

Web Development Study Guide

1. HTTP & Web Fundamentals

1.1 HTTP Request Lifecycle

Be able to describe step-by-step what happens when a user types a URL and hits Enter:

1. **URL Parsing**
 - Browser parses the URL into protocol, domain, port (optional), path, and query string.
2. **DNS Resolution**
 - Browser checks cache or queries a DNS server to resolve the domain to an IP address.
3. **TCP (and TLS) Connection**
 - Browser opens a TCP connection to the server at that IP on the appropriate port (80 for HTTP, 443 for HTTPS).
 - For HTTPS, performs the TLS handshake to establish an encrypted channel.
4. **HTTP Request**
 - Browser sends an HTTP request consisting of:
 - Request line: method + path + HTTP version (e.g., GET /home HTTP/1.1)
 - Headers: Host, User-Agent, Accept, Cookie, etc.
 - Optional body (for methods like POST, PUT, PATCH).
5. **Server Handling**
 - Server receives the request and routes it (via a web server or application framework).
 - Application executes logic: authentication, fetching/updating data from a database, applying business rules.
6. **HTTP Response**
 - Server returns:
 - Status line: e.g., HTTP/1.1 200 OK
 - Headers: Content-Type, Set-Cookie, Cache-Control, etc.
 - Body: often HTML, JSON, or other data.
7. **Browser Rendering**
 - Browser parses the HTML and builds the **DOM**.
 - Parses CSS and builds the **CSSOM**.
 - Combines DOM + CSSOM → **Render Tree**.
 - Performs layout and painting to display the page.
 - Executes JavaScript, which can further modify the DOM.

- As HTML is parsed, browser issues additional HTTP requests for CSS, JS, images, fonts, etc.
-

1.2 Statelessness and Cookies

Stateless HTTP:

- Each HTTP request is independent.
- The server does not remember past requests by default.
- There is no built-in concept of “logged-in user” or “session” between requests.

How Cookies bridge the gap:

- A **cookie** is a small key-value pair stored in the browser.
- Server sets cookies using the `Set-Cookie` response header.
- Browser stores them and sends them back on each request via the `Cookie` header.
- Cookies often contain:
 - Session IDs (which the server maps to user state).
 - Preference information.
 - Security tokens (carefully handled).
- Cookie attributes:
 - `Secure`: only sent over HTTPS.
 - `HttpOnly`: not accessible via JavaScript (protects from XSS).
 - `SameSite`: controls cross-site sending behavior.

1.3 HTTP Methods

GET vs POST (beyond “retrieve” vs “send”):

- **Data visibility**
 - GET: sends data in the URL (path + query string). Visible in the address bar, logs, and browser history.
 - POST: sends data in the request body. Not visible in the URL.
 - **Caching**
 - GET: generally cacheable by default; browsers and proxies may cache responses.
 - POST: not cacheable by default.
 - **Idempotency / Semantics**
 - GET: should be **safe** (no side effects) and **idempotent**.
 - POST: not necessarily idempotent (repeated POSTs can create multiple resources).
-

PUT vs PATCH:

- **PUT**
 - Intended as a **full replacement** of the resource.
 - Client sends the entire representation.
 - Often treated as idempotent.
 - **PATCH**
 - Intended for **partial update**.
 - Payload describes only the changes (e.g., only one field updated).
 - Often used when sending JSON “patch” operations or partial user updates.
-

1.4 HTTP Headers: Content-Type vs Accept

- **Content-Type**
 - Describes the format of the **body being sent** in the request/response.
 - Example (request): Content-Type: application/json means “the body I’m sending is JSON.”
 - Example (response): Content-Type: text/html means “the body you’re receiving is HTML.”
 - **Accept**
 - Sent by the **client** to say what formats it can handle in the response.
 - Example: Accept: application/json, text/html.
-

1.5 HTTP Status Codes

4xx vs 5xx Errors:

- **4xx – Client errors**
 - The request is bad from the client’s side.
 - Examples:
 - 401 Unauthorized: client is not authenticated (e.g., missing or invalid token).
 - 403 Forbidden: client is authenticated but not allowed to access that resource.
 - 404 Not Found: server cannot find the requested resource.
 - **5xx – Server errors**
 - The request was valid, but the server failed to process it.
 - Example:
 - 500 Internal Server Error: an unexpected error occurred on the server (uncaught exception, DB failure, etc.).
-

3xx – Redirects:

- 3xx codes indicate the client should use a different URL.
 - **301 Moved Permanently**
 - Resource is permanently moved to a new URL.
 - Browsers and search engines update links and cache the new location.
 - **302 Found / Temporary Redirect**
 - Resource is temporarily located at another URL.
 - Clients should keep using the original URL in the future.
-

2. HTML Structure & Semantics

2.1 DOM Tree and HTML

- HTML is text; the browser parses it into a **DOM (Document Object Model)**.
 - The DOM is a **tree of nodes** in memory:
 - Document → <html> → <head> and <body> → nested elements → text nodes.
 - JavaScript interacts with the DOM using APIs like:
 - `document.getElementById`, `querySelector`, `appendChild`, etc.
 - Changes to the DOM in JavaScript immediately affect the rendered page.
-

2.2 Block vs Inline Elements

- **Block-level elements:**
 - Start on a new line.
 - Expand to fill the available horizontal space.
 - Respect width/height and vertical margins.
 - Examples: <div>, <p>, <h1>–<h6>, <section>.
 - **Inline elements:**
 - Flow within a line of text.
 - Only as wide as their content.
 - Width/height properties generally don't apply in the same way.
 - Examples: , <a>, , .
 - **Containment:**
 - Semantically, inline elements should not contain block-level elements (though some browsers may try to fix invalid markup).
-

