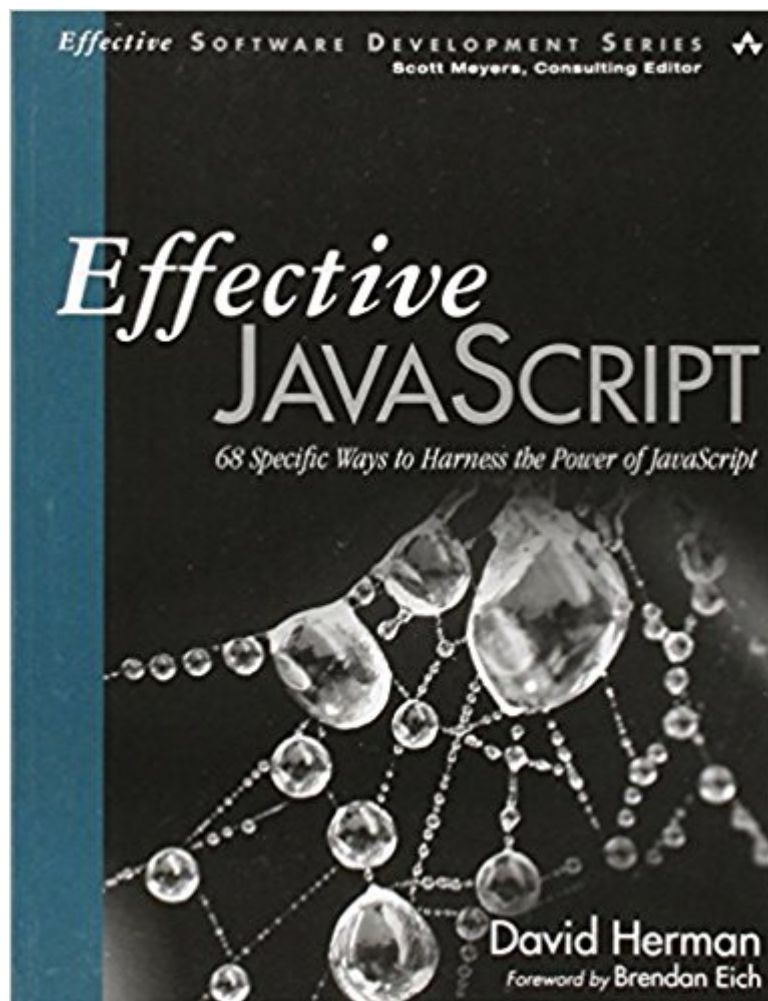


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# Effective JavaScript: 68 Specific Ways To Harness The Power Of JavaScript (Effective Software Development Series)



## Synopsis

It's uncommon to have a programming language wonk who can speak in such comfortable and friendly language as David does. His walk through the syntax and semantics of JavaScript is both charming and hugely insightful; reminders of gotchas complement realistic use cases, paced at a comfortable curve. You'll find when you finish the book that you've gained a strong and comprehensive sense of mastery.

- "Paul Irish, developer advocate, Google Chrome
- "This is not a book for those looking for shortcuts; rather it is hard-won experience distilled into a guided tour. It's one of the few books on JS that I'll recommend without hesitation.
- "Alex Russell, TC39 member, software engineer, Google

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm a designer turned front-end developer. I came to this book from Cody Lindley's "JavaScript Enlightenment." These two books in that order should be required reading for all designers picking up JavaScript. Skip "The Good Parts" and "Eloquent" and go straight for these meaty, easy to understand volumes. This is like the big brother of JavaScript Enlightenment. It introduces intermediate to advanced concepts. It's a concise volume with small code examples you can easily follow. Some of the concepts you may not get right away, but each chapter of the book will start simple, offer you something you didn't know about JavaScript, and stretch your understanding a little bit more. You might need to read it twice, but take your time. Like a ballerina doing her

stretches at the bar, you might not feel like you're getting anywhere fast, but you're doing your career a world of good with each stretch you take.

This is hands down the best JavaScript book I have read. It talks about all the expected subjects for a JS book: prototypes, concurrency with asynchronous functions, operators, functions, etc.

However, it combines brevity with deep insight. I wish more technical books were this clear and concise.

TL;DR If you know other languages and want to get into JavaScript this is a great start!!! People ask me how to get started with JavaScript all the time. If they are asking for a book they should get I always recommend JavaScript the Good Parts. Although they might not understand all the concepts in the book the first read. They will get a good idea of what not to do :) Then for a more definitive guide, I recommend JavaScript the Definitive guide, which is HUGE and I couldn't imagine reading the whole thing but it's a great reference! This book kinda hits the sweet spot right in the middle. Just enough information to get someone comfortable in another language up and running with JavaScript.

If you've been looking for an easy way to improve your JavaScript knowledge, this book is for you. Through a series of concise, focused sections, this book takes you through some of the most important best practices and language works you should know for working with JavaScript. The explanations are clear, the examples appropriate, and the selection of topics is sufficiently broad to expose you to important language concepts. This book assumes you already know JavaScript ahead of time, as it dives right into examples. For this reason, the book isn't appropriate as a first book to learn JavaScript. It is most appropriate for those who have already read a couple of beginner books and are ready to take a deeper look at the language.

So far I'm only up to Item 40 in the book but I must say that each item I've read so far gave me insight to the ins and outs of JavaScript that confused me for a while. For example in the book it teaches things like `Object.prototype.toString.call([])` will give you "[object Array]" and this is a way to tell if a variable passed into a function is actually an array. I would highly recommend this book to help clear up stuff like that along with some good tips for general coding in JS (watching out for automatic semicolon insertion, etc...), what the differences between `__proto__`, `prototype` are.

Each of the 68 items are concise and end with clear recommendations for your JavaScript code. There are many code examples--all following best practices and all are easy to understand. Highlights: it covers the power and nuances of Functions and Object Prototypes, Arrays, plain objects and asynchronous logic. It also gives recommendation for creating simple, readable and user-friendly JavaScript libraries that follow the best coding practices.

Our toy language receives the treatment which was deserved only to your Dad's programming language until today. I bought this book in the hope of receiving 'just other book on Javascript that deals with the very same issues and concerns'. Boy, I was so wrong. Following the vein of the classics (effective C++ and effective Java) the coverage is broad and yet every single topic can fill your skull with dense and ready to use Javascript. Instant classic. Alongside with 'Eloquent Javascript' as one the masterpieces of our beloved and hated little language.

The book is full of nuggets and advices, it will benefit even to experimented developers. But it's clearly not a book for beginners as there is few explanations about the basics. Contrary to a lot of JavaScript resources that only demonstrate the quirks of the JavaScript language without explanations, this book provides the missing details and insight. The explanations are short and crystal-clear with useful samples with just enough verbosity. The part about concurrency is one of the best resource on the subject with good use-cases. As a bonus this book is a good introduction to some of the features of ECMAScript 5. The format of the book, with small chapters about a specific topic, is really pleasant. It can be browsed randomly as the different chapters are often independent, and when this is not the case they are correctly referenced, so it's perfect to use it as a reference. This book is a must-have for any serious/professional JavaScript developer. The display is perfect on the Kindle (text and code-source).

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