

JavaScript

Reference Types VS Non-Reference Types

1. Why It's Important
2. Understanding the difference between Reference and Non-Reference (Primitive) Types is crucial for effective JavaScript programming. Let's dive in!



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Non-Reference (Primitive) Types

WHAT ARE PRIMITIVE TYPES?

Primitive Types Are Data That Is Stored Directly In The Location That The Variable Accesses.

- 1. Number:** Let Num = 42;
- 2. String:** Let Str = "Hello";
- 3. Boolean:** Let Bool = True;
- 4. Null:** Let N = Null;
- 5. Undefined:** Let U;
- 6. Symbol:** Let Sym = Symbol("Id");
- 7. BigInt:** Let BigInt = 123n;



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Characteristics of Primitive Types

- 1. Immutable:** Cannot Be Changed
- 2. Stored Directly In The Variable**
- 3. Copied By Value**



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3 Reference Types

WHAT ARE REFERENCE TYPES?

Reference Types Are
Objects That Are Stored As
A Reference In The Memory.

- 1. Object:** Let Obj = { Name: "Alice" };
- 2. Array:** Let Arr = [1, 2, 3];
- 3. Function:** Let Func = Function() {};



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Characteristics of Reference Types

- 1. Mutable:** Can Be Changed
- 2. Stored As A Reference**
(Memory Address)
- 3. Copied By Reference**



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5 Differences in Behavior

1. Primitive Types: Copied By Value.
Changing One Variable Doesn't Affect The Other

Example: Let A = 10; Let B = A; B = 20;
// A Is Still 10

2. Reference Types: Copied By Reference.
Changing One Variable Affects The Other.

Example: Let A = 10; Let B = A; B = 20;
// A Is Still 10



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Example Code

Primitive Types

```
let a = 5;  
  
let b = a;  
  
b = 10;  
  
console.log(a); // 5  
  
console.log(b); // 10
```



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Swipe ↗

Example Code Reference Types

```
let obj1 = { value: 5 };

let obj2 = obj1;
obj2.value = 10;

console.log(obj1.value); // 10
console.log(obj2.value); // 10
```



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