2.3 Semantic HTML

- Semantic elements convey **meaning**, not just presentation:
 - <header>, <nav>, <main>, <article>, <section>, <aside>, <footer>.
 - Benefits:
 - **Accessibility:**
 - Screen readers can jump between landmarks (e.g., “skip to main content”).
 - Clearer structure for assistive technologies.
 - **SEO:**
 - Search engines better understand what content is important.
 - **Maintainability:**
 - Easier for developers to read and reason about structure.
-

2.4 Forms

Server-side validation (even with HTML5 validation):

- HTML5 validation (`required`, `pattern`, `type="email"`, etc.) is useful for user experience.
 - But front-end validation can be bypassed:
 - Disabled JavaScript.
 - Custom HTTP clients.
 - Server-side validation is necessary for:
 - Security.
 - Data integrity.
 - Consistency across clients.
-

Associating `<label>` and `<input>`:

- Correct association:
 - Using `for` and `id`:
 - `<label for="email">Email</label>`
 - `<input id="email" name="email" type="email">`
 - Or wrapping the input:
 - `<label>`
 - Email
 - `<input name="email" type="email">`
 - `</label>`
 - Why it matters:
 - Clicking the label focuses the input → better usability.
 - Screen readers announce the label with the input → better accessibility.
-

HTML5 input types and mobile browsers:

- Special input types:
 - type="email", type="tel", type="number", type="date", etc.
 - Mobile browsers:
 - Show optimized keyboards (e.g., numeric keypad for number, email keyboard for email).
 - May show native pickers (e.g., date picker).
 - Desktop browsers:
 - Same validation semantics; UI enhancements depend on the browser (e.g., spinners, date widgets).
-

3. CSS Styling & Layout

3.1 Box Model

- Each element's box includes:
 - Content → Padding → Border → Margin.
- Default (box-sizing: content-box):
 - Total width = width + left/right padding + left/right border (plus margin outside that).
- Example:
 - width: 200px; padding: 20px; border: 0;
 - Total width = $200 + 20 + 20 = 240\text{px}$ (plus margins).
- box-sizing: border-box:
 - Sets the **total** width to the declared width (including content, padding, border).
 - Same example with box-sizing: border-box:
 - Total width stays 200px (content shrinks to accommodate padding).

3.2 Specificity & Cascade

- CSS specificity hierarchy:
 1. Inline styles (e.g., style="...") – highest.
 2. ID selectors (#id).
 3. Class/attribute/pseudo-class selectors (.class, [attr], :hover).
 4. Element/pseudo-element selectors (div, p, ::before).
 - If an element is targeted by ID, class, and element selectors:
 - The ID selector wins.
 - If two rules have the same specificity, the one that appears **later** in the stylesheet wins.
-

3.3 Layout Systems: Flexbox vs Grid

- **Flexbox:**
 - One-dimensional layout (either row or column).
 - Best for:
 - Navbars.
 - Toolbars.
 - Aligning items in a single row/column.
 - Simple responsive layouts.
 - **Grid:**
 - Two-dimensional layout (rows and columns).
 - Best for:
 - Complex page layouts.
 - Dashboards.
 - Photo galleries.
 - Any layout where positioning in both directions matters.
-

3.4 Positioning

- `position: relative` on a parent:
 - Keeps the element in normal document flow.
 - Establishes a new containing block for absolutely positioned descendants.
 - `position: absolute` on a child:
 - Removes the element from normal document flow.
 - Positioned relative to the **nearest ancestor** with a non-static position (like `relative`).
 - Uses `top`, `left`, `right`, `bottom` offsets.
-

3.5 Responsive Design & Media Queries

- A responsive site:
 - Adapts layout and design to different screen sizes.
 - Uses flexible units (`%`, `rem`, `vw`, `vh`).
 - Uses media queries to change styles at certain breakpoints.
- Media queries:

```
@media (max-width: 768px) {  
  .nav {  
    flex-direction: column;  
  }  
}
```
- Mobile-first approach:
 - Base styles for small screens.

- Add @media (min-width: ...) rules for larger screens.
-

3.6 CSS Variables

- Declaring:

```
:root {  --main-color: #3498db;}
```
- Using:

```
button {  color: var(--main-color);}
```
- Benefits:
 - Centralized theming.
 - Easy to override in specific components/containers.
 - Variables follow normal CSS cascade and inheritance.

3.7 Pseudo-classes vs Pseudo-elements

- **Pseudo-classes** (state selectors):
 - :hover, :focus, :active, :nth-child(), etc.
 - Represent a state of an existing element.
 - **Pseudo-elements** (sub-part selectors):
 - ::before, ::after, ::first-line, etc.
 - Represent a part of an element (like a virtual element for decorative content).
-

4. JavaScript Core & Logic

4.1 var, let, const and Scope

- `var`:
 - Function-scoped.
 - Hoisted and initialized with `undefined`.
 - Not block-scoped (ignores {} blocks except functions).
- `let` and `const`:
 - Block-scoped (limited to {}).
 - Hoisted but in the temporal dead zone until execution reaches the declaration line.
 - `const` cannot be reassigned.

4.2 Hoisting

- Hoisting is JavaScript's behavior of moving declarations to the top of their scope during compilation.
 - **Function declarations:**
 - Fully hoisted.
 - Can be called before they appear in code.
 - **Function expressions / arrow functions** with const/let:
 - The variable is hoisted but not initialized.
 - Accessing before declaration gives a ReferenceError.
-

4.3 this Context

- In regular functions:
 - this is determined by how the function is called:
 - Method call: obj.method() → this is obj.
 - Standalone: func() → this is undefined in strict mode (or window in non-strict).
 - Explicitly set: func.call(obj), func.apply(obj), func.bind(obj).
 - In arrow functions:
 - this is **lexically bound** to the surrounding scope.
 - Does not create its own this.
-

4.4 Type Coercion: == vs ===

- == (loose equality):
 - Performs type coercion if types differ.
 - Examples:
 - 1 == '1' → true.
 - 0 == '' → true.
 - null == undefined → true.
- === (strict equality):
 - No type coercion; both type and value must match.
 - Examples:
 - 1 === '1' → false.
 - null === undefined → false.
- Unexpected cases often come from using ==; interviews usually expect “always prefer ===.”

