.js?

Thanks

Jhon

June 11, 2013 at 10:23 am / Reply

I asked the question because I want to be a web developer not a web designer.

Thanks

Richard Bovell (Author)

June 21, 2013 at 1:59 am / Reply

Yes, as a web developer, you have to learn HTML5 and CSS3 for sure. Fortunately, those are the easiest technologies you will ever learn as a web developer.

Brian H

June 11, 2013 at 10:03 pm / Reply

Hey Richard,
Thanks for this informative post. I followed along with the reddit group and found it to be helpful to have a group to study along with.

Someone told me to write about the process to better understand what I am learning. So my blog follows each week of your program, maybe it will help other people going through the program.

More importantly, I would like to share the two live dynamic quizzes I have created. The first one in pure JS that I did and the second which utilizes jQuery: http://www.briandavishall.com/projects/

You can find the code of those dynamic quizzes at my GitHub account: https://github.com/hallbd16

Lastly, I would greatly appreciate anyone who would critique my code. What would you do differently and why? As a noob coder, I figure this is a critical step in learning.

Richard Bovell (Author)

June 21, 2013 at 2:35 am / Reply

Hi Brian,

Thanks for your comment and for posting your code. I am sure both will help other JS developers who are also learning JS.

I took a cursory look at your code and it looks good. As you look at others code later on in your dev career, you will learn a lot about how adv. developers code, but for now, keep learning and coding. As long as your projects are working as expected, you are doing fine.

When you learn JS frameworks like Backbone.js, you will see how they better organized your code and make your entire code look very professional 🙂

Boaz

June 15, 2013 at 2:15 pm / Reply

Well guys here is my quiz check it out and tell me what you think of my quiz:

http://jsfiddle.net/boazmier/ru8Qj/5/embedded/result/

Richard Bovell (Author)

June 21, 2013 at 1:57 am / Reply

Hi Boaz,
Sorry, man, I was inundated the last few weeks and only now I am able to respond properly.

So it looks like you have overcame the trouble you were having and you completed your quiz. Good job.

You quiz is pretty and slick 🙂
Why is an answer already selected by default for each question?

Owl

June 22, 2013 at 9:27 am / Reply

Thanks for great article. it is one of the best on internet!

Have a look at my progress with quiz:

http://owlgraphic.com/quiz/

Richard Bovell (Author)

June 25, 2013 at 1:06 am / Reply

Hi Owl, I really like your quiz, Mate. It is slick and smooth, and the timer makes it exciting and nerve wrecking 🙂

Jesse

June 25, 2013 at 12:29 pm / Reply

Do you have this code for viewing on Github? I really like what you did with this quiz and want to see how you did it.

Owl

June 26, 2013 at 2:32 pm / Reply

Hi Jesse,

Unfortunately i don't have it on Github but you can see js file in source of site:

This is a direct link to quiz.js:
http://owlgraphic.com/quiz/quiz.0.2.js

Quiz is wrapped in jQuery plugin template so look inside

object: var Quiz = { ..}

Jay

After completing the Javascript track at Codeacademy and realizing that, while I learned quite a bit, I still have no idea how to implement JS, I found your course, "How to Learn JavaScript Properly" using Javascript: The Definitive Guide (I have the other recommended book as well, but I figured I'd work through once with the beginner book and once with the more advanced). I am having some difficulty in determining how to enter the code and try it out using Firebug. Nothing that I can find seems to allow me to enter the code form the book, run it, and see how it works. I have tried looking up tutorials for firebug, but to no avail. Can you explain how to go about entering the code and testing it? Also, is it necessary to enter everything, beginning with chapter 1.1 core JavaScript?

Richard Bovell (Author)

June 26, 2013 at 2:18 pm / Reply

Hi Jay,

You have a few options for entering the code and running i:
1. On Chrome. ,Safari, or Firefox, open the console.
— On Chrome, at the very top of the window on your monitor: Select View > Developer > JavaScript Console.

— On Firefox, at the very top of the window on your monitor: Select Tools > Web Developer > Web Console.

— On Safari, at the very top of the window on your monitor: Select Develop > Show Error Console.

When the console opens, you can type any JavaScript and click run or just press the enter key.

If you want to type a line of code and add more code below that line, do Ctrl and Enter.

Try it out, type:

console.log ("Testing");

And press enter, you should see the word "Testing" shown right there in the console.

2. You can use an online tool like JSFiddle or JsBin.
— On http://jsfiddle.net/ simply type any JavaScript code in the box labeled "javaScript" and then press the Run button at t

Jay

June 26, 2013 at 2:36 pm / Reply

That helps...but what do you use Firebug for, then?

Richard Bovell (Author)

June 26, 2013 at 4:18 pm / Reply

You don't really need Firebug at all. Firebug allows you to view the HTML elements (the DOM) on the page and use the console for JavaScript and such, but Firefox has added all this functionality within the browser itself without the need to install Firebug plugin, so you don't need Firebug anymore like you did a few years ago.

I actually recommend you use Chrome, which does as much as Firebug did and a lot more.

Jay

June 26, 2013 at 5:12 pm /

Ok. Thanks much. Last question (for now): Should I enter all code from the book, beginning with the first introduction to variables in section 1.1? If not where should I start?

Jason

June 29, 2013 at 8:09 am / Reply

Hi Richard,

Thanks for helping us learn JavaScript! Quick question on the quiz. When it comes time to:
— Store the quiz questions in an external JSON file.

I'm stuck at this part. It seems most people use jquery .getJSON but when I try this it appears the rest of my script runs before getJSON callback completes.

What are some recommended ways to import the quiz questions from a separate JSON file?

Thanks!
Jason

Richard Bovell (Author)

June 30, 2013 at 9:27 pm / Reply

HI Jason,

Post your code here and I will help you figure out the problem.

Also, if you read some of the comments above, you will find links to the source code of other beginners' completed quizzes. Take a look and see how some of them have solve the problem you are having.
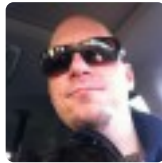
Jason

July 4, 2013 at 4:21 am / Reply

Hi Richard,

I looked through the other quiz before posting. Most of them moved the quiz data into a second JavaScript file, then imported it using a second script tag in the HTML.

For example, I saw many practice quiz do similar to:

quiz-data.js
arrayName = [{},{},{}]

quiz.html

Where the external data is really just another JavaScript file. This works but it is not much different than before.

I was expecting to import the JSON as objects (not a variable or function) and from within my JavaScrprt.. Not from additional HTML script tags.

I have my data formatted as an array of objects:
quiz-data.json
[{},{},{}]

I tried to load the data using .getJSON, but it loaded it asynchronously after the rest of my JavaScript had finished running.

I changed it to $.ajax and disabled async and this did the trick (until I can re-write my quiz in async style).

My current function to import JSON.
http://jsfiddle.net/EeYha/

This works, and I've learned more about working with JSON data, but I'm still not sure how to do this if we didn't use jQuery, or if there is an easier way.

Thanks again.
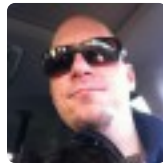
Jason

My practice quiz is here –
http://jasonlong.com/startrek – Looking forward to using templates and backbone soon!

Richard Bovell (Author)

It was very resourceful of you to look for a solution that could work for you specific case, and this is standard practice in the life of a programmer. So you did the right thing.

AJAX without jQuery is a bit tedious, and quite frankly, I don't think I have ever seen

anyone in last few years use AJAX without jQuery, except for demonstration purposes or to teach pure JS AJAX.

> *I tried to load the data using .getJSON, but it loaded it asynchronously after the rest of my JavaScript had finished running.*

You can put your quiz inside a function (at least the part of the quiz to start the quiz), let's say an init() function which will get the quiz started.

And then you can call the init() function after the AJAX data loads asynchronously:

```
// This is your code from the JSFiddle example you posted:
function getQuestions() {
    $.ajax({
      url: 'js/quiz-data.json',
      async: false,
      dataType: 'json',
      success: function(data) {
allQuestions = data;
// Call init function here to start the quiz
quiz.init();

      }
    });
    return allQuestions;
}
```

```
alert(getQuestions());
```

Vojislav

I had similar problems with loading json file. I was first trying with getJSON() method but it didn't work. So I tried $.ajax() today and managed to make it work with async: true.
Here is the code:

```
getQuestions: function () {
$.ajax({
type: 'GET',
url: 'data/questions01.json',
context: this,
dataType: 'json'
}).done(function (questions) {
this.allQuestions = questions;
this.setPlayerName();
});
}
```

My quiz is in an object variable creatively named 'quiz' and this is the method for loading the questions, when its done it assings retrieved data to the allQuestions property of the quiz object and calls setPlayerName() method that prompts user for a name and starts

the quiz.
Here is the quiz app, in its current state, questions are really just fooling around, I was more concerned about functionality so far.

http://gruximillian.bitbucket.org/

And here is the source:

https://bitbucket.org/gruximillian/grux

Hope this helps someone about this issue in the future.
And thank you Richard for this great post!

boaz

Hi Richard,
right now im trying to get my quiz app improved,
and has you wrote we need to read chapters:
Read chapters 10, 14, 17, and 20 of JavaScript: The Definitive Guide.
Or read chapters 13, 20, and 23 of Professional JavaScript for Web Developers.

and then to make an external JSON file for out questions.
well those two books lack explanation on JSON, i didnt saw any reminder for the getJSON at those two books,
so my question is do you have any other good source, that really take it deep with JSON?

another question is:

if we learn JSON, dont we need AJAX too?
i mean those two are really going hand in hand..

[Richard Bovell](#) (Author)

June 30, 2013 at 9:35 pm / Reply

> so my question is do you have any other good source,
> that really take it deep with JSON?

In the "Professional JavaScript for Web Developers" book, chapter 20 (JSON) is a very short chapter and it covers EVERYTHING you need to know about JSON to develop JavaScript web applications.

> if we learn JSON, dont we need AJAX too?
> i mean those two are really going hand in hand..

JSON is a data structure that is used to transfer data to and from the server and to save data in an external source, such as a file or in localStorage in the browser. On the other hand, AJAX is a method for communicating with the server asynchronously.

You can use JSON as the data format to transfer data while communicating with the server via an AJAX call. So you are correct that JSON and AJAX do go "hand in hand." But you don't have to know AJAX to use JSON, although you will eventually have to know both technologies to develop production-ready JavaScript web apps.

[Chris Till](#)

July 3, 2013 at 6:06 am / Reply

Hi Richard,

I have created my first jQuery plugin that allows users to create an image slider that is populated via content from Instagram. It supports both a hashtag search and a @username feed.

You can find it here: http://christill89.github.io/instaslider/ or on github at https://github.com/christill89/instaslider

I'd love to get your feedback on it!

Thanks

Chris

Richard Bovell (Author)

July 5, 2013 at 6:38 pm / Reply

Chris,
I just checked out your code, and I have to say I am impressed. Very good work, Mate. But the demo on your site doesn't appear to be working. I am using Chrome.
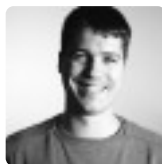
Chris

July 5, 2013 at 6:47 pm / Reply

Thank you very much!

I know, the demo is hosted on my blog and good old godaddy has just gone down yesterday. It should be fixed over the weekend.

