

# 13 Useful Javascript Syntax Highlighting Scripts

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A **Syntax Highlighter** allows you to easily post **syntax-highlighted source code** to your site without losing its formatting or making any manual changes. **Syntax highlighting** is very important especially when we want to show our code example on the blog. By enabling the syntax highlighting on your blog, readers can read the code blocks easier.

## Why Use Syntax Highlighting?

```
view plain copy to clipboard print ?
01. <pre class="code">
02.   <code class="javascript">
03.     // my code
04.   </code>
05. </pre>
06.
07. <pre class="code">
08.   <code class="css boc-nocontrols">
09.     body {
10.       font-size: 2em;
11.     }
12.   </code>
13. </pre>
```

When sharing codes on a website, even they are wrapped with `<code>` `</code>` tags or styled differently, it is always a challenge to read them without **syntax highlighting**. There are various syntax highlighters which can format the codes & color them appropriately according to the languages used. Whether it is a HTML page or runs on PHP, Ruby, Python, ASP, there is a suitable **syntax highlighter**. Here is a collection of 13 syntax highlighter scripts to beautify code presentation on the web. There are a lot of free and useful syntax highlighting scripts around us. Most of the scripts are written using Javascripts, though some of them are powered by other programming languages such as Python or Ruby.

## **GeSHi** (Generic Syntax Highlighter - With PHP)

GeSHi is a powerful syntax highlighter script that supports almost every language. GeSHi features XHTML compliant output with CSS. It was first created for phpBB forum software but became a project itself. It requires PHP to run however there is a hack to make it work under ASP as well.

## **SyntaxHighlighter** (With JS)

This is a flexible & extensible syntax highlighter built with JavaScript. It supports a wide range of languages from CSS to PHP or C++ to SQL. Syntax Highlighter offers ready-to-use themes and new ones can be created easily for a custom presentation. It has support for 3rd party applications like Blogger, Wordpress, Joomla & many others.

## **Google Code Prettify** (With JS)

This is the script used by the Google Code website. The script auto-detects the language used and highlights the code accordingly. It is also customizable via CSS. There is also an AS3 port to this code highlighting script named as3 syntaxhighlight.

## **Highlight.js** (With JS)

Highlight.js is very easy to use because it works automatically: finds blocks of code, detects a language, highlights it. It has support for 3rd party applications and provides a Firefox extension for viewing code that doesn't have syntax highlighting.

## **SHJS** - Syntax Highlighting in JavaScript (With JS)

SHJS uses language definitions from GNU Source-highlight. This gives SHJS the ability to highlight source code written in many different languages.

## **Chili** (With jQuery)

Chili is a code highlighter plugin for jQuery. It works very fast & can be totally customized. It comes bundled with support for popular languages & the download package has examples on usage.

## **beautyOfCode** (With jQuery)

This jQuery syntax highlighter plugin uses Alex Gorbachev's Syntax Highlighter but with a twist: produces more xhtml-compliant codes.

## **Lighter.js** (With MooTools)

Lighter.js is a MooTools-based code highlighter that can create outputs in various formats like ordered lists and tables. It has a GeSHi-like class naming & requires MooTools 1.2.1+

## **DIHighlight**

DIHighlight is a simple syntax highlighting scripts that supports only 4 programming languages: JavaScript, CSS, XML, HTML.

## **ColourCode** (With Ruby)

ColourCode is written in Ruby. It can read a source file and generate a syntax highlighted version in various formats.

## **Ultraviolet** (With Ruby)

Ultraviolet is a syntax highlighting engine that runs on Ruby. It has support for 50+ languages & 20+ themes.

## **Pygments** (With Python)

It is a syntax highlighter that is built with Python. Pygments supports a wide range of languages, various output formats & it is usable as a command-line tool or as a library.

## **JUSH** (jQuery syntax highlighting)

JUSH is yet another jQuery syntax highlighting plugin which supports different programming languages such as HTML, CSS, PHP, PY and SQL.

Online URL:

<https://www.articlediary.com/article/13-useful-javascript-syntax-highlighting-scripts-179.html>