4.5 ES6+ Features

Spread vs Rest (...):

- Rest (collect):

```
function myFunc(...args) {  
    // args is an array of all arguments  
}
```
 - Spread (expand):

```
const newArr = [...oldArr, 4, 5];  
const newObj = { ...oldObj, extra: true };
```
-

Template Literals:

- Use backticks:

```
const name = 'Sidney';  
const greeting = `Hello, ${name}!`;
```
 - Advantages:
 - Expression interpolation.
 - Multi-line strings without \n.
 - Tagged templates (advanced).
-

Default Parameters:

- Setting defaults:

```
function greet(name = 'Guest') {  
    console.log(`Hello, ${name}`);  
}
```
 - Behavior:
 - Passing undefined uses the default.
 - Passing null does NOT use the default (value is null).
-

4.6 Strict Mode

- "use strict":
 - Enables stricter parsing and error handling.
 - Examples:
 - Disallows using undeclared variables.
 - Throws errors for assignments to non-writable properties.

- Changes `this` in simple function calls to `undefined` (instead of `window`).
-

5. JavaScript DOM & Asynchronous Programming

5.1 Event Handling

Event Bubbling vs Capturing:

- **Capturing phase:**
 - Event travels from the root (`window/document`) down to the target element.
 - **Target phase:**
 - Event is at the target element.
 - **Bubbling phase:**
 - Event travels from the target back up to the root.
 - `addEventListener(type, handler, { capture: true })` listens in the capturing phase.
 - By default (`capture: false`), listeners handle events in the bubbling phase.
 - `event.stopPropagation()`:
 - Stops further propagation in the current phase.
-

Event Delegation:

- Attach a single listener to a parent element rather than many children.
 - Example: one `click` listener on `` handles clicks on any ``.
 - Benefits:
 - Performance (fewer listeners).
 - Dynamically added children automatically work.
-

5.2 Asynchronous JavaScript

Promises vs Async/Await:

- Promises:
 - `fetch(url).then(...).catch(...)`.
 - Can lead to nested chains.
- Async/await:
 - Syntactic sugar over Promises.
 - Makes async code look synchronous:
 - `async function loadData() {`
 - `try {`

- const response = await fetch(url);
○ const data = await response.json();
○ } catch (err) {
○ console.error(err);
○ }
○ }
 - Error handling with `try/catch` is more familiar and readable.
-

Fetch API and errors:

- `fetch()` returns a Promise that:
 - **Rejects** on network errors (no response).
 - **Resolves** even for HTTP errors like 404 or 500.
 - You must check `response.ok` or `response.status` yourself:
 - `const res = await fetch(url);`
 - `if (!res.ok) {`
 - `// handle HTTP error`
 - }
-

5.3 JSON Handling

- Valid JSON supports:
 - Objects, arrays, numbers, strings, booleans, `null`.
 - Cannot represent:
 - Functions.
 - `undefined`.
 - Symbols.
 - Use `JSON.stringify()` to send data; use `JSON.parse()` (or `response.json()`) to read it back.
-

6. TypeScript

6.1 TypeScript vs JavaScript

- TypeScript:
 - Superset of JavaScript adding static typing and type-checking.
 - TypeScript compiler:
 - Checks types at build time (not runtime).
 - Compiles TS into plain JavaScript that browsers can run.
 - Browsers do not run TypeScript natively.
-

6.2 any vs unknown

- any:
 - Opts out of type checking.
 - You can do anything with it (call it, access properties) without errors from TypeScript.
- unknown:
 - Safer alternative.
 - You must narrow it (e.g., using `typeof`, `instanceof`, or custom type guards) before using properties or methods.

Example:

```
let value: unknown;
if (typeof value === 'string') {
  value.toUpperCase(); // Now safe
}
```

6.3 Interfaces vs Type Aliases

- Both can describe object shapes:
- interface User {
 - id: number;
 - name: string;
- }
-
- type UserAlias = {
 - id: number;
 - name: string;
- };
- Prefer **interfaces** when:
 - You want declaration merging or extension.
 - You're designing public APIs that may be extended.
- Type aliases are more flexible:
 - Can represent unions, primitives, etc.

6.4 Union Types

- A union type allows a variable to be one of multiple types:
- let id: string | number;
- You must narrow the type before using it:
- if (typeof id === 'string') {
 - // treat id as string
- }

- Gives flexibility with type safety, unlike many class-based languages.
-

6.5 Tuples

- Tuple example:
 - ```
let pair: [string, number];
```
  - ```
pair = ['age', 25];
```
 - Differences from `(string | number) []`:
 - Tuples have fixed length and types at specific positions.
 - `(string | number) []` can have elements in any order and any length.
-

6.6 Type Guards

- User-defined type guard:
 - ```
function isUser(obj: any): obj is User {
```
  - ```
    return obj && typeof obj.name === 'string';
```
 - ```
}
```
  - In an `if (isUser(x))` block, TypeScript knows `x` is `User`.
- 

## 6.7 Generics

- Generic array of strings:
  - ```
const names: Array<string> = [];
```
 - Generics make functions reusable:
 - ```
function identity<T>(value: T): T {
```
  - ```
    return value;
```
 - ```
}
```
  - Constraints with `extends`:
  - ```
function logLength<T extends { length: number }>(value: T) {
```
 - ```
 console.log(value.length);
```
  - ```
}
```
-

6.8 `keyof`, Mapped Types, Utility Types

- `keyof`:
- ```
interface User {
```
- ```
    id: number;
```
- ```
 name: string;
```
- ```
}
```
- ```
type UserKeys = keyof User; // 'id' | 'name'
```

- Mapped types:
  - ```
type ReadonlyUser = {
  [K in keyof User]: Readonly<User[K]>;
};
```
 - Utility types:
 - `Partial<T>`: all properties optional.
 - `Pick<T, K>`: only selected properties.
 - `Omit<T, K>`: exclude specific properties.
 - Example use:
 - `Partial<User>` for update operations where not all fields are required.
-

