

# WHAT IS JAVASCRIPT?

## IN THIS LESSON

A little history

JavaScript today

ECMAScript

JS libraries & frameworks vs. vanilla JavaScript

What is a programming language?

JavaScript example

## A LITTLE HISTORY

Originally created as addition to Netscape Navigator (predecessor to Firefox & most popular browser then) - web browsers at the time did not have built-in support for programming languages

1995 - Netscape hired **Brendan Eich** to create a new programming language to be embedded into Navigator - this became JavaScript

JavaScript is **not** related to the Java programming language

JavaScript became the dominant language for client-side programming due to early adoption by an international standards body & built-in support by multiple browsers

## JAVASCRIPT TODAY

Initially created as a lightweight, client-side scripting language to add functionality to browsers; has evolved into much more

Today - used to build web, desktop, mobile & server-side apps

Examples: Visual Studio Code, Slack (web & desktop versions)

Suited for many, but not all types of applications - for example, not the best choice for intensive graphics



## Most Popular Technologies

Overview

Key Results

Developer Profile

Technology

### I. Most Popular Technologies

II. Most Loved, Dreaded, and Wanted

III. Development Environments and Tools

IV. Blockchain in the Real World

V. Top Paying Technologies

VI. Correlated Technologies

Work

Community

Methodology

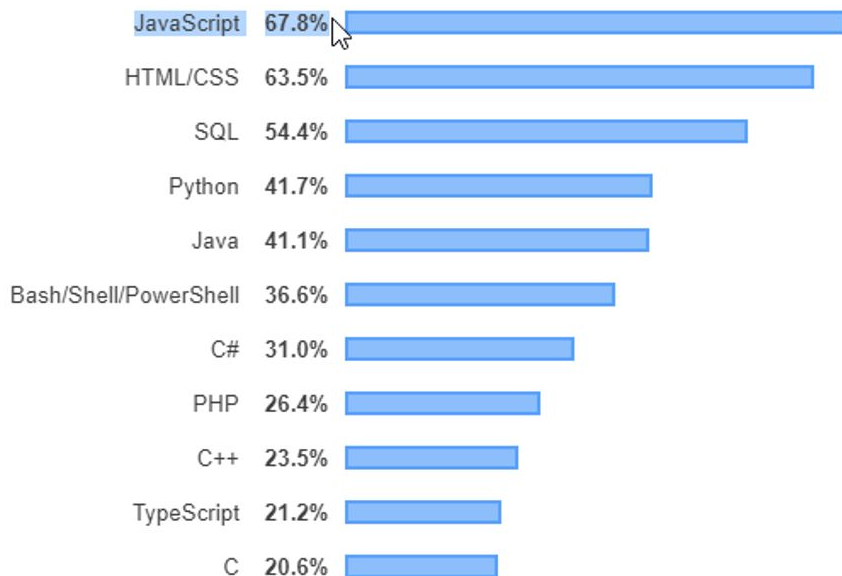
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Take control of your job

All Respondents

Professional Developers

### Programming, Scripting, and Markup Languages





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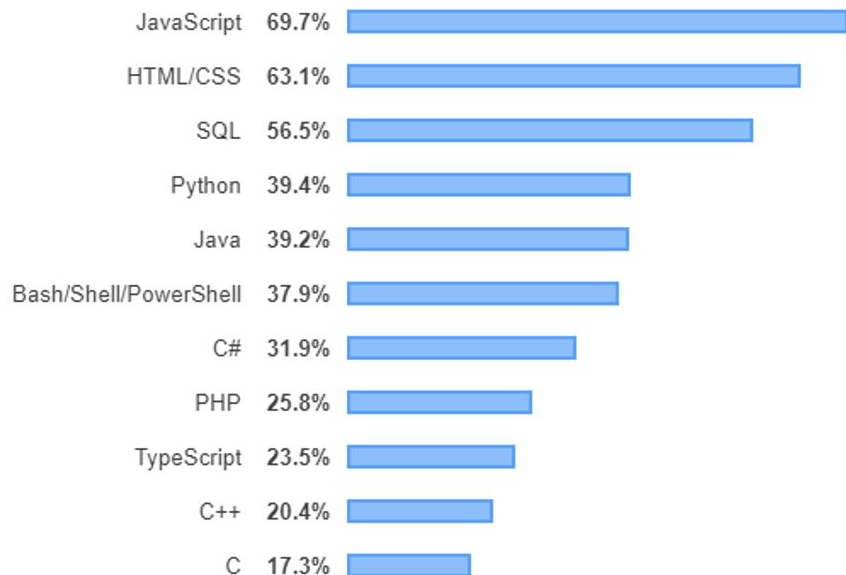
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## Programming, Scripting, and Markup Languages

All Respondents

Professional Developers



# ECMAScript

1996 - JavaScript submitted to international standards body, Ecma International

1997 - First official specification released under the name **ECMAScript**

Technically, JavaScript is considered as an implementation of ECMAScript - more or less synonymous

Current version is ECMAScript 2019; last version with major changes came out in 2015, called ECMAScript 2015, a.k.a. **ES6** (6th version)

**ES6** contained many major improvements & additions

# JS LIBRARIES & FRAMEWORKS VS VANILLA JAVASCRIPT

Many JavaScript libraries & frameworks exist, such as  
React, Angular, Vue, jQuery, others

These are not programming languages; they are open-source tools  
written with JavaScript

"Vanilla JavaScript" refers to the core JS language without use of  
additional technologies

This bootcamp teaches vanilla JS, next bootcamps teach JS-based  
technologies: React, React Native, Express.js, Node.js, others.



# WHAT IS A PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE?

A set of statements, instructions for a computer to carry out

- for making calculations, read & write files, send data over a network, access functionality of another program, etc

All programming languages have their own syntax & vocabulary like any human language (English, etc) - but for talking to computers

Computers are very powerful but you need to talk to them in very precise, logical ways

## JAVASCRIPT EXAMPLE

```
if (password === 'theSuperSecretPassword') {  
  alert('Your password is correct! You may enter the secret lair.');
```

```
} else {  
  alert('Wrong password! This computer will self destruct in 10 seconds.');
```

```
}
```

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