

Truthy and Falsy Values in JavaScript

JavaScript evaluates values in logical contexts (e.g., conditions in `if` statements) as either **truthy** or **falsey**. These concepts help determine how expressions are evaluated in control flow structures.

1. Falsy Values

A falsy value is one that JavaScript treats as `false` when evaluated in a Boolean context. There are **exactly 7 falsy values** in JavaScript:

1. `false`

- The Boolean `false` itself.

```
if (false) console.log("Falsy"); // Does not execute
```

2. `0` (Number Zero)

- Includes both `+0` and `-0`.

```
if (0) console.log("Falsy"); // Does not execute
```

3. `NaN` (Not-a-Number)

- The result of invalid mathematical operations.

```
if (NaN) console.log("Falsy"); // Does not execute
```

4. `""` (Empty String)

- Includes both `' '` and `""`.

```
if ("" ) console.log("Falsy"); // Does not execute
```

5. `null`

- Represents the intentional absence of a value.

```
if (null) console.log("Falsy"); // Does not execute
```

6. `undefined`

- The default value of variables that are declared but not initialized.

```
if (undefined) console.log("Falsy"); // Does not execute
```

7. `document.all`

- A legacy object for compatibility with older browsers (treated as `undefined` in logical contexts).

```
if (document.all) console.log("Falsy"); // Does not execute
```

2. Truthy Values

A truthy value is anything that is **not falsy**. In JavaScript, most values are truthy. Here are examples of common truthy values:

Truthy Examples

1. Non-zero Numbers

- Both positive and negative numbers are truthy.

```
if (42) console.log("Truthy"); // Executes  
if (-42) console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
```

2. Non-empty Strings

- Strings with any character, including a single space.

```
if ("hello") console.log("Truthy"); // Executes  
if (" ") console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
```

3. Objects

- Any object, including empty ones (`{}` or `[]`).

```
if ({}) console.log("Truthy"); // Executes  
if ([]) console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
```

4. Infinity

- Both `Infinity` and `-Infinity` are truthy.

```
if (Infinity) console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
if (-Infinity) console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
```

5. Functions

- Any function is truthy.

```
if (function() {}) console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
```

6. Other Non-standard Truthy Values

- Strings like "false" or "0" (non-empty strings are always truthy).

```
if ("false") console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
if ("0") console.log("Truthy"); // Executes
```

3. Examples in Conditional Contexts

Example 1: Falsy Values

```
let values = [false, 0, NaN, "", null, undefined, document.all];

values.forEach(value => {
  if (!value) {
    console.log(`${value} is Falsy`);
  }
});
```

Output:

```
false is Falsy
0 is Falsy
NaN is Falsy
 is Falsy
null is Falsy
undefined is Falsy
[object HTMLAllCollection] is Falsy
```

Example 2: Truthy Values

```
let values = [1, -1, "hello", {}, [], Infinity, " "];

values.forEach(value => {
  if (value) {
    console.log(`${value} is Truthy`);
  }
});
```

Output:

```
1 is Truthy
-1 is Truthy
hello is Truthy
[object Object] is Truthy
 is Truthy
Infinity is Truthy
 is Truthy
```

4. Practical Use of Truthy and Falsy Values

Default Values with Logical Operators

You can use `||` to assign default values:

```
let name = "";
let displayName = name || "Guest";
console.log(displayName); // "Guest"
```

Short-circuiting with `&&`

Execute code only if a value is truthy:

```
let isLoggedIn = true;
isLoggedIn && console.log("Welcome back!"); // Executes
```

Summary Table

Value	Type	Falsy/Truthy
false	Boolean	Falsy
0, -0	Number	Falsy

Value	Type	Falsy/Truthy
NaN	Number	Falsy
"" , ''	String	Falsy
null	Null	Falsy
undefined	Undefined	Falsy
document.all	Special Object	Falsy
Non-zero Numbers	Number	Truthy
Non-empty Strings	String	Truthy
Objects	Object	Truthy
Arrays	Object	Truthy
Infinity, -Infinity	Number	Truthy
Functions	Object	Truthy

Understanding these values will help you avoid common pitfalls in logical conditions and write cleaner, more predictable JavaScript code!