6.9 `tsconfig.json` Target

- `target` specifies the JavaScript version the TS compiler outputs:
 - e.g., ES5, ES2015 (ES6), ES2020.
 - Affects:
 - Syntax transforms (arrow functions, classes).
 - Feature availability and polyfills.
 - Lower targets support older browsers but produce more verbose code.
-

7. React: Core Concepts & Components

7.1 Virtual DOM

- Virtual DOM:
 - An in-memory representation of the UI.
 - On state changes:
 - React creates a new virtual DOM tree.
 - Differs it with the previous tree.
 - Applies minimal real DOM updates (reconciliation).
 - Benefits:
 - Fewer direct DOM operations.
 - Performance and predictability.
-

7.2 JSX

- JSX:
 - Syntax extension that looks like HTML in JavaScript.
 - Compiled to `React.createElement()` calls.

- Browsers cannot read JSX directly; build tools (Babel) transform it into JavaScript.
-

7.3 Props vs State

- Props:
 - Inputs from parent components.
 - Read-only from the child's perspective.
 - State:
 - Internal data managed by the component.
 - Updated using `setState` (class) or `useState` (function).
 - Changes trigger re-renders.
-

7.4 Unidirectional Data Flow

- Data flows **down** from parents to children via props.
 - Children notify parents via callback functions.
 - No automatic two-way binding; this makes data flow predictable and easier to debug.
-

7.5 Controlled vs Uncontrolled Components

- Controlled:
 - Form input values are driven by React state.
 - `value={stateValue}`, `onChange` updates state.
 - React is the single source of truth.
 - Uncontrolled:
 - Form values are stored in the DOM.
 - Access via refs when needed.
 - Less control; typically used for simple forms.
-

7.6 Keys in Lists

- Keys help React track items in a list across renders.
- Good keys: stable, unique identifiers from data.
- Using array index as key can cause:
 - Incorrect item reuse when order changes.
 - Input fields showing wrong data.
 - Animation and state mismatch issues.

7.7 Synthetic Events

- React wraps native events in a SyntheticEvent for:
 - Cross-browser consistency.
 - Performance optimizations.
 - Behaves like native events but standardized.
-

8. React: Hooks, Lifecycle & State Management

8.1 Rules of Hooks

- Only call hooks:
 - At the top level of React function components or custom hooks.
 - Never inside loops, conditions, or nested functions.
 - Reason:
 - React relies on call order to associate hook calls with internal state.
-

8.2 `useEffect` and Dependency Arrays

- `useEffect(effect):`
 - Runs after every render by default.
 - `useEffect(effect, []):`
 - Runs only once after the initial render (`componentDidMount`).
 - `useEffect(effect, [dep1, dep2]):`
 - Runs on initial render and whenever any dependency changes.
 - Returning a cleanup function:
 - Runs before the effect re-runs and on unmount.
 - Use it to remove event listeners, cancel timers, etc.
-

8.3 `useContext`

- Context solves the problem of **prop drilling** (passing props through many layers).
 - `useContext(SomeContext)` lets a component read values from the context provider without manual prop passing.
-

8.4 `useRef` VS `useState`

- `useState`:
 - Stores state.
 - Updating state triggers a re-render.
 - `useRef`:
 - Holds a mutable `.current` value.
 - Updating `.current` does not trigger a re-render.
 - Common uses:
 - Storing DOM elements.
 - Storing timer IDs.
 - Storing previous values.
-

8.5 `useMemo` VS `useCallback`

- `useMemo`:
 - Memoizes a **computed value** based on dependencies.
 - Example: expensive calculations.
 - `useCallback`:
 - Memoizes a **function** based on dependencies.
 - Helps prevent unnecessary re-renders when passing functions to child components.
-

8.6 State Lifting

- When two sibling components need shared data:
 - Move the shared state up to their closest common parent.
 - Parent holds state; passes it down as props.
 - Children communicate changes via callbacks.
-

8.7 `React.memo`

- `React.memo(Component)`:
 - Memoizes a functional component.
 - Skips re-render if props haven't changed (shallow comparison).
 - Useful for performance optimizations with pure components.
-

8.8 Global State & Flux/Redux Concept

- Flux pattern:
 - **Actions:** describe what happened.
 - **Reducers:** pure functions that take (state, action) → new state.
 - **Store:** holds global state.
 - In Redux-like systems:
 - State changes only via dispatched actions and reducers.
 - Reducers must be pure (no side effects).
 - Makes state changes predictable and easier to debug.
-

8.9 Advanced React Patterns

Higher-Order Components (HOCs):

- Function that takes a component and returns a new component.
- Used to share logic across components before hooks.
- Today, often replaced by custom hooks for logic sharing.

React Portals:

- Allow rendering children into a different part of the DOM.
- Used for modals, tooltips, dropdowns that need to escape parent stacking/overflow contexts.

Error Boundaries:

- Class components that catch errors in child components during rendering.
- Use `getDerivedStateFromError` and `componentDidCatch` to show fallback UI.

Code Splitting & Suspense:

- `React.lazy()` + `<Suspense>` allow lazy-loading components.
 - Improves initial load time by only loading heavy components when needed.
 - While loading, Suspense shows a fallback (spinner, skeleton, etc.).
-

9. Angular: Architecture & RxJS (High-Level)

(If you're focusing mostly on React, treat this as "bonus".)