Thanks
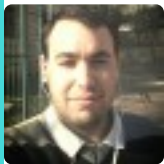
boaz

hey richard

boaz

hey richard

I have made my little web quiz.
http://boaz.comze.com/Quiz/index/index.html
im stuck the re-selecting radio button dosent work i have no idea
what to do..

Richard Bovell (Author)

Sweet little quiz there, Boaz. I didn't understand the PJ
question. But as a soccer fan, I love the Messi question.

Anyway, very good work, Man. Keep it up.
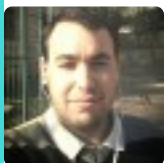
boaz

Ok , i have finished my web quiz finally (version 2).
check it out here: http://boaz.comze.com/Quiz/index/index.html

and now iv just finsihed reading your post on the final part of your post: OOP
In JavaScript: What You NEED to Know.

and i think i got it...the only thing i didnt understood is, why creating objects (from constructor function), and creating a child objects...

beacuse i thought we need to save our questions in an external JSON file, and of course we cant make functions and so on in JSON.

so do you wnat us to use OOP on our quiz JS file make it toJSON() or JSON.stringfy send it to the server and then retrive it??? isnt it an unnessecry duplication?

im abit confuse and lost 🙁

Jalil

July 9, 2013 at 5:32 am / Reply

Do you think its worthwhile doing the advance projects on codeacademy as well?

http://www.codecademy.com/tracks/projects

Richard Bovell (Author)

July 11, 2013 at 8:08 pm / Reply

Hi Jalil,

Doing those advanced projects will definitely help. But be sure to follow and read these 16 JS concepts:

http://javascriptissexy.com/16-javascript-concepts-you-must-know-well/

ZenStunna

July 17, 2013 at 11:34 pm / Reply

Dear Richard,

Thank you very much for you work in putting together this tutorial. I know

that it wasn't trivial and it's been very helpful in my studies.

Here is my first go at the quiz: http://jsfiddle.net/zenstunna/BJfZY/

Also, if you are open to feedback, I think it would really help people to do the free Chrome DevTools course before starting. As a newbie, I didn't understand your many references to the console and to writing code in the browser until I did that tutorial.

Lastly, I think people should do the jQuery course before trying to finish the basic project (at least one required jQuery and I couldn't do it). Perhaps the jQuery course should also come before reading about the DOM in the JS for Professionals book because I found the book to abstract until I had a visual of what the DOM was and how it could be manipulated.

Thanks again. Rock on.

Richard Bovell (Author)

July 30, 2013 at 9:43 am / Reply

Hi ZenStunna,

You made the quiz look very easy. Very good work, Mate.

I agree with you about learning Dev Tools first, and I will add that bit to the post. Thanks.

I also know that learning jQuery before building the quiz makes it much easier to develop the quiz, but the goal is to know pure JavaScript enough that you can use it to build a an app like the quiz. It is not essential or important that one use only JS, especially since most developers will use jQuery in their careers anyway. But the challenge of using JS will force you to learn JS well. And by the time you get to jQuery, jQuery will be a walk in the park.

Much success to you in your dev career and thanks for the tips. Keep coding.

mkaze

July 22, 2013 at 1:49 pm / Reply

Thank you so much for this blog!

Could give any advice for app development in PhoneGap?
What kind of JavaScript's topics should I learn?

Sorry for my bad English and Thanks again!

Richard Bovell (Author)

July 31, 2013 at 1:15 am / Reply

Well, I personally don't have much experience with PhoneGap. Is there a reason you need PhoneGap in particular?

mkaze

July 31, 2013 at 2:48 am / Reply

No, I want to develop apps for mobile and tablet devices. PhoneGap is cross-platform and easy to use, so I chose it.
Do you have any suggestion instead of PhoneGap?

Thanks in Advance!

Richard Bovell (Author)

July 31, 2013 at 5:22 am / Reply

I have heard good things about PhoneGap, but I haven't used it. It is indeed one of the best bet for mobile JS web apps, based on what I have read.

Besides PhoneGap, other technologies such as jQuery Mobile and even frameworks like Backbone.js (used along with responsive HTML/CSS frameworks like Bootstrap 3) are worthwhile technologies for mobile JS development.

mkaze

August 1, 2013 at 9:12 am /

Thank you so much, Mr. Bovell. I'm looking forward
to your new posts, especially about mobile JS
development related topics.Your posts are great. I have never seen like those before.

P.S. I am not a native English speaker, so I'm so
sorry about my poor English!

Sandeep

July 24, 2013 at 7:39 am / Reply

Hey Richard,

Thanks for taking time to write such a brilliantly structured article on the

JavaScript roadmap. Really appreciate your efforts!. Helped me a lot.

I have read many more JS articles of your's and they simply rock!.

Richard Bovell (Author)

July 31, 2013 at 2:02 am / Reply

You rock, too, Sandeep. Thanks a lot.
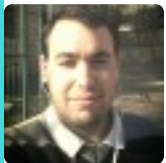
Boaz

July 26, 2013 at 5:10 pm / Reply

Hey Richard,
i have a question:
you write —
— Keep a record of all the users who take the quiz and show each user how her score ranks amongst the scores from other quiz takers.

my question is how to you suggest to do so?

Richard Bovell (Author)

July 31, 2013 at 2:44 am / Reply

Good question, Boaz.

The only tough part is persisting the data (users who take the quiz along with their scores). The best way to do this is to use a database, in which case you will need to use MySQL or a NoSQL database like MongoDB (I recommend MongoDB).

Steps:

1. Before a user takes the quiz, present the user with a simple text field asking for his name or email. Then when the user completes

the quiz, save his name/email along with his score to the database.

2. And when you show the user his score, upon completion of the quiz, also show him the average score of other users—you can get this by fetching all the scores from the database and calculating the average. You can also show the highest and the lowest scores, so the user has an idea how his score compares with the best and worst scores. Again, you can get this data from the database.

I will put together a MongoDB tutorial, but I don't think I will complete it soon. I will likely add it to the book I am writing. But you can find some good MongoDB tutorials online, although I haven't find any that was thorough enough. They were good enough to get started though.

mkaze

August 2, 2013 at 3:41 am / Reply

Hi Mr. Bovel. Do you have any suggestion(book or roadmap) for CSS, please? I am at week 4, and I have made the quiz and it works properly, but it isn't look so good(because of lack of appearance).

Sorry for my poor English.
Thanks in Advance!

Richard Bovell (Author)

August 4, 2013 at 9:30 pm / Reply

I am sure there are some excellent CSS-only books out there, but I would recommend the following book because you will learn CSS3, HTML5, and Responsive Design in one go (You have to learn all 3 eventually, so you might as well do them together):
Responsive Web Design with HTML5 and CSS3

And the book is very easy to read and short.

I actually wrote a blog post about this:
http://javascriptissexy.com/learn-html5-css3-and-responsive-web-site-design-in-one-go/

mkaze

August 5, 2013 at 3:10 am / Reply

Thank you so much for great advice!

John

August 15, 2013 at 10:49 pm / Reply

Hi! Wow! This looks like a fantastic resource, thanks for posting!
I'm just not entirely sure which book I should get. When you say "at least a bit of programming or web development experience," well I've taken and passed a couple of intro to programming classes on plain old Java and Pascal before that, and I can make a very basic web-page in HTML and alter CSS (though I've never written it myself). Does that qualify as at least a bit? I'm just not sure if that's enough that I should get the not-a-complete-beginner book.

Thank you so much!
-John

Richard Bovell (Author)

August 19, 2013 at 2:44 pm / Reply

HI John,

You are definitely qualify as having some web dev experience, so get the Professional JS book. You will be fine because I actually

explain nearly ALL the important JavaScript concepts on my blog, so you can always just read some of the blog posts, if there are some concepts that you don't follow in the book.

tyler

August 16, 2013 at 7:41 am / Reply

I completed a basic quiz #1 using Angular.

Here's the code for the ng-curious:

https://github.com/TylerCuster/quiz-quiz

Richard Bovell (Author)

August 19, 2013 at 2:53 pm / Reply

Tyler,
Thanks a lot for posting your Angular.js quiz. It is very interesting to see your quiz and compare it with the others—considerably less code to begin with.

I would encourage other JS newbie developers to look at your code and go learn a bit of Angular.js to get a feel for what it is like to develop with a popular JS framework.

Subbu

August 20, 2013 at 7:42 am / Reply

Really a wonderful post.. Though I am a web developer and using javascript in my projects, I haven't learnt javascript using any books. After reading your blog I think it's time to get a book and learn javascript progressively and completely. I'm going to start suggested learning plan.. thanks a lot:)

Subbu

Grzegorz

August 20, 2013 at 10:35 am / Reply

Looks like a solid learning path, thanks for posting this!
Hopefully in 2 months I'm gonna be on the right track to take a step forward with my front end career.

Did you received any mails with succes stories from people who completed this roadmap?
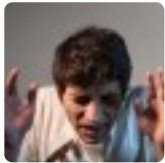
Jhonnatan Gonzalez

August 20, 2013 at 10:50 am / Reply

Hey Grzegorz!..... if you are looking for a succes story i can tell you that i was in my way to learn javascript to be a Front End Devoloper. 9 months ago I finished my studies as an artist in the university and i decided to start programming because i love the web, i took the roadmap in this Blog and almost 5 months ago i found job as frond en developer in this digital agency http://www.enigmind.com . I didnt sent and and email to Richard but a post a comment beeing so greertfully because of this great path to learn Javascript. Right now im not the greatets Front End developer, i still have too much to learn but if it wasnt for this path i will be probbably still looking for a job. Sorry for my bad english but this is not my main lenguage. Cheers.

Richard Bovell (Author)

August 21, 2013 at 1:02 pm / Reply

Thanks very much for sharing this, Jhonnatan. And much

Jhonnatan Gonzalez
August 21, 2013 at 1:07 pm / Reply

No Sir, thanks to you for this excellent blog, follow every post!

Richard Bovell (Author)
August 21, 2013 at 1:01 pm / Reply

If you read many of the comments above, you will see that many readers have been learning JS and developing the quiz application and improving their web-dev skills along the way. And I imagine they will eventually be world-class JS developers 🙂

speedonl
August 28, 2013 at 4:07 am / Reply

Regarding :
"Very Important: Every example code you encounter in the book, type it out and test it and tweak it (experiment with it) in Firefox's or Chrome's browser console."

Even the code in The Definitive Guide Preface chapters, like the "Loan calculator"?

Hopefully you can clear this up?

Cheers,

Egbert

Richard Bovell (Author)

August 28, 2013 at 12:56 pm / Reply

Well, the idea is to type out all the example code that you will run or test, so that you get to properly understand each line.

But if you are not running the code or there is huge block of code that you think typing out will not help you, no need to type it out.

Egbert

August 30, 2013 at 9:43 am / Reply

OK, thanks for that!
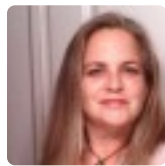
Vagabondette Mandy

September 1, 2013 at 2:32 pm / Reply

FWIW – I type out everything and I've learned what I need to be careful of when typing – what I'm likely to make a typo with. I think typing it all out, while tiresome, will help it stick in your brain. At least, that's what I hope will happen. 🙂

Egbert

September 4, 2013 at 10:51 am /

Yeah, doing that too now, it helps!

