

# 12 Keys to Professional JavaScript in 2016 by Cory House

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## 12 Keys: Blog post at [bit.ly/12keysjs](http://bit.ly/12keysjs)

1. **Separate File** - The foundation for all the goodness below. Cached. Reusable. Provides superior tooling experience.
2. **Static** - Do not use C#, Java, Ruby, etc to write JS. Inject dynamism via data instead (JSON)
3. **Minified** – Automatically via build. Save bandwidth. Speed loads. Generate sourcemaps automatically for debugging.
4. **Linted** – Enforce rules, avoid typos, move faster, catch errors quicker.
5. **Automated tests** – They're not just for the server, ya know. Check out Mocha.
6. **Encapsulated** – Avoid the global namespace. Use ES6 modules or CommonJS
7. **Explicit dependencies** – Use commonJS' require in ES5, or imports in ES6
8. **Transpile** – Use TypeScript or Babel. There's very little downside. Lot's of upside.
9. **Automated build** – Don't try to do all this manually. Automate it all to a single command via Gulp, or better yet, npm scripts.
10. **Use libraries** – Stand on the shoulder of giants. Do not attempt to build apps from scratch. Use frameworks and libraries liberally. npm is your friend.
11. **Separate Concerns** – Keep your presentation, logic, and data access (api calls) separate. Yes, this principle applies on the client too! When you write full client-side apps, this really matters.
12. **Use Starter Kit** – Don't try to stand up each new project from scratch. Check out the starter kits for your framework or lib of choice and build your own. Each new project will start with a better foundation! Using React? Check out React Slingshot at [github.com/coryhouse/react-slingshot](https://github.com/coryhouse/react-slingshot)

### Is Your Team Writing Clean Code?

I offer on-site training sessions on Clean Code, Front-end Development and Software Architecture. Sessions vary from 1 hour to multiple days. [bitnative.com/training](http://bitnative.com/training)