Functions

Functions

- Functions are bits of codes that you can reuse

- Functions have a special syntax

```
function functionName(parameters){
    code you want to run

}
```

Function Declaration

```
function welcomeMsg(){
    alert("Welcome to JavaScript!);
}
```

```
function welcomeMsg(msg){
    alert(msg);
}
```

Function call

- Declaring a function doesn't actual do anything

- You need to **call** the function

- Calling a function changes the program flow

```
var x = "Hello";
welcomeMsg(x);
x = "Goodbye";
welcomeMsg(x);
```

```
function welcomeMsg(msg){
    alert(msg);
}
```

Parameters

- Sometimes functions need some information in order to perform its "function"

- The names of the parameters are not important, as long as you are consistent

Return values

- Some function return values

- These values can be used in assignment statements or conditional expressions

Return values

```
function welcomeMsg(msg){
    alert(msg);
    var name  = prompt("What is your name?);
    return name;
}
```

```
var firstName = welcomeMsg("Hi");
```

Review

- Whenever possible, use built in functions

- When you need to write your own function, try not to be too specific

- Function parameters can have any name

Acknowledgements/Contributions

These slides are Copyright 2015- Colleen van Lent as part of http://www.intro-webdesign.com/ and made available under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial 4.0 License. Please maintain this last slide in all copies of the document to comply with the attribution requirements of the license. If you make a change, feel free to add your name and organization to the list of contributors on this page as you republish the materials.

Initial Development: Colleen van Lent , University of Michigan School of Information