Richard Bovell (Author)

Yep, there we go.

Vagabondette Mandy

September 1, 2013 at 1:28 pm / Reply

Thanks so much for this! What a great resource! I was struggling figuring out how to teach myself so having something to follow makes it much easier.

In addition to CodeCademy, I am using Code Avengers. I think it's a better resource with CodeCademy in that a) it makes you do more of the work and b) it has better help resources if you get stuck.

I am also using JSBin to test my code because I like that you can turn off the sections you don't need at the moment which gives more space to see your code on a smaller screen. It also gives you tips if there is something wrong with your code.

I'm tracking my progress here: http://codeontheroad.wordpress.com/

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 4, 2013 at 9:19 pm / Reply

You are welcome, Mandy. Keep the hard work and don't give up 🙂 You will be very happy when you accomplished your goal.
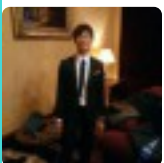
thetrystero

September 3, 2013 at 1:47 pm / Reply

great stuff!! can't wait for your article on meteor.js. in the meantime, i suppose i'll have to purchase tom coleman's discovering meteor.

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 4, 2013 at 9:37 pm / Reply

I will definitely write about Meteor.js, but I prefer to do so after I complete the huge Meteor.js project I am developing right now.

Yes, I agree that getting the Discover Meteor book is the best bet at this point, since there is really no other book on Meteor.js.

ERIC

September 6, 2013 at 4:44 pm / Reply

Hey Richard,
Can Javascript query sql and MYsql db's?

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 8, 2013 at 2:14 pm / Reply

Definitely!

Sean

September 8, 2013 at 5:58 pm / Reply

Yup I've learned javascript/ still learning advanced javascript thanks to Richard, and im now learning mysql/php along with it and I can tell you ajax works flawlessly with mysql db.. 🙂

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 11, 2013 at 8:11 pm / Reply

Very good to hear, Sean.

Kursat

Hi Richard,

Great course and site! I was wondering what you thought about Angular JS.

Richard Bovell (Author)

Angular.js is Great. I will write about it on the Modern Developer Toolkit site:

http://moderndevelopertoolkit.com/

Brett Warner

Hi Robert,

Great post/guide.

I've been working my way through this although a little bit more slowly than recommended. However when I started chapter 14 of Professional Javascript for Web Developers I found the code not working and it felt like I was missing something vital.

After skimming the two skipped chapters I found that Chapter 13 has you create an object called EventUtil that's used pretty heavily in chapter 14. Might be beneficial to have people read the beginning bit of 13 before moving to 14
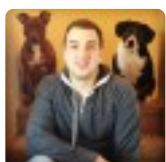
Brett Warner

Tiredness from a full day of Javascript, I intended to type Richard I swear.

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 11, 2013 at 8:14 pm / Reply

Hahaha. No problem at all, Brett. I am glad to hear you are coding a lot. Thanks for the tip about chapter 14 and 13.

Samuel

September 14, 2013 at 6:10 am / Reply

I agree with Brett, Chapter 14 has completely thrown me off
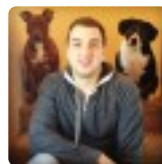
Brett Warner

September 14, 2013 at 11:34 am /

Hey Sam,

I ended up going through 12 and 13 and not skipping either of them to get back on track. I think you could probably get away with skipping 12 though as the two extra chapters add quite a lot of time(I think there were over 100 pages or so between them.)

Feel free to reach out to me on skype or twitter(brett_warner on

both) if you need a study partner to bounce ideas off of. My pace is slightly slower that ideal though on this course.

derron

September 10, 2013 at 11:27 pm / Reply

hi Richard am interested in learning java script but I got no programming experience any suggestion, by the way thanks this site is so useful in helping make my mind up

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 11, 2013 at 8:16 pm / Reply

You don't really need any programming experience to learn JavaScript. It is a great language to start with. Join one of the study groups and get started as soon as you can.

Betsss

September 12, 2013 at 6:03 am / Reply

Hello Richard,

I'v stared the javascript roadmap (go into week 3),but i have a question.
is in the javascript roadmap we will be also learn dealing with cross browser compatibility and cross security issues ?

thanks

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 16, 2013 at 1:15 am / Reply

Yes, you will learn about cross-browser issues during the course. Good luck.

Samuel

September 13, 2013 at 5:35 pm / Reply

Hi Richard,

Is there any particular reason you've skipped chapter 13: events, in professional Js for web developers?

Richard Bovell (Author)

September 16, 2013 at 6:05 am / Reply

Samuel,
No we didn't skip chapter 13, it is under "Weeks 5 and 6."

Samuel

October 16, 2013 at 4:30 pm / Reply

Apologies, just thought it was easier to digest before going into chapter 14. Nonetheless your roadmap has been a big help! I Thank you 🙂

Raj

September 20, 2013 at 4:01 am / Reply

Been looking for a proper guideline like these among the sea of resources about javascript for some time...thank you a lot Richard for all your efforts.. I promise to be a top class javascript developer one day, thanks again Sir.. 🙂

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

September 23, 2013 at 1:00 pm / Reply

I am glad to hear, Raj, and I am sure you will be a great JS developer.

web site

September 21, 2013 at 9:31 pm / Reply

What's up everyone, it's my first visit at this website, and piece of writing is in fact fruitful designed for me, keep up posting these articles or reviews.

Paul Wanwu

September 22, 2013 at 10:29 am / Reply

Hello, My version of the JS Quiz is here: https://github.com/wanwu/js-dynamicQuiz

(Note this uses jQuery for DOM traversal & elements.)

On jsFiddle here: http://jsfiddle.net/wanwu/mAcaM/embedded/result/

(code / editor: http://jsfiddle.net/wanwu/mAcaM/)

Many thanks to Richard for putting together this superb course and guide. You rock.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

September 23, 2013 at 1:04 pm / Reply

Congratulations, Wanwu. Very good work there on the quiz. Now,

keep learning and keep coding and go build amazing stuff!

Paul Wanwu

October 10, 2013 at 6:00 am / Reply

Hi all,

Finished quiz up to week 7. Maybe useful for someone else.

Here it is on github:

https://github.com/wanwu/js-dynamicQuiz

– Add a "Back" button
– Shows history of answers to questions
— Use jQuery to add fade animation animation (fade out the current question and fade in the next question).
— Store the quiz questions in an external JSON file.
— Add user authentication: allow users log in, and save their login credentials to local storage (HTML5 browser storage).
— Use cookies to remember the user, and show a "Welcome, First Name" message when the user returns to the quiz.

Paul

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

October 11, 2013 at 1:10 pm / Reply

Excellent work, Paul. You code like a pro already. You went with the whole kitche sink on your quiz 🙂

I like that the user can go back and change her answers and that you added cookie.

Benj

Hi Richard, i'm on the course, and I learned to "like" the Flanagan book which I first found totally unsuitable to learning because of being quite complicated. Fact is, this book is thorough and can't see how to master the language without this book. Examples are often unnecessarily inexpressive and complicated though.

Anyway there is a LOT to learn: ECMAscript, client side DOM and BOM, Nodejs, framework, templating, testing... What confuses me is what should I do for DOM manipulation.
IF I learn jquery, is it necessary to go trough the dom-bom manipulation chapters of the Flanagan book about standard JS manipulations ?
And is it viable to not learn jquery at all if one uses a framework like AngularJS ?
I would appreciate a bit more of guidance about the DOM/BOM/JQUERY/Framework antagonisms.

Thanks,
Benj

MikeT

Good question..

Paul Wanwu

October 11, 2013 at 4:38 am / Reply

I had a similar question.

Vanilla JS vs. jQuery.... Seems like:

– for DOM traversal
– browser compatibility
– general UI

jQuery and other frameworks offer substantial benefits?

I had a long question on it but I can't seem to post it here – am getting a 'firewall blocked' message?

Regards
Paul

Paul Wanwu

October 11, 2013 at 4:40 am / Reply

... Some more from my probably too long question/comment! [I guess that's why I can't get it to post]:

– I've read that for cross-browser compatibility, and simplicity, the jQuery DOM API makes a lot of sense over vanilla Javascript unless you are a highly proficent in Javascript.
– I realise that there is a performance hit – download times as well as memory usage and performance for using any library, including jQuery
– Still, I don't think my vanilla Javscript skills

would be able to compete with jQuery at this time!

– Would it be sensible to at this point use jQuery for DOM manipulation and events?

– Any thing else you would suggest I defer to libraries at this point?

– How about backbone, angular and node.js – given I want to gain these skills would I really struggle if I didn't go into the advanced Javascript stuff?

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

October 11, 2013 at 1:54 pm /

Paul, I fixed the issue where you couldn't create a new blog post. Could you copy and paste your content and create a new blog post? This will make it easier clearer.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

October 11, 2013 at 12:46 pm / Reply

Indeed, jQuery makes it easy for the front-end developer to traverse the DOM and develop sites that are compatible with all browsers. You are correct, so using jQuery is recommended for production applications.

Note that jQuery is actually built with Vanilla JavaScript, so everything that you can do with

jQuery, you can do with Vanilla JavaScript, but it is just a lot more work.

Richard

October 11, 2013 at 12:49 pm /

The ORIGINAL question was about AngularJS n ot Vanilla..

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

October 11, 2013 at 1:39 pm /

That reply was to Paul, sorry. I just replied to your post.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

October 11, 2013 at 1:38 pm / Reply

Good questions indeed.

There is no antagonism for any of the frameworks and DOM and BOM, though.

As a front-end developer, you will likely use a ton of jQuery in your career, so it makes sense to **definitely learn jQuery** thoroughly. Whichever source you find to be the best for learning jQuery, use that.

Now, even though you may know jQuery very well, it will still be useful (though not necessary) for you to read the DOM and BOM chapters. So, read the DOM and BOM chapters, if you can, to get a fundamental understanding of the stuff works and then learn

jQuery.

As for Angular.js, I will be writing about this and all the other JS frameworks on moderndevelopertoolkit.com. For now, you still want to know jQuery, which is probably the easiest thing to learn with the most utility in all of web development.

Kael

October 29, 2013 at 1:48 pm / Reply

I would rather recommend Ruby on Rails as a prototyping language, if you're the startup guy or entreprenuer, trying to learn how to code, on the internet.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

October 29, 2013 at 3:57 pm / Reply

Why Ruby on Rails on JavaScript?

James

November 4, 2013 at 6:05 pm / Reply

Hello, first of all I am so glad I stumbled upon this outline. Very helpful because most of the time I felt lost trying to learn javascript before. So now I have a question for you. I am trying to get a internship as a Front-end Developer and was curious to how you measure completion of this course with being qualified skill wise for an internship? I already know HTML5 and CSS3 fairly well and I am currently half way done with this course and I must say I am feeling already more confident in my javascript knowledge. But I was curious to what your insight was? Btw, thanks for this outline.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

Hi James, I'm sorry about being a bit tardy.

1. First, I don't think you need to complete this entire course to get an internship. With an adequate enough of familiarity of HTML5 and CSS3, you should be fine.

