

This keyword in constructor



```
function Counter () {
  var count = 0; // PRIVATE variable (not accessible from outside or via this)
  console.log("this-->CounterFunction-->", this);

}

var counter1 = new Counter();

here this refers to
```

Excellent question, Vipul 🙌

Let's break it down carefully and see **what this refers to** in this exact code:

```
js

function Counter () {
  var count = 0; // private variable
  console.log("this-->CounterFunction-->", this);
}

var counter1 = new Counter();
```

✓ Step-by-step explanation

1. When you call a function with **new keyword**, like:

```
js

var counter1 = new Counter();
```

then a **brand new empty object** is automatically created by JavaScript.

2. That new object is automatically linked to the function's **prototype** (so it can access methods defined on **Counter.prototype**).
3. Inside the constructor function (**Counter**), the keyword **this** refers to that **newly created object**.
4. Finally, if the function doesn't return anything explicitly, **the new object (this) is returned automatically**.

🔍 So, in your case:

Inside the **Counter** function:

```
js

console.log("this-->CounterFunction-->", this);
```

👉 **this** refers to **the newly created instance object** — the same object that gets stored in **counter1**.

🧠 Therefore:

When you run the code:

```
js

var counter1 = new Counter();
```

You'll see something like:

```
bash

this-->CounterFunction--> Counter {}
```

and after execution:

```
js

console.log(counter1); // Counter {}
```

⚠️ If you had called it without **new**:

```
js

Counter();
```

Then, in **non-strict mode**,

👉 **this** would refer to the **global object** (**window** in browser or **global** in Node.js).

But in **strict mode**,

👉 **this** would be **undefined**, and you'd get a **TypeError** if you tried to use **this** to set properties.

✓ Final Answer:

In your code, since you called it with **new Counter()**,
this refers to the newly created empty object (the instance of Counter).

Would you like me to show how this same behavior changes if we remove the **new** keyword or use a class instead?



and inside incrementCounter:

```
function Counter () {
    var count = 0; // PRIVATE variable (not accessible from outside or via this)
    console.log("this-->CounterFunction-->", this);
    this.incrementCounter = function () {
        console.log(this);
    }
}

var counter1 = new Counter();
```

this refers to inside incrementCounter

Excellent follow-up, Vipul 🙌

Let's unpack this **step-by-step** — because the meaning of **this inside incrementCounter** depends on **how it is called**, not where it is defined.

✓ Code:

```
js

function Counter () {
    var count = 0;
    console.log("this-->CounterFunction-->", this);

    this.incrementCounter = function () {
        console.log("this-->incrementCounter-->", this);
    }
}

var counter1 = new Counter();
```

Now let's see what happens.

🧩 Step 1 — Inside Counter

When you do:

```
js

var counter1 = new Counter();
```

- **new** creates a **new empty object**.
- Inside the function, **this** refers to **that new object**.

- You then assign a method `incrementCounter` to that object.

So now:

```
js

counter1 = {
  incrementCounter: function() { console.log(this); }
}
```

Step 2 — Inside `incrementCounter`

Now, when you call:

```
js

counter1.incrementCounter();
```

 `this` inside `incrementCounter` refers to **the object that called it**, i.e. `counter1`.

So the output will be:

```
bash

this-->>CounterFunction-->> Counter {}
this-->>incrementCounter-->> Counter {}
```

So in simple terms:

- Inside `Counter()` constructor — `this` → **the new object being created**
- Inside `incrementCounter()` — `this` → **the object through which the method was called**

Important Twist:

If you detached the method like this:

```
js

var ref = counter1.incrementCounter;
ref(); // call without object
```

Then:

- In **non-strict mode**, `this` → **global object (window)**
- In **strict mode**, `this` → **undefined**

Because now it's **not called via `counter1`**, so there's no object context.

Final Answer:

Where	What this refers to
Inside <code>Counter()</code>	The new object created by <code>new</code>
Inside <code>incrementCounter()</code> when called via <code>counter1.incrementCounter()</code>	The same object (counter1)
Inside <code>incrementCounter()</code> when called directly (like <code>ref()</code>)	undefined (in strict mode) or <code>window</code> (in non-strict mode)

Would you like me to show a visual diagram of how the object and `this` are linked in memory when you use `new Counter()` and call `incrementCounter()`?