9.1 Angular SPA Architecture

- Single index.html with a root element (e.g., `<app-root>`).
 - Angular bootstraps the root module or standalone component into that element.
 - Angular handles routing on the client side for SPA behavior.
-

9.2 Component, Module, and Decorators

- Component:
 - Class + template + styles + metadata (`@Component`).
 - NgModule:
 - Groups components, directives, pipes, providers.
 - Declares, imports, and exports building blocks.
 - Decorators (`@Input`, `@Output`):
 - `@Input`: parent → child data.
 - `@Output`: child → parent events via `EventEmitter`.
-

9.3 Data Binding, Directives, Pipes

- Data binding:
 - Interpolation: `{{ value }}`
 - Property binding: `[property]="value"`
 - Event binding: `(event)="handler($event)"`
 - Two-way: `[ngModel]="value"`
 - Directives:
 - Structural (`*ngIf`, `*ngFor`): add/remove DOM elements.
 - Attribute (`ngClass`, `ngStyle`): change appearance/behavior.
 - Pipes:
 - Transform values in templates (e.g., `{{ amount | currency }}`).
-

9.4 Services, Dependency Injection & RxJS

- DI:
 - Services injected into components.
 - `@Injectable({ providedIn: 'root' })` for app-wide singletons.
- Observables (RxJS):
 - Streams of values over time.
 - Used for HTTP, events, and more.
 - Advantages: multiple values, cancellation, operators like `map`, `switchMap`, etc.
- Subjects:
 - Both observer and observable, you can `next()` values.

- `BehaviorSubject` holds current value and emits it to new subscribers.
 - Async pipe:
 - `{} data$ | async` automatically subscribes/unsubscribes to Observables in templates.
-

9.5 Angular Forms, Routing, and Optimization

- Template-driven vs Reactive forms:
 - Template-driven: logic mostly in templates, good for simple forms.
 - Reactive: form model in TypeScript, better for complex validation and testing.
- Routing:
 - Route guards (`CanActivate`) to protect routes.
 - Resolvers to load data before route activation.
 - Lazy loading modules using `loadChildren` for performance.
- Performance:
 - `ChangeDetectionStrategy.OnPush` for manual, optimized re-rendering.
 - ViewEncapsulation modes for CSS scoping.
 - `Zone.js` tracks async tasks to trigger change detection.

10. Design & Wireframing

10.1 Fidelity Levels

- Low-fidelity:
 - Rough sketches/wireframes.
 - Focus on layout, user flow, information structure.
 - Avoid detailed colors and typography at this stage.
- High-fidelity:
 - Detailed visuals, final colors, fonts, spacing.
 - Used later to communicate near-final design.
- Focusing on visual details too early:
 - Can distract from fixing major UX flaws.
 - May cause you to overinvest in designs that will change.

10.2 Purpose of Wireframes

- Primary goal:
 - Map out user flows, page structure, and information hierarchy.
 - Get alignment on what goes where and how users move through the product.

- Not meant to be:
 - Final visual design.
 - Pixel-perfect or branded.
-

Less Detail:

Web Dev Interview Cram Sheet

HTTP & Web Fundamentals

HTTP Lifecycle – URL → Page

- Parse URL → resolve **DNS** to IP.
 - Open **TCP** (and **TLS** for **HTTPS**) connection.
 - Send **HTTP request**: request line + headers + optional body.
 - Server routes request → runs app logic → talks to DB/services.
 - Server sends **HTTP response**: status line + headers + body (HTML/JSON/etc).
 - Browser:
 - Parses HTML → builds **DOM**.
 - Loads CSS → **CSSOM**; runs JS.
 - Requests additional assets (CSS, JS, images, fonts).
 - Layout + paint → page rendered.
-

Statelessness & Cookies

- **Stateless**: each HTTP request is independent; server doesn't remember previous ones.
 - No built-in "logged-in user" or session across requests.
 - **Cookies**:
 - Small key-value pairs stored in browser.
 - Server sets via `Set-Cookie`; browser sends via `Cookie`.
 - Contain session IDs/tokens that server uses to restore user state.
 - Attributes: `Secure`, `HttpOnly`, `SameSite`, `Expires`/`Max-Age`.
-

GET vs POST

- **Data location**:
 - GET: data in URL (query string); visible in address bar/logs.
 - POST: data in body; not visible in URL.
- **Caching**:
 - GET: cacheable by default.
 - POST: typically not cached.
- **Semantics / idempotency**:

- GET: safe + idempotent (no state changes).
 - POST: not necessarily idempotent (multiple POSTs can duplicate).
-

PUT vs PATCH

- **PUT:**
 - Replace entire resource.
 - Client sends full representation.
 - Typically idempotent.
 - **PATCH:**
 - Partial update; send only changes.
 - Semantically “modify existing resource.”
-

Content-Type vs Accept

- **Content-Type:**
 - Describes **body format being sent** (request or response).
 - e.g., Content-Type: application/json.
 - **Accept:**
 - Client’s preferred **response formats**.
 - e.g., Accept: application/json, text/html.
-

4xx vs 5xx + Examples

- **4xx:** client errors (problem with request).
 - 401 Unauthorized: not authenticated (missing/invalid token).
 - 403 Forbidden: authenticated but not allowed.
 - 404 Not Found: resource doesn’t exist.
 - **5xx:** server errors (server failed).
 - 500 Internal Server Error: unhandled exception/bug/DB crash.
-

3xx / 301 vs 302

- **3xx:** redirection; client should use another URL.
- **301 Moved Permanently:**
 - Permanent new location.
 - Browsers/SEO update links and cache redirect.
- **302 Found / Temporary Redirect:**

- Temporary move.
 - Clients continue using original URL in future.
-

HTML Structure & Semantics

DOM Tree

- Browser parses HTML into **DOM**: a tree of nodes (elements, text, etc.) in memory.
 - JavaScript manipulates the DOM via `document.*` APIs.
 - DOM is the live structure the browser uses to render the page.
-

Block vs Inline

- **Block elements** (`<div>`, `<p>`, `<h1>`):
 - Start on a new line.
 - Fill available width.
 - Respect width/height and vertical margins.
 - **Inline elements** (``, `<a>`, ``):
 - Flow inside text.
 - Only as wide as content.
 - Width/height behave differently.
 - Semantically, inline **should not contain** block elements.
-

Semantic HTML / Accessibility / SEO

- Use `<header>`, `<nav>`, `<main>`, `<article>`, `<section>`, `<footer>` instead of only `<div>`.
 - **Accessibility**:
 - Screen readers navigate by landmarks.
 - Clear structure for assistive tech.
 - **SEO**:
 - Search engines better understand content and hierarchy.
-

Form Validation

- HTML5 attributes (`required`, `type="email"`, `pattern`) give **client-side** validation → better UX.