2. I think if you complete this course and you practice afterwards by building a few applications, you will improve you readiness for a front-end job markedly. You should learn jQuery completely and, if you have sufficient time, learn Backbone.js, too.

So you should complete this course whether you get the internship position or not, and start building some small applications afterwards. This alone will allow you to learn an essential skill and make you marketable as a JS developer.

CC

Hello. hmm, well, one quick and stupid question maybe…

well, i want to learn javascript. want to learn the programming. but, what software? i mean, i can copy the code yes , but to where? and how do i know it is correct?
i am mac user… and now i want free software as i just want to try and learn, nothing about profession yet. any suggestion? i am kinda lost in the java world ….

thx

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

November 10, 2013 at 1:48 am / Reply

Hi CC,

A few others have asked similar questions and the answers are above. I will answer here again.

1. You can use a web-based JavaScript editor like http://jsbin.com.

2. To create your code and save them, you can use any editor like Sublime Text (which is great, and you can get it free) or Smultron (which is also free). And then you can open the .js (to HTML with embedded JavaScript))file in the browser to test the code.

3. You can also test the code right in the browser's console. You can Google for screenshots on how to do this.

Phill H

November 5, 2013 at 2:30 pm / Reply

Here is my first try at doing anything in JavaScript – really enjoying it so far. Not very good at the moment but I'm going to keep at it:
http://jsfiddle.net/greenhulk01/LY36A/33/embedded/result/

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

November 10, 2013 at 1:58 am / Reply

Good effort there, Phil.

Keep implementing newer concepts and keep improving your JS skills.

Stanley Ulili

hi Richard,am Stanley and am 18 years.i just want to say thank you very much for this course,its is really helping me.but i have a couple of questions which are troubling me very much and they are disrupting my progress.
(1)am just finishing chapter 9(professional javascript book) but i have trouble understanding regular expressions used in this chapter,honestly speaking the book didn't cover much about regex.So,should i worry about them?(because i have a regular expressions cookbook but it has too many pages and i feel like it will slow me down on your course).

(2)do i need to understand and remember everything inorder to move forward?i mean things like navigator/location/math properties or function module or prototype patterns.

(3)do i need to memorise all the code.like memorizing the useragent detection script or all the code i have encountered in the book.this is has been my biggest problem,thats 'why i didnt include it on number.most people dont answer me clearly.

(4)is it normal for me to just read code but fail to write.because right now i just cant write any real program like sliding images or making a date.(if its normal ,then after reading which chapter should i attempt this to do this things(mind you,am on chapter 9[zachas book]).

(5)when do you know you fluent in javascript and ready to move on to a server sided language(i know about node,js but i have always wanted to learn php or ruby)?

(6) someone asked how many hours you had in mind for this course and you said 2 hours but the thing is i stay home all day.so the question is,should i stick to 2 hours? and if not,how long should i take to finish this?i fail to give myself a deadline.can you give me one since i stay all day.i learn better with deadline and am a recovering procrastinator.so i need to fix my productivity.

(7)lastly,how long has your website been around.i cant help but notice how its ranking well on google.if its knew,did do you do a lot of seo or it just went on top.am asking this because when i finally learn this,i want to enter a tutorial and a learning web design niche .is it possible to make it top ten?

am so sorry for all this question,i just have never had satisfactory answers.please try to answer and i know your busy.thanks again for this sexy post and am telling you posts are always sexy.you are heaven sent for javascript learners.

Adam Newis

November 19, 2013 at 9:18 am / Reply

Hi there! Thanks for posting this awesome guideline. I've been following it for a few weeks and I thought i'll recommend a wonderful resource to practice programming in JavaScript.
codewars.com gives you step by step community build challenges to hone you JavaScript skills in particular areas, be it Algorithm design or basic fundamentals.

Just thought the practice may help fellow learners like me.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

November 22, 2013 at 7:27 am / Reply

I like your site, Adam.
I just tried the first question on your homepage. It might be best to have the user enter a code-related answer, instead of an essay-type answer in the form of an sentence.

Adam Newis

Actually you have to fix the code to make it work (like adding the semicolon) In the first example (most are randomly generated) you have to use the this keyword to reference the name variable in the parent function.

Adnane

November 20, 2013 at 9:31 pm / Reply

Hi Richard ! Thank you so much man , I really appreciate what are you doing for us , you're really helpful , I was obsessed in learning Javascript 😀 😀 , I started learning it 2 times ago ! and I stumbled in both of them . And now I'm good with your Roadmap ! It's awesome 😉 I have just completed the chapter 2 🙂 !

But I have a question (I don't if you will reply it soon, but ..) about Codeacademy I think the track is changed !
Because you said in (week 4) : "Return to Codecademy and complete the JavaScript track by working through sections 6, 7, and 8 (Data Structures to Object 2)."
but when you look at the track you will find " sections 6, 7, and 8 are about the loops o.O " ?

That was my question, and I will thank you twice 😀 Wishing all the best for you ! Bye .

Adnane

November 20, 2013 at 10:38 pm / Reply

Haha ! Ignore the question ! It's correct -_- . Sorry !
A other question 🙂 : I didn't understand the section of "Document Modes" in Chapter 2 ! Any other reference to get it ? !
Thanks !

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

November 22, 2013 at 3:41 pm / Reply

Good question, Adnane.

You can ignore that discussion abut Document Mode completely. The author was sharing some background information about a compatibility mode for IE5.5 and older browser.

As a modern developer, you wouldn't be needing the information discussed in "Document Mode" in chapter 2. It is practically useless to you. It was more relevant about 4-5 years ago.

I answered your other question before I saw your updated comment that it was a mistake on your end. 🙂 No problem. I still have to update this post.

Adnane

November 22, 2013 at 3:49 pm / Reply

Thanks so much ! I really appreciate it 🙂 Good luck !

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

November 22, 2013 at 3:35 pm / Reply

Thanks much for bringing this to my attention, Adnane.

I have to spend some time updating some of the blog posts, especially this "How to Learn JS" one. I will try to do that in late

December when I have a bit more time. I am too inundated to get to it sooner.

Thanks also for the compliment. I am glad to hear the website is helpful.

Rookie

November 25, 2013 at 9:36 pm / Reply

Hello,
Here is "not a dumb question" number one:
So I am going through this course of learning and, in accordance with your advice, I am writing out the code that I am coming across (in the Definitive Guide) into JSFiddle and … NOTHING ever happens ??? No results. Nada.

I have just finished chapter 3. And still … nothing. Am I to assume that this is normal? -Or am I totally missing the boat here? This is making my comprehension level drop significantly it seems since everything I've read is all just hypothetical stuff.

Help!

Stanley Ulili

November 26, 2013 at 5:09 pm / Reply

its normal Rookie.it happens to me each and every day.it has has to be a mistake in your code,maybe you forget to call the functions or you made some typos.simple things can break you code,yesterday when i was trying to make a javascript date,just one simple typo made it fail.just look clearly.Am pretty sure Richard has good solution..

Rookie

November 27, 2013 at 12:15 pm / Reply

I wish that you were correct Stanley. But I don't think so ... I am just typing out the very simple stuff as it appears in the first few chapters. It is not at all difficult to duplicate exactly.

I am wondering if I am somehow using JSFiddle incorrectly or something (?) since this is all new to me and I have no way to tell which end is up. (???)

Dylan

November 27, 2013 at 12:53 pm / Reply

Hi there,

Have you tried running the examples in a browser console rather than through JSFiddle? That might be a good way to narrow down whether it's a code issue or a JDFiddle issue.

Rookie

November 27, 2013 at 1:48 pm /

Hi Dylan,
No, I have not. I do have the Firebug thing set up on my Firefox ... but I really don't know how to use it. I tend to get caught up in the minutiae (do I need to have an HTML file set up? -should I have an

external JS? -or embed it in the HTML? etc. etc. etc.). Perhaps there is a simple "how to" type of tutorial out there about Firebug (?).

Most of my time so far has been going through the very beginnings of the codecedemy stuff and reading from both books.

I guess I will monkey with Firebug console thing to see if I can make sense of it.

Thank you for your response.

Stanley Ulili

November 27, 2013 at 5:20 pm / Reply

Well,if thats the case,then try to download notepad++(the best free editor) and then make an html and js file and the link them.to create an html/js file,open new file and then then select language(its on the toolbar) and the in the js file,paste the following code:

```
var scope = "global";
function f() {
alert(scope);
var scope = "local";
alert(scope);
};

f();
```

i substituted console.log with alert.and always do when using a text editor because when you write console.log,the change occurs only in the console.

if this doesnt work,go to chrome/firefox developers tool and then check the error and the line where the error occured.this should help find errors quickly.

Rookie

November 27, 2013 at 5:47 pm / Reply

Stanley -I am assuming that you are responding to me (?).
If so, I don't think that your advice would work for me as I am on a Mac and (I was under the impression) that notepad++ was for pc computers, etc.

Maybe I could pull that kind of a move in TextWrangler or Dreamweaver or something?

This stuff is difficult enough as it is without trying to jump through all of these other hoops with outdated tools, etc. -Frustrating.

Stanley Ulili

November 28, 2013 at 11:57 am / Reply

yes my reply was for you.sorry for the bad English,i wrote it when i was sleepy.good luck with learning javascript.

Stanley Ulili

November 26, 2013 at 4:44 pm / Reply

hey Richard,

am sorry for my silly questions.recently i have just understood that the only way to learn programming is practice,practice,practice.i used to think that i had to memorize and know each and everything before i could start practice programming.i think it was because i was afraid i might fail.now i have learnt to face my fears because doing them makes a difference.That being said, i have started breaking and reversing other peoples code and seeing what works and doesnt,its cool to see how mistakes build you up.Currently,am now grasping the DOM,i hope in the few weeks i ,might be able to program some real cool applications from my brain and i cant wait to start the quiz project and practice * 1000.and i just found some interesting quotes,maybe it might motivate others who were/are in the same boat:

"Experience teaches slowly, and at the cost of mistakes."

James A. Froude

"Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy."

Dale Carnegie

Maddane motaquillah

November 30, 2013 at 3:45 pm / Reply

Hi, i don't know what to say but 🙂 i have a long story with this blog and especially with this post 🙂 I've read this post 6 months ago and i love it so much but i did't bookmark it and it's been a 3 week that i'am looking for this post and I've finally found it 🙂 and this's really one of the best and complete posts about Javascript thank you 🙂
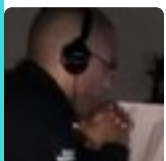
Khalil Rashid

December 7, 2013 at 11:08 am / Reply

I AM excited about this journey

Adnane

Hi Richard , I have a little problem in understanding "Accessor Properties" !
the problem is : why I use underscore as a prefix of a variable ? !
I read this
" The underscore on _year is a common notation to indicate that a property is not intended to be accessed
from outside of the object's methods. " p 177.
But I didn't get it :/
Thanks ..

Atlas_

Hey like the tut and trying to follow it but can't say i am big fan of Professional JavaScript for Web Developers, it's very dry and eager to give you a history lesson along and meaningless info at the time with unnecessary long way to explain something, sometimes ending up missing the point.

I find myself using https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Guide on top of it with greater success.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

Atlas, I understand what you mean: Some people don't like to study from books like Professional JS for Web Developers, for the reasons you have mentioned.

