Escape Character

Because strings must be written within quotes, JavaScript will misunderstand this string:

let text = "We are the so-called "Vikings" from the north.";

The string will be chopped to "We are the so-called ".

The solution to avoid this problem, is to use the **backslash escape character**.

The backslash (\) escape character turns special characters into string characters:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Result** | **Description** |
| \' | ' | Single quote |
| \" | " | Double quote |
| \\ | \ | Backslash |

The sequence \"  inserts a double quote in a string:

Example

let text = "We are the so-called \"Vikings\" from the north.";

[Try it Yourself »](https://www.w3schools.com/js/tryit.asp?filename=tryjs_string_escape_quotes2)

The sequence \'  inserts a single quote in a string:

Example

let text= 'It\'s alright.';

[Try it Yourself »](https://www.w3schools.com/js/tryit.asp?filename=tryjs_string_escape_quotes1)

The sequence \\  inserts a backslash in a string:

Example

let text = "The character \\ is called backslash.";

[Try it Yourself »](https://www.w3schools.com/js/tryit.asp?filename=tryjs_string_escape_backslash)

Six other escape sequences are valid in JavaScript:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Result** |
| \b | Backspace |
| \f | Form Feed |
| \n | New Line |
| \r | Carriage Return |
| \t | Horizontal Tabulator |
| \v | Vertical Tabulator |