

I'm learning: Javascript

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Objects

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So far, we have looked at different values like, Numbers, Strings, Booleans, and Arrays, which are a collection of other values.

Now we will look at another important data type in Javascript, called an Object.

Let's see what an Object looks like:

```
var myFirstObject = {
    name: "Jack The Rabbit",
    species: "Sylvilagus bachmani",
    speed: 62,
    points: 1206,
    age: 3,
    favouriteFoods: [ "Carrot Shake", "Oreos" ]
};
```

- Objects are a collection of different values put together, much like Arrays. Except that values inside Objects aren't accessible by an index, like with Arrays, but they are accessible with keys.
- What's a key? A key is the label that a value is stored with.

 For example, in the Object above, what is the key that the value 3 is stored with? It's the age key.
- What about the value "sylvilagus bachmani" ?
- Try the following and see what pops up.

```
alert( myFirstObject.name );
alert( myFirstObject[ "name" ] );
alert( myFirstObject[ "points" ] );
alert( myFirstObject.favouriteFoods );
alert( myFirstObject.favouriteFoods[ 1 ] );
```

Objects

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Let's look at more example Objects.

```
var playerOne = {
    name: "Marjan",
    playerNum: 1,
    health: 100,
    level: 11,
    ability: "Fast Runner",
    items: [ "Flash light", "Stick" ]
};
```

```
var playerTwo = {
    name: "Stevie",
    playerNum: 2,
    health: 89,
    level: 3,
    ability: "Heavy Lifting",
    items: [ "Stone", "Rope", "Mug" ]
};
```

- 8 Notice, the value with the items key is an Array. You can store Arrays inside Objects!
- Can you tell what the following line of code will display?

```
alert( playerTwo.health );
alert( playerOne.items[ 0 ] );
```

You can change the values inside an Object like this.

```
playerOne.health = 65;
```

- Can you add more items to playerTwo's items array?
- Can you remove playerOne's first item?



Functions

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- Functions are the last big topic we will cover in this series. Functions are extremely central to Javascript and all other programming languages.
- We have used a few functions by now, but we have not talked about them. They are:

Function name	What it does		
alert(message)	to display a pop-up with a message		
<pre>prompt(message)</pre>	to display an input dialog for the user with a message		
Number.parseInt(num)	to convert a String into a Number		
push(item)	to add an item to an Array		

These are all methods of **doing** things. You can think of them as **actions**. For example, type out this simple function.

```
function basicAlert() {
    alert( "Hello from the basicAlert!" );
}
```

Congratulations! You just defined your first javascript function!

If you use this function, you get an alert pop up.

Try it. Execute it using the following code:

```
basicAlert();
```

You should see a pop up with the message "Hello from the basicAlert!".

Let's make a new similar function with a new name and tweak it a little from the first one.

```
function customAlert( place ) {
  alert( "Hello from" + place );
}
```

6 Now try the following... what do you see?

```
customAlert( "CoderDojo" );
```



Functions

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Let's examine the previous example more closely...

```
function customAlert( place ) {
  alert( "Hello from" + place );
}
```

Notice the different between the basicAlert function and the customAlert function.

customAlert has a special type of variable called place.

Here's another function has a special variable, but this time the special variable is called **num**, and it does something different with it.

```
function doubler( num ) {
  return num * 2;
}
```

- Notice a new special word there? The return keyword does something special. It returns back a value to the person who executed that function!
- Can you guess what the newNumber variable will be?

```
var newNumber = doubler( 12 );
```

Try it and see if your guess was right.