I have written articles on some of the core topics covered in the book, so you can use those articles, if necessary. But since you have found a way to learn the language that works for you, stick with it.

Adnane

Hi Richard , I'm reading the chapter 7 of JAVASCRIPT® FOR WEB DEVELOPERS !

But I'm confused (Scopes, Private values, private functions, function expressions, the function type ..) ! I found it more than a time WHY? !!! I just want to get it simply , resuming all what I need about that . I wish you understand my question, because I really need help 🙂

Thanks so much .

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

You can skip Chapter 7, if you are having trouble understanding it. The only lesson from Chapter 7 that is essential is the one on "Closures." But I have written a full article on closures on this blog. So just skip Chapter 7 and read my article.

Atlas_

This is what i came up with, it's a good learning experience.

http://jsfiddle.net/Atlas_/smuC7/1/

Mike SF

Awesome tutorial… really motivated me to go beyond simply doing tutorials, and actually start building applications.

Here is my Quiz app... I need to add better quiz content, but fairly happy with overall application logic and UX. I will continue to refine and improve as I learn more about JavaScript.

http://jsfiddle.net/basixmike/nxv57/

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

January 7, 2014 at 12:36 am / Reply

That is a sweet little quiz, Mike. 🙂 Good work and keep coding, Mate.

Matt J

December 31, 2013 at 2:31 am / Reply

Next week I'm starting a new Learn JavaScript Properly reddit study group.

Post a comment if you're interested in joining.

http://www.reddit.com/r/learn_js_in_seattle/comments/1tziaa/new_study_group_s

Dave

January 1, 2014 at 2:00 pm / Reply

Would love to join your group!

John Win

January 1, 2014 at 11:20 pm / Reply

I would love to join the group too.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

January 7, 2014 at 12:18 am / Reply

Hi Matt,

Thanks for starting the new study group on Reddit. I just tweeted the link. And I will add the link to this blog post in a couple minutes.

coder0523

February 4, 2014 at 12:34 am / Reply

Richard of Stanley, besides the roadmap here, do you recommend any other resources like learnstreet, etc? What about eloquent javascript? Seems like the most popular choice for beginning javascript students.

Orlando

February 5, 2014 at 3:18 pm / Reply

Hi. I have a question regarding what book to buy. You stated that anyone with programming experience can get Professional JavaScript for Web Developers, I have programming experience in C/C++ and JAVA but no web development experience.
Do I still get the Professional JavaScript for Web Developers book or the other one?
Thanks

Vamp

March 3, 2014 at 6:48 pm / Reply

Great guide.
By the way, when you make quiz, here is suggestion for app you can make:

1. Music player(html5 webstorage to store songs, audio API, bootstrap for design so it can be used everywhere, jquery for DOM and animations etc);

;)

Raddi

March 7, 2014 at 8:47 pm / Reply

Hi! I just read the first 2 chapters of the Definitive Guide, and although I have some experience with HTML & CSS, even did some JS on Codecademy before I started the book, I DID NOT understand most of what the first chapters were talking about. I thought when it said the book is for people with no prior experience in Programming, that everything would be explained from scratch, but it doesn't seem so. Should I not worry and try to keep going, or is there a FOUNDATION that I need to make sure I have in order to understand JS's logic. I wasn't great in Math, but I do have a BS (not in CS though)... I feel super discouraged, and don't know what to think. 🙁 Help..Thank you!

JR

March 10, 2014 at 1:26 am / Reply

I am coming from a similar position and I would suggest getting Professional Javascript. I have bought both books and even though Zakas covers much more complicated material it is explained as well as it possibly could be.

Some examples are given using complicated mathematical examples but they are actually not as complex as the examples in The Definitive Guide!

Give Zakas a go. It might be easier.

Vamp

Hey friend, I had same problem. Definitive Guide was very dry for me, and I could not understand anything.
So I started to search other ones. Very good book with exercises that helped me is:

http://www.amazon.com/Smarter-Way-Learn-JavaScript-technology-ebook/dp/B00H1W9I6C/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1394646022&sr=1-3&keywords=javascript

Its very easy to understand, very little text, much more exercises. I recommended you, its cheap to.

Bruno

Hello folks. i am very interesting in starting next Monday. Does anyone wants to form/create new/study group?

sumfknguy

Code Academy is a joke…

Example: Section 6. "Search Text for Your Name" – step 5/7. What the fuck is the point to this exercise? NONE. IT DOESNT EVEN SPELL OUT YOUR NAME (regardless of whether or not all of the characters of your name are in the body text).

Obfuscation != good learning. Retarded examples that are completely

pointless, and furthermore don't make sense != good learning.

Highly recommend taking CodeAcademy OUT of this.

Ri

March 19, 2014 at 11:31 pm / Reply

And what do you recommend for Javascript instead of codecademy?

zi0nman

April 3, 2014 at 4:26 pm / Reply

Try this! codecombat.com

James

March 26, 2014 at 11:49 pm / Reply

Very grateful for this site—there's a lot of good work here. I've tried several sites, and each has taught me something. I like your approach. But:

After faithfully following your "Learn JavaScript Properly" plan, I attempted the "quiz" exercise you described. It was like hitting a brick wall. I'd done every exercise and experimented with code, right up through Try jQuery, and—blam. Just—stymied.

Getting and displaying objects in arrays (quiz items) on a page? Didn't learn how to do that. Tying Javascript/jQuery and form elements (radio buttons, etc.) together? Nope—didn't really see that in the book or exercises.

Several other bits, but—am I missing something? The project and the learning just seem so far apart at that point.

Andrew

January 18, 2015 at 6:57 pm / Reply

I'm worried about the same thing. "Professional Javascript" is a great book (if a bit old at this point), but it's very abstract. I mean, even when typing out examples and stuff it's just a bit of a 'duh' feeling since of course alert() does exactly what the book just described alert() doing.

I feel weird not doing ANY examples at all until halfway through, and then plowing through a massive example. I'm worried I won't know where to start (I'm about to complete week 4). Did you do anything to get around this, James?

Girish

March 29, 2014 at 3:16 pm / Reply

Hi,
I am new to programming. I went through the tutorial as suggested. I am unable to complete the quiz exercise on my own.
But I can understand the examples done by others and use their code.
What I have done wrong ? or What am I missing? Please help me out.

Steve

April 15, 2014 at 1:53 am / Reply

I just went through Code Academy's 10 hour JS course and it helped me grasp some concepts I could never truly easily grasp. I would advise anyone to give it a shot. Your advice not to seems poorly-given. This course is step 2 for me.

Ama

April 17, 2014 at 3:48 pm / Reply

Richard,

Since ECMAScript 6 is around the corner, people who are learning ECMAScript 5 or Javascript now are just wasting their time?

Tha same goes with AngularJS since AngularJS 2 is around the corner too? Thanks

Naman

May 21, 2014 at 5:38 pm / Reply

Are there any major differences in AngularJS and AngularJS2? I firmly believe that only the syntax changes, but the concepts still remain the same.

Adam

May 7, 2014 at 5:01 pm / Reply

Hi,

This post has been a huge help to me as I learn javascript.

I was wondering if there is a reason for skipping chapter 5 of "professional javascript for web developers"?

I am nearing the end of week 2. I want to make sure I learn everything properly!

Adam

June 24, 2014 at 3:43 pm / Reply

maybe a late reply but it was merely recommended reading ch. 6

first. In the next step was to read ch.5

Adam

June 8, 2014 at 6:06 pm / Reply

Do you have any thoughts on IntelliJ and how it differs (better or worse) than webstorm. I'm using ST2 now but I'm sure to migrate to a more javascipt centric IDE once I'm at that level.

Mcs

June 24, 2014 at 6:02 pm / Reply

here is a go for a pure javascript quiz,

I think I could have done it easier, man did it take a lot of work.
I will now do the same quiz with jquery in 1 hour

http://jsfiddle.net/Mehmetcan/sFr5f/78/

Mcs

June 29, 2014 at 6:28 am / Reply

Here is my second try with jquery and with some nice advancements
http://jsfiddle.net/9N542/19/

Robert

July 2, 2014 at 7:40 pm / Reply

I tried reading "JavaScript for Web Developers" and I just could not get through it. It's about the driest, most boring technical book I've ever (tried) to

read. I do_not recommend it.

Jennifer

July 17, 2014 at 9:06 pm / Reply

Hi Richard,

I just want to sincerely thank you for posting the JavaScript roadmap. I just started week 1 and it's been great. And your site has so much useful information.

Thanks!!!

Una

July 29, 2014 at 1:16 am / Reply

Thanks for the great course! JavaScript is my first programming language, and this guide made learning it much less intimidating.

My code for the quiz project:

https://github.com/umgauper/JavaScript_Quiz/blob/master/js/quiz.js

ric

August 7, 2014 at 9:58 pm / Reply

Hi,

If I want to learn javascript faster than 4-6 weeks, how many hours do you think I need to put in on a daily basis. I have some background on javascripts but never have written them myself ever, only have read and understood what they r doing. I would appreciate your response. And thank you for putting together this information. It is certainly very helpful.

Thanks,
Ric

Franklin

August 15, 2014 at 12:52 am / Reply

I love this, I started and finished this roadmap a while back but can't stop coming again for new stuff.

To everyone: join the "learnjavascript" network on jellyblub.com

siddhik

August 16, 2014 at 5:55 am / Reply

thanks sir or madam

Iccio

August 27, 2014 at 1:33 pm / Reply

Hi,
Thanks, nice job!
Is there a group starting in Autumn 2014?

Thanks!

Jovan

August 28, 2014 at 4:08 pm / Reply

Just curious but why can't the 5 little projects be found via the Codeacademy front end? What am I missing?

Mac Chinedu

Now I am sure that there is someone who knows exactly how I feel trying to learn programming. Those words of encouragement are awesome! I will be back to give my testimony. Thanks for the push.

Corey

Hi Richard thanks for the great post. I'm pretty much done with the professional javascript for web developers books, and did the try jquery course already. What would you recommend I learn next? Handlebars js, bootstrap, node js, backbone, or your intermediate/ advanced roadmap? Thanks in advance!
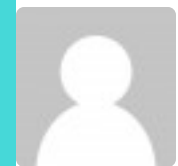
Nicholas

Hi Richard,
I am Nicholas. I congratulate you for your post. It is really great. I assess you to be one of the great programmers. You do take all levels of abilities in to consideration to deliver your subject matter (you are a great teacher). As a .net developer I have read many blogs & articles and few are helpful especially to the new and average developers because they assume readers to know some concepts. as a result you get stuck and confused reading their articles. (Most do not give you guidelines at all and are very inpatient)

But Richard, with your advise, I have followed through to learn javascript properly, now learning backbone and Node.js. I cannot believe my eyes Richard you have made me a better javascript developer. To all reading this, as Richard said, you will be a better programmer if you make the harbit of writing programmes yourself. With the outlines in this blog, you will saved

yourself many years of becoming a better developer. Many thanks Sir.

Kevin

October 13, 2014 at 3:12 am / Reply

Hello,

This is a really insightful page that I keep coming back to. However, if I may suggest one improvement, the page seems to be very big while majority of the page is taken up by comments. This can give an impression of a very daunting post, yet most of the pae is filled with comments and not the actual post.
Is there a way that the comments section can be optionally loaded on the initial page load?

