Returning only certain properties from an array of objects in Javascript [duplicate]

Asked 5 years, 1 month ago Active 5 years, 1 month ago Viewed 27k times

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This question already has an answer here:
From an array of objects, extract value of a property as array *14 answers*

If I have an object such that

```
var object = function(key,text)
{
    this.key = key;
    this.text = text;
}
```

And create an array of these objects

```
var objArray = [];
objArray[0] = new object('key1','blank');
objArray[1] = new object('key2','exampletext');
objArray[2] = new object('key3','moretext');
```

is there a way that I can retrieve only one of the properties of all of the objects in the array? For example:

```
var keyArray = objArray["key"];
```

The above example doesn't return set keyArray to anything, but I was hoping it would be set to something like this:

```
keyArray = [
    'key1',
    'key2',
    'key3']
```

Does anyone know of a way to do this without iterating through the objArray and manually copying each key property to the key array?

javascript arrays javascript-objects

asked Jun 26 '14 at 21:17

ragesalmon
174 1 1 9

marked as duplicate by Felix Kling arrays Jun 26 '14 at 21:32

This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not fully address your question, please ask a new question.

5 Answers

22

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This is easily done with the Array.prototype.map() function:

```
var keyArray = objArray.map(function(item) { return item["key"]; });
```

If you are going to do this often, you could write a function that abstracts away the map:

```
function pluck(array, key) {
  return array.map(function(item) { return item[key]; });
}
```

In fact, the Underscore library has a built-in function called pluck that does exactly that.

answered Jun 26 '14 at 21:22

Jacob Krall
22.5k 6 51 69

IE 8 and below does not support `map` – Miguel Mota Jun 26 '14 at 21:29

1 The MDN documentation linked above includes a polyfill for IE8 and below. – Jacob Krall Jun 26 '14 at 21:32

Thank you! That worked perfectly – ragesalmon Jun 26 '14 at 21:33

function pluck(obj){return obj[this]} allows r.map(pluck,"key") – dandavis Jun 26 '14 at 22:29

@dandavis: agreed, that composes much more nicely (you can call `r.filter(pluck, "key")` to find items with a given key, for example). My version merely approximates what Underscore's `_.pluck` does. – Jacob Krall Jun 27 '14 at 12:09

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```
var object = function(key,text) {
    this.key = key;
    this.text = text;
}

var objArray = [];
objArray[0] = new object('key1','blank');
objArray[1] = new object('key2','exampletext');
objArray[2] = new object('key3','moretext');

var keys = objArray.map(function(o,i) {
  return o.key;
});

console.log(keys); // ["key1", "key2", "key3"]
```

JS Bin Example

http://jsbin.com/vamey/1/edit

Note that older browsers may not support map but you can easily do this with a `for` loop:

```
var keys = [];

for (var i = 0; i < objArray.length; i++) {
  keys.push(objArray[i].key);
}
```

JS Bin Example

http://jsbin.com/redis/1/edit

edited Jun 26 '14 at 21:27

answered Jun 26 '14 at 21:22

Miguel Mota
15.3k 4 26 45

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You would want to do something like this:

```
objArray.map(function (obj) { return obj.key; });
```

Here is a JSFiddle to demo: http://jsfiddle.net/Q7Cb3/

If you need older browser support, you can use your own method:

JSFiddle demo: http://jsfiddle.net/Q7Cb3/1/

```
function map (arr, func) {
    var i = arr.length;
    arr = arr.slice();
    while (i--) arr[i] = func(arr[i]);
    return arr;
}
```

answered Jun 26 '14 at 21:20

Robert Messerle
2,881 10 17

Note older browsers may not support `map` . – Mike Christensen Jun 26 '14 at 21:22

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Well *something* has to iterate through the elements of the array. You can use `.map()` to make it look nice:

```
var keys = objArray.map(function(o) { return o.key; });
```

You could make a function to generate a function to retrieve a particular key:

```
function plucker(prop) {
  return function(o) {
    return o[prop];
  };
}
```

Then:

```
var keys = objArray.map(plucker("key"));
```

answered Jun 26 '14 at 21:22

Pointy

329k 47 473 538

0

Really "objArray" is an array that have 3 objects inside, if you want list of keys, you can try this:

```
var keys = [];
for(a in objArray) {
    keys.push(objArray[a].key);
}
```

You have in var keys, the three keys.

Hope that helps! :)

answered Jun 26 '14 at 21:25

Rubén Guerrero

292 1 8

1 It is bad practice in JavaScript to use `for ... in` to iterate through arrays. – Pointy Jun 26 '14 at 21:30

for(var a = 0; a < objArray.lenght; a++){..} better, sorry. :) – Rubén Guerrero Jun 26 '14 at 21:31