

# The Exponential Operator

introduction to ES2016 features and using the exponential operator - the syntactic sugar of ES2016

There is not too much to consider for ES2016, as only two new features surfaced: the exponential operator, and the `includes` method of arrays.

As we will see, these two updates are nothing more than syntactic sugar.

Check out the [ES2016 plus compatibility table](#) for more information on the current browser support. Most likely, you will need a transpiler.

Use the [ES2017 Babel Preset](#) for code transpilation if you want to support older browsers.

Before ES2016, we could use the `Math.pow` function to calculate powers of numbers.

```
let base = 10;  
let exponent = 3;  
  
console.log(Math.pow( base, exponent ));
```



In ES2016, the `**` operator makes the same operation more compact:

```
let base = 10;  
let exponent = 3;  
  
console.log(base ** exponent);
```



Now, let's discuss the `includes` method in the next lesson.