Thanks for the post

Gagan

October 13, 2014 at 6:16 am / Reply

Brackets (www.brackets.io) is also a great editor for developing web applications.

Yvan

October 15, 2014 at 5:44 pm / Reply

Hi,

i am going through "Javascript: the definitive guide", but for some reason only certain examples compute in firebugg or jsfiddle ... am i doing something wrong?

thanks for your help!

Yvan

Paul

First of all: considerable thanks to the author for drawing up this course outline!

Secondly: perhaps silliness on my part, but it took me a while to figure out that the 6-8 weeks schedule refers to a (close to) full time commitment. I started this course alongside a job that eats up about 50 hours of my time per week, and I found that the schedule is too aggressive for me.

Lastly I would like to share my experiences with the two books mentioned by the author. My background: I have studied international management and started working in a support function for a software development company two years ago, in part due to the bad economy in Europe, in part due to an academic background that isn't exactly high in demand. I have now moved to a new role in product development which requires me to understand JS.

I started with an old copy of The Definitive Guide (1998), then after one chapter got my hands on the most recent print. By chapter 4 I was slightly panicking; I would read a page three times and wouldn't understand it at all.

I then started over with the Javascript for Professional Webdevelopers book. Although I still encounter difficulties (which is natural), I have found this book to speak my language much better than the Definitive Guide. "My language" meaning that the writing is more attractive to a non-technical reader, examples are clearer.

Just my two cents. If you feel you fall into the same category as I do – coming from a non-technical background – do yourself a favor and compare the two books first, then decide which one you'll use. I can imagine that JS for Professional Webdevelopers is easier to digest.

Rick

November 1, 2014 at 6:39 pm / Reply

I started this last week, and just ordered javascript the Definitive Guide yesterday. I check in today and decide to go to the top of the page only to find that you are changing your track to follow a different book.

That is very disappointing

Richard (Author)

November 1, 2014 at 7:21 pm / Reply

Hi Rick, I am changing the book for beginners. I am not changing the regular road map. If you have ever programmed before or if you know just a bit about web development, the book you bought is the best book. But if you have never written code before and you don't know anything web development, then one of the two new books will be ideal for you.

Rick

November 2, 2014 at 10:49 am / Reply

Richard,

Thanks for the reply and for the heads up. I decided to make a copy of the lesson plan as it currently is with the reading references to the Definitive Guide. I have some minimal programming experience, but no web-development programming experience. So it is slow. My main interest is to be able to support and modify some .hta apps.

Thanks for your time and effort here.

Rick

Joe

Hi Rick,

Sorry if I missed it somewhere in the comments, but I started the guide a few weeks ago and noticed it has been recently updated. Do you have a link to the old guide, that way I can keep that as a reference?

Thanks,

Joe

Richard (Author)

Hi Joe,

Look at the beginning of the actual study guide (not the beginning of the article), you will see two tabs, "Study Guide for Beginners" and "Study Guide for Experience Programmers." Click on the latter tab. That is the previous study guide. I have not changed it, though I may do so soon. I will add two more Codecademy tracks to it (the "jQuery" track and the "Make an Interactive Website" track). I don't plan to make significant changes to it.

Rick

November 11, 2014 at 12:00 pm / Reply

Joe,

I see that Richard has already responded and has the old guide still up for us 'legacy' folks.

Thanks Richard.

Rick
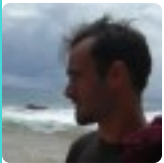
Kobe Ben Itamar

November 3, 2014 at 11:52 am / Reply

Hi Richard,

Just thought you might like to know regarding your Important Update (October 27, 2014):
The Beginning JavaScript book is actually gonna come out with a 5th edition on March 16, 2015…
You may want to update your readers about that.

Richard (Author)

November 10, 2014 at 4:01 pm / Reply

Thanks for the tip, Kobe. I might have to change the study guide again in a couple of weeks to use the new edition of the book. But not will change anyway, since the 5th edition of the book may be quite similar to the 4th edition.

robotDad

November 5, 2014 at 11:57 am / Reply

Is it November 10th yet

David

November 5, 2014 at 4:50 pm / Reply

Hi Richard,

Have just came across your website today looking for JavaScript learning resources and really like the roadmap you have set out. I have seen that you have mentioned a new update to this post coming in the next few days and you have mentioned two new books. JavaScript and JQuery: Interactive Front-End Web Development and Beginning JavaScript. Will the new update to the road map include both these books or just one? and if so which one.

Just looking to order the book as soon as possible for when the update comes.

Daniel

November 8, 2014 at 8:19 pm / Reply

So for those of us who want to use the old guide, could you pretty please leave it up? I don't want to have to get more new books and I think they're still good (more in depth) compared to the ones you mentioned that are replacing them with.

Pretty please.
Regards,
Daniel

Michael Ji

November 10, 2014 at 3:06 pm / Reply

Since ecmascript 6 is around the corner, I do not think this study guide is %100 useful anymore..

Andrew

November 12, 2014 at 10:04 pm / Reply

Hi, I'm wondering if the second edition of the Professional Javascript book would be adequate for following this walkthrough. Are the two editions significantly different?

Andrew

Brendan

November 13, 2014 at 9:09 am / Reply

Richard,

I'm still in the early steps of your roadmap (which is fantastic by the way) but had a question about your database recommendation. Is there any reason you specifically recommend MongoDB? Are there particular application types that it works best for? Curious to hear your early thoughts on Amazon Aurora, given it's probably a very attractive pricing model. Thanks!

Brendan

Joe

November 15, 2014 at 2:13 am / Reply

Hello,

After reading the 2014 comments I'm a little confused… Is this now up to date? I'm starting fresh and I don't want to go down the wrong track learning old information and/or using a book that is old or difficult to use. Can you please tell us if the track is completely up to date? Also the books…

Richard (Author)

November 15, 2014 at 2:22 am / Reply

Yep, this is the absolute latest study guide. It is indeed up to date and the books are too.

Someone mentioned that the 5th edition of "Beginning javaScript" is coming out in a few months. But that book is many months from being ready, so we can't wait on it, and there is no reason to wait. We are using the 4th edition, available for sale now.

Joe

December 7, 2014 at 5:45 pm / Reply

I just finished the first two lessons of your original plan and now see that you have this new set of courses. Should I continue with the previous plan that I am already doing or just wait for the new course to come out?

Lara

November 18, 2014 at 8:52 am / Reply

Hi, thank you for this excellent tutorial 🙂

Kevin Prince

December 1, 2014 at 8:39 pm / Reply

Thank you so much for this wealth of information on javascript. I had a quick question. There is a new edition for Beginning Javascript due out in March of 2015. I realize you probably don't know what is in the new edition of the book, but has javascript changed significantly since the last edition (2009) to warrant waiting for the new edition? I realize it's only 3 or 4 months away, but if it there is a significant difference is it feasible to get started here without the Beginning Javascript book? Thank you for your time.

Kamrul

December 5, 2014 at 2:40 pm / Reply

Eagerly waiting for the new JS courses to launch! And, you will actually help people with marketing themselves to find the dream job? WOW!

himel

December 6, 2014 at 2:08 pm / Reply

When will these 4 courses of javascript will be coming ?? Can't wait for it !!

paul

December 8, 2014 at 10:50 am / Reply

Are these upcoming courses something about MEAN (or similar equivalent) JS stack ? As You've mentioned self JavaScript is just 35% of what we need to know. The other courses (Meteor, Node, ect) seems to be served in a little bit "messy" order as it's unclear what (framework?) should be learnt after (or progressively alongside with?) JavaScript.

I've started to learn JS totally from scratch (not following this site as I've found

it just recently) around 2 months ago and I see progress! I want to change my fortunes in job market and I've found programming an interesting experience as I feel more and more a valuable person (and proud of myself!). Now I want to keep the momentum (despite many failures and sometimes the feeling I'm just doing myself a fool) and this site seems to be a promise it's possible to became a web programmer/coder if there's a dedication to it. Finally there's a hope and light in the tunnel for people seeking for a change.

Thanks!

Richard (Author)
December 8, 2014 at 4:34 pm / Reply

Hi Paul, Kamrul, Himel and Everyone else inquiring about the upcoming courses:

First, we will release the course website within three weeks and then the courses will follow soon afterwards. The courses will not be free, but they will be well-worth the cost. Here are just a few of the benefits you will get and why our courses will most beneficial and rewarding to you:

— **Clear and Comprehensible Lessons**
Our courses are painstakingly written and organized and exhaustively edited to ensure you move through the lessons effortlessly and comprehend the topics with ease. We use new and proven techniques to maximize understanding.

— **Build Real World Apps**
You will build a usable real-world application throughout each course, and you will also build your own unique app (that we have pre-architected for you) at the end of each course.

— **Comprehensiveness, Rigorousness, and Continuity**
Every course is comprehensive: it covers all the essential and

relevant topics, tools, and technologies. Everything you need to learn. Everything. Every course is rigorous: we focus deeply on the material that matters most. And every course has continuity: each lesson builds on the previous one.

— **Final Project Used by Real People to Solve Real Problems**
You get to choose your final project from a list (each project unique to each student) of projects that we have pre-architected. When you complete the project successfully, either it will be used as part of a global project to end human suffering (yes, many apps are needed) or it will be used as a standalone app to help solve real problems in your community or somewhere else in the world. Of course you can choose to make your own app and do whatever you want to do with it.

— **Answers to All of Your Questions**
While we couldn't possibly answer all questions promptly, we will certainly answer every question.

— **A High-Paying Job Awaits You**
After you complete your final project (your app) and the final exam, we will both prepare you for job interviews (including behavioral, programming, and technical questions), help you set up your Modern Developer Profile, as well as connect you with agencies and employers to find a job, even remote jobs. We partner with staffing agencies and companies of every size around the world.

— **Most Apt Format for Learning to Build Applications**
Our format (an online interactive text-based class with schematics, images, and animations) is the most apt format for learning to build web applications. (Video screencast is not the ideal format for learning to build applications; you have to rewind and pause constantly and you never have easy access to crucial course material you will undoubtedly want to refer to time and again. Imagine using a video dictionary or paper book dictionary, as

opposed to using a text-based digital dictionary.)

— No Monthly Fee, Access the Course Forever

You have full access to the course material upon completion of each course, and forever afterwards, including future updates. Access the content easily and quickly with instant and accurate search, something you can't do with video courses.

Again, those are just a few of the benefits. When we launch the website later this month, you will be see all the benefits and get more details on each course.

And here are a few career paths you will be able to choose from:

- Front-end Designer, jQuery Developer, Junior Front-end Developer
- Modern Front-end Developer
- Full-stack Developer
- Startup Ready (Build complex startups like Facebook and Twitter)
- HTML5/JavaScript Mobile Developer (Build mobile apps for Android and iOS using your JavaScript skills)
- iOS Developer (Build native iPhone/iPad apps)

Joe

December 8, 2014 at 5:45 pm / Reply

I plan to take your courses when they come out...

1. I just want to know if I should stop doing your other plan now and instead wait for the courses because it does take a lot of my time and I want to learn everything in the clearest way possible.