- Still need **server-side** validation:
 - Client checks can be bypassed.
 - Server must enforce security and data integrity.
-

<label> Tag

- Associate with `for + id`:
`<label for="email">Email</label>`
 - `<input id="email" type="email">`
or wrap input in `<label>`.
 - Benefits:
 - Clicking label focuses input.
 - Screen readers read label with input → better accessibility.
-

HTML5 Input Types & Mobile

- Types: `email`, `number`, `tel`, `date`, etc.
 - Mobile browsers:
 - Show context-specific keyboards and pickers.
 - Desktop:
 - Same semantics; may show spinners/date widgets.
-

CSS Styling & Layout

Box Model + `border-box`

- Box = **content + padding + border + margin**.
 - Default (`content-box`):
 - Total width = width + padding + border (+ margins).
 - Example: width 200px + 20px padding each side → 240px total width (no border).
 - `box-sizing: border-box`:
 - Declared width includes content + padding + border.
 - Same example → total stays 200px; content shrinks.
-

Specificity & Cascade

- Specificity order:
 1. Inline styles
 2. IDs (#id)
 3. Classes/attributes/pseudo-classes (.class, [attr], :hover)
 4. Elements/pseudo-elements (div, ::before)
 - If ID, class, and element all target the same element: **ID wins.**
 - Tie → later rule in CSS wins.
-

Flexbox vs Grid

- **Flexbox:**
 - One-dimensional (row OR column).
 - Best for navbars, toolbars, centering, simple rows/columns.
 - **Grid:**
 - Two-dimensional (rows AND columns).
 - Best for page layouts, dashboards, galleries.
-

Positioning: `absolute` inside `relative`

- Parent: `position: relative`.
 - Stays in normal flow.
 - Becomes containing block.
 - Child: `position: absolute`.
 - Removed from normal flow.
 - Positioned relative to **nearest non-static ancestor** (here, the relative parent) using `top`, `left`, etc.
-

Responsive Design & Media Queries

- Responsive site:
 - Fluid layouts (%), flex, grid).
 - Scales images and text.
 - Uses media queries for breakpoints.
- Media query:
`@media (max-width: 768px) { ... }`
- **Mobile-first:**
 - Base styles for small screens.
 - Use `min-width` breakpoints to enhance for larger screens.

CSS Variables

- Declare:

```
:root { --main-color: #3498db; }
```
 - Use:

```
color: var(--main-color);
```
 - Benefits:
 - Centralized theming; easier global changes.
 - Cascade: variables can be overridden in specific containers (e.g., `.dark-theme { --main-color: black; }`).
-

Pseudo-classes vs Pseudo-elements

- **Pseudo-classes** (`:hover`, `:focus`, `:nth-child`):
 - Represent **state** of an element.
 - **Pseudo-elements** (`::before`, `::after`, `::first-line`):
 - Represent **parts** of an element; can insert decorative content without extra markup.
-

JavaScript Core & Logic

`var` vs `let` vs `const`

- `var`:
 - Function-scoped.
 - Hoisted, initialized as `undefined`.
 - Not block-scoped.
 - `let` and `const`:
 - Block-scoped.
 - Hoisted but not initialized (temporal dead zone).
 - `const` cannot be reassigned.
-

Hoisting

- Declarations are moved to top of scope at compile time.
- Function **declarations**:
 - Fully hoisted; can be called before they appear.

- `const/let` function expressions (e.g., arrow functions):
 - Variable hoisted but uninitialized → accessing before definition throws `ReferenceError`.
-

this Context

- Regular function:
 - `this` depends on call site:
 - `obj.method()` → `this = obj`.
 - `func()` → `this = undefined` in strict mode; `window` otherwise.
 - `.call/.apply/.bind` can override.
 - Arrow function:
 - No own `this`; uses **lexical** `this` from surrounding scope.
-

== vs === (Type Coercion)

- `==`:
 - Coerces types before comparison.
 - e.g. `1 == '1'` → `true`, `0 == ''` → `true`.
 - `=====`:
 - No coercion; must be same type and value.
 - `1 ===== '1'` → `false`.
 - Prefer `=====` to avoid weird coercion bugs.
-

Spread vs Rest

- **Rest (collect)**:
 - `function myFunc(...args) { /* args is array */ }`
 - **Spread (expand)**:
 - `const newArr = [...oldArr, 4, 5];`
 - `const newObj = { ...oldObj, extra: true };`
-

Template Literals

- Use backticks:
- `const message = `Hello, ${name}!`;`
- Features:
 - Expression interpolation.
 - Multi-line strings without `\n`.

