

## ECMA TC39 Working Group - Futures list, as of 1999.03.30

This list records the working group's current list of work items (major topics) for ECMA 262, 4th edition (E4), and beyond.

### Provisionally agreed items for 4th Edition

- Modularity enhancements: classes, types, modules, libraries, packages, *etc.*
- Internationalization (I18N) items:
  - Non-normative description of Internationalization library [possibly as a separate ECMA technical report]
- Exceptions and runtime errors
  - Catch guards
- Decimal arithmetic (enhanced or alternative Number object)
- Atomic (thread-safe) operations discussion/definition (possibly non-normative)
- Miscellaneous enhancements [other than modularity]:
  - Declaration qualifiers
  - Extensible syntax (*e.g.*, use of # for RGB values)
  - Units syntax and arithmetic library

### Items for 5th or later edition

- Conditional compilation and/or includes
- Date (as presented by Borland in 1997)
- Generic sequence operations on a string or an array, such as [1..6] or [1, ...] -- "slice and splice syntax"
- Normative Internationalization (I18N) library
- JVM interoperability (and CORBA, COM, *etc.*)
- Persistence (in some form), and toSource (as a way to make objects persistent)

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1999.04.08.