EXAMPLES ▼

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The sort order can be either alphabetic or numeric, and either ascending (up) or descending (down).

By default, the sort() method sorts the values as strings in alphabetical and ascending order.

You can fix this by providing a "compare function" (See "Parameter Values" below).

The numbers in the table specify the first browser version that fully supports the method.

function(a, b){return a-b}

∢ JavaScript Array Reference

Example Sort an array:

var fruits = ["Banana", "Orange", "Apple", "Mango"];

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fruits.sort();

is bigger than "1". Because of this, the sort() method will produce an incorrect result when sorting numbers.

Definition and Usage

The sort() method sorts the items of an array.

Browser Support

Note: This method changes the original array.

Method

Yes

sort()

Syntax

array.sort(compareFunction)

Parameter Values		
	Parameter	Description
	compareFunction	Optional. A function that defines an alternative sort order. The function should return a negative, zero, or positive value, depending on the arguments, like:

values according to the returned (negative, zero, positive) value.

The function calculates 40-100, and returns -60 (a negative value).

The sort function will sort 40 as a value lower than 100.

When comparing 40 and 100, the sort() method calls the compare function(40,100).

Yes

Yes

When the sort() method compares two values, it sends the values to the compare function, and sorts the

Yes

Yes

This works well for strings ("Apple" comes before "Banana"). However, if numbers are sorted as strings, "25" is bigger than "100", because "2"

Technical Details Return Value:

The Array object, with the items sorted **JavaScript Version: ECMAScript 1**

Example:

More Examples

Example

points.sort(function(a, b){return a-b});

Sort numbers in an array in ascending order: var points = [40, 100, 1, 5, 25, 10];

Try it Yourself »

Example

Get the highest value in an array:

Get the lowest value in an array:

var points = [40, 100, 1, 5, 25, 10];

var points = [40, 100, 1, 5, 25, 10];

Sort an array alphabetically, and then reverse the order of the sorted items (descending):

var fruits = ["Banana", "Orange", "Apple", "Mango"];

Sort numbers in an array in descending order:

var points = [40, 100, 1, 5, 25, 10];points.sort(function(a, b){return b-a});

Try it Yourself » Example

points.sort(function(a, b){return b-a}); // Sort the numbers in the array in descending order // The first item in the array (points[0]) is now the highest value Try it Yourself »

Example

// The first item in the array (points[0]) is now the lowest value Try it Yourself »

Example

fruits.sort();

Try it Yourself »

fruits.reverse();

order

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ABOUT

points.sort(function(a, b){return a-b}); // Sort the numbers in the array in ascending

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