- Tagged templates (advanced).
-

Default Parameters

- Syntax:
 - `function greet(name = 'Guest') { ... }`
 - Passing `undefined` → uses default.
 - Passing `null` → value is `null` (no default).
-

```
"use strict"
```

- Enables strict mode:
 - Disallows implicit global vars (e.g., `x = 10`).
 - Throws more errors instead of silently failing.
 - Changes some `this` behavior (`this` is `undefined` in plain functions).
-

JS DOM & Async

Bubbling vs Capturing

- **Capturing**: event goes from root → target.
 - **Bubbling**: event goes from target → root (default phase for listeners).
 - `event.stopPropagation()`:
 - Stops further propagation (in capturing or bubbling).
-

Event Delegation

- Add one listener on a parent (e.g., ``), use `event.target` to detect which child was clicked.
 - Benefits:
 - Fewer event listeners → better performance.
 - Works automatically for dynamically added children.
-

Promises vs Async/Await

- Promises:
 - Use `.then()` / `.catch()`.
 - Async/await:
 - Same underlying Promises; more readable:
 - `try {`
 - `const res = await fetch(url);`
 - `} catch (err) { ... }`
 - Error handling with `try/catch` → resembles synchronous code.
-

Fetch API Errors

- `fetch()`:
 - **Rejects** on network errors only.
 - 404/500 still **resolve**; you must check `response.ok/status`.
 - Typical pattern:
 - `const res = await fetch(url);`
 - `if (!res.ok) throw new Error(res.statusText);`
-

JSON Handling

- Valid JSON types:
 - Object, array, number, string, boolean, null.
 - Cannot represent:
 - Functions, `undefined`, Symbols, class methods.
 - Convert:
 - `JSON.stringify(obj)` → string.
 - `JSON.parse(str)` or `response.json()` → JS value.
-

TypeScript

TS vs JS

- TypeScript is a typed superset of JS.
 - TS compiler:
 - Type-checks your code.
 - Compiles TS → plain JS.
 - Browsers run **JavaScript**, not TypeScript.
-

any VS **unknown**

- `any`:
 - Turns off type checking; you can do anything with it.
 - `unknown`:
 - Must be **narrowed** before use (`typeof`, `instanceof`, type guards).
 - Safer because you can't accidentally misuse it.
-

Interfaces vs Type Aliases

- Both can define object shapes.
 - Prefer **interface** when:
 - You want declaration merging.
 - You expect others to extend it.
 - Use **type** when:
 - You need unions, intersections, or more complex type compositions.
-

Union Types

- Type can be one of several types:
 - `let id: string | number;`
 - Must narrow before using:
 - `if (typeof id === 'string') { ... }`
-

Tuples

- Fixed length + fixed types per position:
 - `let pair: [string, number];`
 - Different from `(string | number) []`, which allows any length and order.
-

Type Guards

- Function returning `arg` is `Type`:
 - ```
function isUser(x: any): x is User {
 return x && typeof x.name === 'string';
}
• Inside if (isUser(obj)) {}, TS treats obj as User.
```
- 

## Generics & Constraints

- Array of strings (generic syntax):
  - ```
const arr: Array<string> = [];
```
 - Generic function:
 - ```
function identity<T>(value: T): T { return value; }
```
  - Constraint:
  - ```
function logLength<T extends { length: number }>(val: T) {
```
 - ```
 console.log(val.length);
```
  - ```
}
```
-

keyof, Mapped Types, Utilities

- `keyof`:
- ```
type Keys = keyof User; // 'id' | 'name' | ...
```
- Mapped types:
- ```
type ReadonlyUser = { [K in keyof User]: Readonly<User[K]> };
```
- Utilities:
 - `Partial<T>`: all props optional (good for updates).
 - `Pick<T, K>`: only props K.
 - `Omit<T, K>`: all except K.

tsconfig target

- Controls JS version output (ES5, ES2015, ES2020, etc.).
- Affects:
 - Syntax transforms.
 - Which features are downleveled for older environments.

React: Core Concepts & Components

Virtual DOM & Diffing

- Virtual DOM:
 - In-memory representation of UI.
 - On state change:
 - React builds new VDOM.
 - Diffs vs previous VDOM.
 - Applies minimal changes to real DOM (reconciliation).
 - Fewer direct DOM ops → better performance.
-

JSX

- JSX is syntax sugar for `React.createElement`.
 - Not understood by browsers; compiled (e.g., via Babel) to JS function calls.
-

Props vs State

- **Props:**
 - Inputs from parent.
 - Read-only in child.
 - **State:**
 - Internal data managed by component (`useState`).
 - Changes trigger re-render.
-

Unidirectional Data Flow

- Data flows **down** via props.
 - Children notify parents via callbacks (functions passed as props).
 - Makes state flow predictable and easier to debug.
-

Controlled vs Uncontrolled Components

- Controlled:
 - Input value controlled by React state (`value`, `onChange`).
 - Source of truth is state.
 - Uncontrolled:
 - DOM manages the input value; access via refs.
 - Controlled is generally recommended for non-trivial forms.
-

Keys in Lists

- `key` identifies list items across renders.
 - Good key: stable, unique ID from data.
 - Using index:
 - Breaks when reordering/inserting items.
 - Can cause incorrect re-use of DOM nodes (weird bugs).
-

Synthetic Events

- React wraps native events in SyntheticEvent.
 - Provides consistent cross-browser behavior.
 - Historically used event pooling; now mostly just a standardized wrapper.
-

React: Hooks & Lifecycle

Rules of Hooks

- Only call hooks:
 - In React function components or custom hooks.
 - At the top level (not inside loops/conditions).
 - React relies on order of hook calls to associate state with them.
-

`useEffect` Dependency Array

- No array: run after every render.
 - []: run once after first render (mount).
 - [dep1, dep2]: run when any dependency changes.
 - Return cleanup function to remove listeners/subscriptions before re-run/unmount.
-

`useContext`

- Avoids prop drilling.
 - Provides global-ish value (theme, user, locale).
 - `useContext(SomeContext)` reads nearest provider's value.
-

`useRef` VS `useState`

- `useState`:
 - Changes trigger re-render.
 - `useRef`:
 - Stores mutable `.current` value without re-rendering.
 - Use for DOM refs, timers, “instance” variables.
-

`useMemo` VS `useCallback`

- `useMemo`:
 - Memoizes a **value**.
 - `const result = useMemo(() => compute(...), [deps]);`
 - `useCallback`:
 - Memoizes a **function**.
 - `const handler = useCallback(() => {...}, [deps]);`
 - Both used for performance optimization (prevent unnecessary recalculations/re-renders).
-

React: State Management & Performance

State Lifting

- When siblings share data:
 - Move state up to closest common parent.
 - Parent holds state and updater.
 - Pass data + callbacks down via props.
-

