Compare Similar Data Objects

By Meggin Kearney

Meggin is a Tech Writer

By Paul Bakaus

Open Web Developer Advocate at Google • Tools, Performance, Animation, UX

View structured data and compare data objects using the table() method.

The `table()` method provides an easy way to view objects and arrays that include similar data. When called, it will take the properties of an object and create a header. The row data then comes from each index's properties value.

Basic example: Logging an array of objects

In it's most basic form, all you need is an array with a bunch of objects that have the same properties, and the `table()` command will do the rest:

```
console.table([{a:1, b:2, c:3}, {a:"foo", b:false, c:undefined}]);
console.table([[1,2,3], [2,3,4]]);
```

This will output:

VM55:1

(index)	a	b	c
0	1	2	3
1	"foo"	false	undefined

VM55:2

(index)	0	1	2
0	1	2	3
1	2	3	4

Advanced example: Logging specific properties

The second parameter to `table()` can be used to log more advanced objects. Define an array containing the property strings you wish to display, like so:

```javascript
function Person(firstName, lastName, age) {
  this.firstName = firstName;
  this.lastName = lastName;
  this.age = age;
}

var family = {};
family.mother = new Person("Susan", "Doyle", 32);
family.father = new Person("John", "Doyle", 33);
family.daughter = new Person("Lily", "Doyle", 5);
family.son = new Person("Mike", "Doyle", 8);

console.table(family, ["firstName", "lastName", "age"]);
```

This will output the following:

VM56:13

(index)	firstName	lastName	age
mother	"Susan"	"Doyle"	32
father	"John"	"Doyle"	33
daughter	"Lily"	"Doyle"	5
son	"Mike"	"Doyle"	8