

# Run JavaScript in Windows

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I thought for some simple tests that just run a few commands i would try using some JavaScript and run it from the command line in Windows XP.

So for a quick test I created a script

```
alert('Hello, World!');
```

3

Then tried to run it

```
D:\>Cscript.exe hello.js
Microsoft (R) Windows Script Host Version 5.7
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

D:\hello.js(1, 1) Microsoft JScript runtime error: Object expected
```


Google has not helped and I am sure I am missing something silly, can any of you guys shed any light on why this simple script doesn't run?

javascript


windows

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edited Aug 21 '12 at 15:47

 **j08691**  
121k 13 112 147

asked Aug 21 '12 at 15:45

 **Ne0**  
1,658 2 16 36

why are u runing it from the command line instead of putting it in an HTML page? – [imulsion](#) Aug 21 '12 at 15:47

Well, I know enough to know that something you're doing is confusing the parser. I can't say off of the top of my head what though. – [Wug](#) Aug 21 '12 at 15:48

perhaps because windows command line does not have window.alert available – [mplungjan](#) Aug 21 '12 at 15:49

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You are calling a function called `alert` , but this is not part of JavaScript (it is part of DOM 0 and is provided by browsers)

Since you haven't defined it, you are trying to treat `undefined` as a function, which it isn't.

Qnan suggests using the `Echo` method instead.

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edited Aug 21 '12 at 15:57

answered Aug 21 '12 at 15:48



Quentin

456k 49 583 759

1 should use something like `WSH.Echo("Hello world");` instead – Qnan Aug 21 '12 at 15:50

Thanks, i guess i need to read more about it. Thought it may be quicker then writing a java application. I just wanted a scripting language that would allow me to write a quick tool that produced a decent GUI. This is not turning out to be quick! – Ne0 Aug 21 '12 at 16:03

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Work on work you love. From home.



Try a named function replace since WSH does not support the `window.alert` method.

5

```
if (!alert) alert = function foo(s){WScript.Echo(s)}
alert("hello world");
```

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[edited Sep 9 '15 at 11:49](#)

answered Aug 21 '12 at 15:52



[mplungjan](#)

56.2k 15 89 130

To get this to work I had to give the function a name, e.g. `function foo(s){WScript.Echo(s);}` – [MatthewMartinJun 12 '15 at 19:46](#)

[add a comment](#)

`alert` is a method of the browser's `window` object. The Window's scripting host does not supply such an object.

1

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answered Aug 21 '12 at 15:49



[Scott Sauyet](#)

7,681 12 31

[add a comment](#)

Microsoft's **JScript** runtime compiler does not provide the native JavaScript popups as found in the DOM (Document Object Model) which is supported by all major browsers today. However, this can be done by wrapping a function (in your case `alert` ) around the native `MessageBox` found in WSH (Windows Scripting Host) as with any other scripting language supported with WSH.

1

But, just to give you an easier option... try [DeskJS](#). It's a new console-style app for Windows that's designed to run pure JavaScript (**ECMAScript 5.1** as of currently) away from the browser and supports all the basic JavaScript popup boxes together with other nifty additions to the language. You may just love it more than the browser's console...

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answered Jan 14 at 21:04



[cringy](#)

11 1

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1

A good approach is to redirect all of the usual output like in a following examples. It will allow you to test JavaScript designed for web without needing to rewrite.

### test.js

```
var console = {
  info: function (s){
    WSH.Echo(s);
  }
}
var document = {
  write : function (s){
    WSH.Echo(s);
  }
}
var alert = function (s){
  WSH.Echo(s);
}

console.info("test");
document.write("test2");
alert("test3");
```

You can call the script like this:

```
Cscript.exe test.js firstParam secondParam
```

which will give you:

```
test
test1
test2
```

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edited Jan 17 at 14:27



trkly

308

3

10

answered Sep 10 '15 at 15:15



volkinc

1,386

3

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