



JavaScript Date Objects

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JavaScript **Date Object** lets us work with dates:

Tue Apr 30 2019 15:04:22 GMT-0400 (VET)

Year: 2019

Month: 4

Day: 30

Hours: 15

Minutes: 4

Seconds: 22

Example

```
var d = new Date();
```

[Try it Yourself »](#)

JavaScript Date Output

By default, JavaScript will use the browser's time zone and display a date as a full text string:

Tue Apr 30 2019 15:04:22 GMT-0400 (VET)

You will learn much more about how to display dates, later in this tutorial.

Creating Date Objects

Date objects are created with the `new Date()` constructor.

There are **4 ways** to create a new date object:

```
new Date()  
new Date(year, month, day, hours, minutes, seconds, milliseconds)  
new Date(milliseconds)
```

```
new Date(date string)
```

new Date()

`new Date()` creates a new date object with the **current date and time**:

Example

```
var d = new Date();
```

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Date objects are static. The computer time is ticking, but date objects are not.

new Date(year, month, ...)

`new Date(year, month, ...)` creates a new date object with a **specified date and time**.

7 numbers specify year, month, day, hour, minute, second, and millisecond (in that order):

Example

```
var d = new Date(2018, 11, 24, 10, 33, 30, 0);
```

Try it Yourself »

Note: JavaScript counts months from 0 to 11.

January is 0. December is 11.

6 numbers specify year, month, day, hour, minute, second:

Example

```
var d = new Date(2018, 11, 24, 10, 33, 30);
```

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5 numbers specify year, month, day, hour, and minute:

Example

```
var d = new Date(2018, 11, 24, 10, 33);
```

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4 numbers specify year, month, day, and hour:

Example

```
var d = new Date(2018, 11, 24, 10);
```

Try it Yourself »

3 numbers specify year, month, and day:

Example

```
var d = new Date(2018, 11, 24);
```

Try it Yourself »

2 numbers specify year and month:

Example

```
var d = new Date(2018, 11);
```

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You cannot omit month. If you supply only one parameter it will be treated as milliseconds.

Example

```
var d = new Date(2018);
```

Try it Yourself »

Previous Century

One and two digit years will be interpreted as 19xx:

Example

```
var d = new Date(99, 11, 24);
```

Try it Yourself »

Example

```
var d = new Date(9, 11, 24);
```

Try it Yourself »

new Date(*dateString*)

`new Date(dateString)` creates a new date object from a **date string**:

Example

```
var d = new Date("October 13, 2014 11:13:00");
```

Try it Yourself »

Date strings are described in the next chapter.

JavaScript Stores Dates as Milliseconds

JavaScript stores dates as number of milliseconds since January 01, 1970, 00:00:00 UTC (Universal Time Coordinated).

Zero time is January 01, 1970 00:00:00 UTC.

Now the time is: **1556651062396** milliseconds past January 01, 1970

new Date(*milliseconds*)

`new Date(milliseconds)` creates a new date object as **zero time plus milliseconds**:

Example

```
var d = new Date(0);
```

Try it Yourself »

01 January 1970 **plus** 100 000 000 000 milliseconds is approximately 03 March 1973:

Example

```
var d = new Date(100000000000);
```

Try it Yourself »

January 01 1970 **minus** 100 000 000 000 milliseconds is approximately October 31 1966:

Example

```
var d = new Date(-100000000000);
```

Try it Yourself »

Example

```
var d = new Date(86400000);
```

Try it Yourself »

One day (24 hours) is 86 400 000 milliseconds.

Date Methods

When a Date object is created, a number of **methods** allow you to operate on it.

Date methods allow you to get and set the year, month, day, hour, minute, second, and millisecond of date objects, using either local time or UTC (universal, or GMT) time.

Date methods and time zones are covered in the next chapters.

Displaying Dates

JavaScript will (by default) output dates in full text string format:

```
Tue Mar 24 2015 19:30:00 GMT-0430 (VET)
```

Try it Yourself »

When you display a date object in HTML, it is automatically converted to a string, with the `toString()` method.

Example

```
d = new Date();  
document.getElementById("demo").innerHTML = d;
```

Same as:

```
d = new Date();  
document.getElementById("demo").innerHTML = d.toString();
```

Try it Yourself »

The `toUTCString()` method converts a date to a UTC string (a date display standard).

Example

```
var d = new Date();  
document.getElementById("demo").innerHTML = d.toUTCString();
```

Try it Yourself »

The `toDateString()` method converts a date to a more readable format:

Example

```
var d = new Date();  
document.getElementById("demo").innerHTML = d.toDateString();
```

Try it Yourself »

Test Yourself With Exercises

Exercise:

Create a Date object and alert the current date and time.

```
var d =  ;  
alert(d);
```

Submit Answer »

[Start the Exercise](#)

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