2. Also, I noticed you pushed back the courses start date: first it was going to

open in 3 days, then in 2 weeks, now you are saying 3 weeks. I imagine you are just putting the final touches on... May we expect a couplre more weeks on top of that as well?

3. How do you expect this to compare, in hireability with hackreactor.com or other bootcamps out there?

4. any programmer home remedy fixes for carpal tunnel? I noticed my wrists are starting to hurt a little...

Richard (Author)

December 8, 2014 at 6:22 pm / Reply

Hi Joe,

I am glad to hear you are interested in our courses. You won't be disappointed.

1. You don't have to stop learning, but since you are short on time, you really don't have to follow the current study guide, since we will cover everything (and a lot more) that is covered in the study guide above.

2. The date I posted was really for the "Modern Developer Technology Guide" and the course website. The actual courses are still a few weeks away. Unlike most online courses that teach you just JavaScript or any single technology, our courses teach everything (all the related and necessary technologies and tools you actually have to learn and use to build modern web apps). On top of that, we will build a real world web app throughout each course and continue improving the app in other advanced courses. And, we have to pre-architect a unique final project (web app) for each student. All the final projects will be used to help human suffering around the world. Seriously. I could go on and on, but you

get the point. Our courses are comprehensive and require ample time to prepare. The bottom line is that the first course should be ready in late January and the others soon after.

3. Hireability is much different, since they don't offer courses like we will. HackReactor is ridiculously expensive. Did you see the cost? It is not much different from attending an expensive University, which is totally unnecessary just to become a modern web developer. Nowadays people are dropping out of college to start startups, so why go in the reverse direction? Our cost will be about 60X less than Hack Reactor's tuition. And you can follow our courses anytime and at your own pace, from anywhere in the world. You will learn as much and probably more and you will build a real project that you can be proud of, since it will actually solve real human problems around the world or in your community. Bootcamp is similar to HackReactor.

4. Yes, your wrist may hurt in the beginning, especially if you suddenly start typing a lot. I would recommend you check out your doctor (or even Google 🙂), since I am not qualified to give you the best advise on carpal tunnel.

Joe

December 9, 2014 at 12:40 am / Reply

Hello again,

I have 3 more general questions about programming. Anyone with true proven industry experience is welcome to answer. 🙂

1. A question about age of programmers. I'm 37 and I would take your courses and would be serious to be a developer. I live in San Francisco and it seems that all the programmer here are young guys. Will a company be less likely to hire me based on age?

2. How easy is it to work anywhere in the world? If I wanted to find a job after a year of experience, is it common to find jobs where one can work remotely? Even say in another country?

3. In 2001 I got "MCSE certified" to work as a microsoft network administrator. I never actually worked as one but I did work in a help desk. I noticed that the technology changed compeletely after I learned what I had learned. Does this happen this quickly in programming as well? If I put hard earned time into learning html/css and javascript and the other things; next year will I then need to learn a whole bunch of other stuff or risk becoming an obsolete programmer?

Thanks again – i'm really looking forward to starting this new journey.

Joe

kfelix

December 11, 2014 at 12:01 am / Reply

a big thanks for the study guide!, I am now on first week, im taking my time now each day, im glad to share this to my friends!

begintolearn

December 13, 2014 at 2:58 pm / Reply

I bought javascript 7th Edition Bible by Danny Goodman. Can I still follow your lessons by following the right section in the book I have corresponding to each of your lesson?

Hareesh

December 15, 2014 at 6:47 am / Reply

hai sir, is it possible to learnt java script in w3 school or not.may i know best way to learnt java script please

Hareesh

December 15, 2014 at 6:50 am / Reply

How to learn java script in the easiest way

Hareesh

December 15, 2014 at 6:59 am / Reply

please guys some one could help for learning java script

Matthew

December 15, 2014 at 3:08 pm / Reply

🙂

Apo

December 17, 2014 at 9:00 am / Reply

I just switched from Ruby to JavaScript and it is really weird for me. I want to learn JS from the ground up, ins and out about this language.

Cheers

Natalie

December 17, 2014 at 11:35 am / Reply

Hi Richard,

I was wondering if the courses will offer any "taster" for people to try and see how it's structured before paying?

Thanks

Richard (Author)

December 22, 2014 at 12:53 pm / Reply

Hi Natalie,

Don't worry; you will get all the details about the courses soon. The course website will provide you with every detail you need. Be sure to enter your email in the "Receive Updates" form above, so that you will receive updates when the course website and the courses are released.

Jack

December 21, 2014 at 12:49 pm / Reply

You should put a disclaimer on your pages letting readers know that you gain a percentage of sales from the amazon purchases. You could put it on your about page, where you imply that the only reason you are putting these pages up is to give back, when in fact you hope to gain some profit. And also, the long blurb about the upcoming course that you will be offering is exceptionally distracting when trying to access some of the pages, and the fact that the comments reload the page and put you back at the top is also annoying. The comment hierarchy is also backward–newest comments are on the bottom. Some of the pages are also exceptionally long but there is no navigation to move about them. As it is now, your site reminds me of those body building pages that offer ways to make quick muscle gains. That's not sexy.

Janice

January 27, 2015 at 3:17 pm / Reply

Hi the learning track is aggressive for someone who works, but I'm working my way through it at my own pace. I think the program is good. When will the other courses mentioned be posted? I'm waiting patently.

Thanks

Ben

February 7, 2015 at 6:15 pm / Reply

First of all, I love this tutorial blog. It's fantastic and it has really helped me break ground learning javascript. A few notes on some of the subject matter when building the quiz.
1. Chrome won't let you use cookies when using a file from my computer. Firefox will work fine. StackOverflow link:
http://stackoverflow.com/questions/15385641/javascript-code-for-cookie-not-working-in-chrome.
2. Chrome won't let me use AJAX without a server and was throwing me cross-domain request errors when I was running from a file from my computer.

Are there any ways around these two issues without spinning up my own server?

Ben

February 7, 2015 at 6:15 pm / Reply

First of all, I love this tutorial blog. It's fantastic and it has really helped me break ground learning javascript. A few notes on some of the subject matter when building the quiz.
1. Chrome won't let you use cookies when using a file from my computer.

Firefox will work fine. StackOverflow link:
http://stackoverflow.com/questions/15385641/javascript-code-for-cookie-not-working-in-chrome.
2. Chrome won't let me use AJAX without a server and was throwing me cross-domain request errors when I was running from a file from my computer.

Are there any ways around these two issues without spinning up my own server?

Ducko

February 10, 2015 at 1:52 pm / Reply

Hey Richard,

I would like to start to follow this study guide, but for me its hard to get the books. Wold be hard for you to add a alternative study guide using one of the free js books from this site: http://jsbooks.revolunet.com/
Or any other free book.

Thanks

JAVA Training Institutes in Chennai

February 21, 2015 at 12:38 am / Reply

Hi, thanks for sharing the tips for learning javascript. This will be very useful for my future.

Vojislav

March 22, 2015 at 6:31 am / Reply

Hi Richard,

where can I find your book on MongoDB?
I followed the link you provided above, but I get to a page that looks like a not found page.

Paul

March 26, 2015 at 7:34 am / Reply

Thanks again for this great course outline. This is my attempt at the first version of the quiz, with a few bullets from the 'improve' section:

https://jsfiddle.net/1pauluzz1/jycdvvm2/1/embedded/result/

Some background about me: I've entered the software industry 2,5 years ago coming from a completely different, non-technical, academic background with slim job prospects in my field of study. I landed a customer support role at a software company and stepped up to the role of product support engineer after two years. I support two senior developers and a senior manager (former developer also).

My job requires me to at least know JavaScript, but the team develops libraries for mobile applications and web applications of all sorts, so a lot of languages are covered across the team. I will not become a developer but I will be responsible for internal technical support and testing the teams releases. My manager is very cool in that he puts his trust in me and allows me to study on the job.

Having no experience with web development, the css and html parts of the quiz were tricky- and looking back I made it harder on myself by wanting to use neat animations from Animate.css. Next steps are to implement to quiz with our company's software (not the version on jsfiddle) and to expand it using the 'improve' section.

Paul

March 26, 2015 at 7:42 am / Reply

It looks like I can't edit my post. Fixed a bug with the counter:
https://jsfiddle.net/1pauluzz1/jycdvvm2/3/embedded/result/

mroker@gmail.com

April 2, 2015 at 2:25 pm / Reply

so, i started this path about a year back and honestly dropped it. Didn't like the book, felt it was dry. However I wanted to start it again but may be better with accountability. Is another group of persons doing this again?

Santosh

April 3, 2015 at 1:38 am / Reply

I want to learn JS in depth. Please, help me out.

Shagbark

April 8, 2015 at 7:56 pm / Reply

I just spent 10 minutes on codeacademy learning how to type "string".length, 2+2, and confirm("foo"). It is the slowest, worst way to learn anything I have ever seen in 15 years of college, possibly except for watching videos. If you can't learn this stuff in 1/10th the time, you shouldn't be a coder.

Gus

May 11, 2015 at 10:07 am / Reply

The 5th Edition of Beginning JavaScript is now out. I'm going to buy it and follow this track! Thanks

Brian

For Beginners, I want to be clear how many of the Code Academy lessons I should do in week 1. I have completed HTML Basics, Build Your Own Webpage, HTML Basics II, Social Networking Profile, HTML Basics III, and Clickable Photo Page. For week 1, I think I still need to complete CSS An Overview, Design a Button for your Website. Is that correct? And CSS Selectors, Sorting Your Friends Build a Resume, CSS Positioning and Build a Resume. Should I also complete these during my first week? Not clear what is considered part of the four tracts that the outline for the first week mentions when it says, "We will complete 4 Codecademy tracks.".

Randy

The Chrome Dev tools Tutorial link on youtube is marked as private

BlackBolt_

I'm using the Professional Javascript for web developers book and the JSON chapter doesn't cover how to use AJAX to connect to the file etc. Is there another chapter I should be reading to cover that?

Kate

Jack, stop complaining, it's petty and rude. If you are jealous about what this guy is doing then do it yourself. You'll then realize the huge amount of knowledge, time and effort required to produce a piece of work like this. Software development is a lifetime of learning and hard work. The author has

every right to earn a small amount of commission if you buy a book that he recommends. He is also giving his expert advice on which books to buy and so helping you avoid wasting money on others that may be unsuitable. That advice alone more than justifies the commission that Amazon will pay. And remember it doesn't cost you a penny. Why don't you show your appreciation, buy a book and read it along with all the other free content on this excellent learning resource. You may as well. You don't seem to have much else to do!

Jake

June 12, 2015 at 4:09 pm / Reply

Thank you SOOO much for this guidelines. I've been looking for something like this for a time. I was one of those people who tried to learn javascript from here and there without any structure. I'm so excited for this course!

Venu

June 18, 2015 at 6:34 am / Reply

I want to learn JavaScript Can you teach me please....

Nura

July 3, 2015 at 11:46 am / Reply

I want to learn java script more then any thing else; could you teach it to me?

Vinay K

July 7, 2015 at 3:05 am / Reply

Hi thank you for the superb tutorial, my question is can I read Head First JavaScript programming instead of Beginning JavaScript book because both of these books are meant for absolute beginners. which one is better??? .

waiting for your response

thank you.

Adrian

Hi all,
anyone knows how to get Richard's MongoDB Book? The link seems to be broken.

Thanks Richard for all your efforts you put in this web! You are great!

Mustu

recently i have started learning progrmming languages....i m intrested in java script....how could i learn it in easy way...i m beginner in programming never done coding before....

shibli

If you want to Learn JavaScript in very low price on UDEMY

$29 Dollar course in just $15

https://www.udemy.com/learn-javascript-from-scratch-in-1-hr/?couponCode=Demy345

Swarnjeet Singh

July 30, 2015 at 12:24 am / Reply

Hi Sanjay, I also want to learn javascript. my email Id is swarnjeet7@gmail.com. please contact me asap. or give me your email id or contact no.

Thiru

July 30, 2015 at 6:40 am / Reply

Hi,

If any body looking Java Script learning please contact me I have 8 years exp in UX/UI Designer and Developer and SEO,and Mobile UI also please let me know any body looking

Thanks
Thiru

Nexi

August 12, 2015 at 11:19 am / Reply

Hello, I was feeling lost trying to learn Javascript on my own and I believe your guide will really help me. Thank you for your efforts and I look forward to working through your well organized program.

Mohsin

August 24, 2015 at 4:48 pm / Reply

I'm not learned yet JavaScript, but I wish I will learn this language. This article motivated me to learn JS as soon as possible. Thanks javascriptissexy.com for this excellent guide for beginner and expert.

Hari

September 3, 2015 at 8:30 am / Reply

I will try good information

Fady

September 3, 2015 at 3:42 pm / Reply

Very great list

John

September 23, 2015 at 6:36 am / Reply

Jack, shut up!

Em

September 24, 2015 at 4:40 pm / Reply

Hi, visual learner here. I saw your suggestion for JavaScript and JQuery: Interactive Front-End Web Development to replace Beginning JavaScript, and it looks like that is the book for me. But I was trying to get an idea of which chapters would replace which, because they don't really line up together, and I was wondering if maybe you could update us with the alternate chapters of the second book, if possible. Just so that I can make sure I am reading the right sections.

Anyway, thank you for this great resource, and if I end up having to just get both books then I will do it, because this has been the best resource so far since I can't afford to take the courses on your site just yet.

Thank you!

Aleks

October 1, 2015 at 9:04 am / Reply

It's all great, but please, give me some money for books

Phillip Nguyen

October 13, 2015 at 12:13 pm / Reply

Hi RIchard,

Question- Can I substitute CodeSchool with Codecademy to satisfy the study guide? I just subscribed to CS and would like to use that as it seems to be more challenging than Codecademy. Also, should I just follow the same order of topics in CodeSchool to that of what I should be reading in the book?

Khurshid Alam Jony

October 28, 2015 at 6:17 am / Reply

Excellent! I am just starting JavaScript.

AJay

November 6, 2015 at 7:00 am / Reply

I want learn Javascript

Az

November 17, 2015 at 10:40 pm / Reply

Good one Paul. First quiz I have seen on here.
I am going to be starting this in the next day or so.

kaif

November 29, 2015 at 10:20 am / Reply

i do not use to javascripe please help me and i want to web development if you guide me i hope learn more thing

Arg

January 3, 2016 at 11:58 pm / Reply

Nicely guided. Being web designer, i desperately need to learn javascript but could not step up forward. Can you help me in learning Javascript? mail me at : arulgg@gmail.com

Ram

January 4, 2016 at 7:44 am / Reply

Hi Sanjay,

Can you teach me. Javascript.

Mavinren

January 7, 2016 at 7:57 pm / Reply

am really interested….where do i get your email address

Dave

January 11, 2016 at 11:07 am / Reply

Apparently a lot of the "try it out" sections in the 4th edition beginner javascript is outdated and doesn't really work any more. The 5th edition works just fine though FYI.

Thanks for building this guide. I came to the end of codecademy and got stuck pretty hard building my site and trying to contribute to github. After diving into the reading materials and doing these end of chapter exercises I can see why.

San

January 27, 2016 at 4:40 am / Reply

I want to learn javascript

Preston

January 28, 2016 at 3:07 am / Reply

I am a designer and programming is totally new to me. I started with Codcademy's Javascript track like you said. They started with the very basics of programming which was something that really really help me understand the core concepts of Javascript. The book you referred further helped me clarify the concepts. I can't find any words to thank you for taking your time to show beginner like me a path to learn javascript programming. Thank you very much Richard.

Alex

February 10, 2016 at 3:28 am / Reply

Hello Richard,
first many thanks for what you are doing it's absolutely an outstanding work here helping all the community 😀

i would like to have a look at your MongoDB book but the link seems broken. Is there a reason for it?

A.N.

Rhon

February 16, 2016 at 12:24 am / Reply

Hi, I'm following this study guide and I'm at Weeks 5 and 6: Chapter 12 (Dynamic HTML and the W3C Document Object Model). I have the 5th edition of Beginning Javascript and the chapters and some content has changed. I can't find DHTML in the 5th edition. Anyone know which chapter should I read in the 5th edition?

Lucas

March 2, 2016 at 7:00 am / Reply

Hi, i´m a new visitor this site, and i study you´re plan of studies (Javascript Properly), but the link of MongoDB for JavaScript Applications ebook, don´t work.
Tks

Les

March 10, 2016 at 5:40 pm / Reply

Hi RIchard,

Now that the 5th edition of Beginning JavaScript is out, maybe you should update your link?
I used your link to buy the 4th edition, which I am now returning.

Enjoying your site!
Les

Paolo

March 15, 2016 at 1:42 am / Reply

Hi,

If you want to learn javascript.. try learning first C language the godfather of all.. when you already have familiarize the basic concepts and syntax then it will be easy for you to learn easily like js..
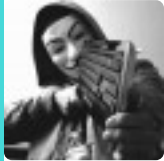
Rashid Naushad

March 15, 2016 at 1:15 pm / Reply

So,I started following this track almost a month ,and ended up completing the designated 6 weeks in a little over 4 weeks ,here's what I've created: codepen.io/rashidnaushad/pen/VaKMBJ

Do share your views on the code,and ways to help!
I'll start working on the 7th week assignment soon!
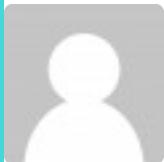
Shubham Sharma

March 16, 2016 at 1:22 pm / Reply

How much time would it take to complete the full track assuming that I spend 2-3 hours a day for each course mentioned?

Mat Hardy

March 16, 2016 at 1:23 pm / Reply

How much time would it take to complete the full track assuming that I spend 2-3 hours a day for each course mentioned?

Hisham Safwat

March 20, 2016 at 2:50 pm / Reply

Is it worth doing the intermediate to advanced after the beginner to intermediate

Jake

March 27, 2016 at 6:14 am / Reply

Here is mine: http://jakeratliff.com/quiz.html

Bud Fields

April 8, 2016 at 10:28 pm / Reply

Wow! Talk about late to the party! A four year old, ACTIVE thread!

Just a simple question:

4th edition of the beginner book is recommended. 5th edition is out, but it looks like it focuses on other things. Should I follow beginner/advanced as recommended, THEN get 5th edition? How to organize my bookshelf.

Great work, by the way. As you can readily see, this is a lifeboat for many, myself included. Thank you so very much for the work and dedication to it– and those that reap reward from it.

Phillip Perry

April 20, 2016 at 1:48 pm / Reply

You should choose a different book for beginners other than beginning javascript. The first example in the book uses the deprecated example of document.bgcolor = "red" which doesn't work in chrome or Firefox.

Billie

May 2, 2016 at 1:48 pm / Reply

Hi Rookie,

It's obviously been some time since you posted this but I'm writing because I am encountering the same problem as you did a few years ago as I'm starting to learn JS. I am at chapter 2 in 'Beginning Java Script – fifth edition' and it seems that whenever I try to run my code (which I write in TextEdit) in Chrome or Safari I see the exact same text I wrote previously but in the browser, or as you put it, nothing happens. I've checked my code many times already. I doesn't seem to have typos or missing characters of any kind. How did you solve this problem? I don't seem to find a good solution online and this seems to work for everyone else.

Thanks!

P.S. JS is enabled for Chrome and I have the latest version of OSX and of Chrome.

R.Subha

May 6, 2016 at 12:34 am / Reply

Hai ,
Can i start my career wit javascript.....
plz give some guidance to start....
there is good scope or not.....

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

November 10, 2013 at 2:32 am / Reply

Thank you very much, Paul. I am glad you have set up some redirects. Keep up the work on your blog.

Adnane

November 21, 2013 at 2:59 pm / Reply

You can enter to any e-mail you received from JavascriptIsSexy and at the bottom you'll find "Unsubscribe" ! Click on it , and it's gonna fixed !

Rookie

November 27, 2013 at 4:37 pm / Reply

Thanks for the encouragement Dylan.

I can't help but think that something is being lost in translation here (?). I've opened firebug, clicked on the console tab, and I see the little 1 line area on the bottom with the >>>. I put the code into that area but … nothing happens??? (other than that I can see code in the chevron area).
I certainly don't want to be a hassle here but … What gives? I checked my preferences and JS is enabled … but I don't know what else to do?

Rookie

November 27, 2013 at 5:29 pm / Reply

hmmmm … after doing some online searching, etc. I have come to the conclusion that my Mac is simply too outdated to do this stuff. -and therefore some kind of glitch is not allowing for JSfiddle to do it's thing, etc. I think the Firebug issue is the same (?).

I am using a Mac 10.5.8

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

January 7, 2014 at 12:37 am / Reply

Treehouse is really good.

Richard Of Stanley (Author)

January 7, 2014 at 1:07 am / Reply

You guys are cool. There are lots of interesting quizzes with interesting animations and even lovely designs and cute pink buttons.

On a serious note, good effort there, Andreas. I am sure you enjoyed building the quiz.

Andreas

January 8, 2014 at 10:14 am / Reply

No problems Konrad! 🙂 It's really fun to see all the different solutions to the same problem and how people think differently about it. 🙂

Naman

May 21, 2014 at 5:35 pm / Reply

You really need to switch to a different browser! Try Chrome or Firefox. Just avioid IE.

Christo

December 7, 2014 at 7:02 pm / Reply

It's probably because JSFiddle relies on newer browser features. Your computer is without a doubt powerful enough to run a modern browser and run JS code. I upgraded my girlfriends 10.5 system from 2008 to 10.6 when Chrome announced that they were dropping support for 10.5. It can run any web app and any text editor.

So, no need to buy anything and the good thing about Apple is that they

often make sure that their OS runs smoothly on older hardware. Call apple support and see what OS they recommend, I suspect you could upgrade to 10.7 or 8 and it will still run well.

Trackbacks for this post

1. [JavaScript is Sexy | JavaScript is Sexy](#)
2. [Martin Codes – Cool Link Stash, September 2012](#)
3. [Pilgrimage to JavaScript Glory: Noob to Expert | JavaScript is Sexy](#)
4. [16 JavaScript Concepts You Must Know Well | JavaScript is Sexy](#)
5. [Learn Node.js Completely and with Confidence | JavaScript is Sexy](#)
6. [Learn Backbone.js Completely | JavaScript is Sexy](#)
7. [tamapolis : Javi Agenjo's personal blog » Blog Archive » A Year in Javascript](#)
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