`React.memo`

- Wraps a component to skip re-render if props are shallowly equal.
 - Good for pure components with heavy render logic.
-

Flux / Redux Concepts

- **Action**: plain object describing what happened.
 - **Reducer**: pure function `(state, action) => newState`.
 - **Store**: holds app state, dispatches actions to reducers.
 - Reducers must be pure → easier to test and reason about.
-

React: Advanced Patterns & Scenarios

HOCs vs Custom Hooks

- HOC:

- Function that takes a component and returns a new component with added behavior.
 - Custom hook:
 - Function that encapsulates reusable logic using hooks.
 - Today: prefer custom hooks for logic reuse; simpler component trees.
-

React Portals

- Render children into a DOM node outside the parent hierarchy.
 - Useful for modals, tooltips that must escape parent `overflow`/stacking contexts.
-

Error Boundaries

- Class components that catch errors in `child_render/lifecycle`.
 - Use `getDerivedStateFromError` + `componentDidCatch`.
 - Show fallback UI instead of crashing the whole app.
-

Code Splitting & Suspense

- `React.lazy(() => import('./Comp')) + <Suspense fallback={...}>`.
 - Lazy-loads component code on demand → smaller initial bundle.
 - While loading, Suspense shows the fallback (e.g., spinner).
-

Performance Optimization Scenario (10,000 items)

- Debounce input changes.
 - Memoize filtered results with `useMemo`.
 - Virtualize list (render only visible items) with libraries like `react-window`.
 - Use `React.memo` on list items where appropriate.
-

Testing Scenario (API call on mount)

- Mock API calls:
 - Tests should be fast, deterministic, and not hit real servers.
- Test flow:

- Assert initial “loading” state.
 - Resolve mock → assert final data rendered and loading removed.
-

Angular (High-Level Only – If Needed)

(If you don't need Angular, you can stop here.)

Core Ideas to Remember

- **SPA Architecture:** Angular bootstraps into `<app-root>` in `index.html`.
 - **Components vs Modules:** Components declared in NgModules (unless standalone); modules group components/services/pipes.
 - **Bindings:**
 - `{{ }}` – interpolation.
 - `[prop]` – property binding.
 - `(event)` – event binding.
 - `[(ngModel)]` – two-way binding.
 - **Directives:**
 - Structural (`*ngIf`, `*ngFor`): modify DOM structure.
 - Attribute (`ngClass`, `ngStyle`): modify appearance/behavior.
 - **Pipes:** transform values in templates (`| date`, `| currency`).
 - **DI & Services:**
 - `@Injectable({ providedIn: 'root' })` for app-wide singleton.
 - **Observables:**
 - Streams with RxJS; `subscribe()` needed to execute.
 - `async` pipe in templates auto-subscribes/unsubscribes.
 - **Route Guards:**
 - `CanActivate` to protect routes (e.g., `/dashboard`).
 - **Change Detection:**
 - `OnPush` strategy for performance; triggers on input reference changes/events.
 - **Shared Service for Widget Communication:**
 - Use Subject/BehaviorSubject in a shared service for broadcasting messages to a notification bar.
-

Design & Wireframing

Fidelity Levels

- **Low-fidelity:**
 - Sketches/wireframes.
 - Focus on layout, flow, and information hierarchy.

- **High-fidelity:**
 - Colors, typography, spacing, near-final look.
 - Focusing on visuals too early can hide UX issues and slow iteration.
-

Wireframe Purpose

- Primary goal:
 - Map user flow and information architecture.
 - Decide what goes where and how users move through the app.
 - Not meant to show final polished visuals.
-

Even Less Details:

Web Dev Interview – One-Page Cram Sheet

HTTP & Web Fundamentals

- **Lifecycle (URL → Page):** URL parsed → DNS to IP → TCP/TLS → send request (line + headers + optional body) → server handles (routing + DB) → response (status + headers + body) → browser builds DOM + CSSOM → layout/paint → run JS → load extra assets.
 - **Statelessness & Cookies:** HTTP doesn't remember previous requests. Cookies (`Set-Cookie` / `Cookie`) store session IDs/tokens so the server can associate requests with user state.
 - **GET vs POST:**
 - GET: data in URL, cacheable, safe + idempotent.
 - POST: data in body, not cacheable by default, not idempotent.
 - **PUT vs PATCH:** PUT = full replace (send whole resource, idempotent). PATCH = partial update (send only changes).
 - **Content-Type vs Accept:** `Content-Type` = format of what is **sent**; `Accept` = what client wants in **response**.
 - **4xx vs 5xx:** 4xx = client error (e.g., 401 unauthenticated, 403 unauthorized, 404 missing). 5xx = server error (500 bug/exception).
 - **3xx / 301 vs 302:** 3xx = redirect. 301 = permanent; clients update URL. 302 = temporary; keep original URL.
-

HTML & Semantics

- **DOM Tree:** Browser parses HTML into an in-memory **DOM** tree; JS manipulates this tree to change the UI.
 - **Block vs Inline:** Block (div, p) → new line, full width; inline (span, a) → flow in text. Inline shouldn't contain block.
 - **Semantic Tags:** `<nav>`, `<main>`, `<article>`, `<footer>` improve a11y (screen readers) + SEO + code clarity.
 - **Form Validation:** Client-side (HTML5/JS) for UX; **must** still validate on server for security and integrity.
 - **`<label>`:** `for="id"` or wrap input. Improves focus on click + screen reader announcements.
 - **Input Types:** `email`, `number`, `date`, etc. give better native controls and mobile keyboards.
-

CSS & Layout

- **Box Model:** Total width = content + padding + border (+ margin). `box-sizing: border-box` makes declared width include padding + border.
 - **Specificity:** inline > #id > .class/:hover > element. Tie → last rule wins.
 - **Flexbox vs Grid:** Flexbox = 1D (row OR column). Grid = 2D (rows AND columns).
 - **Positioning:** Parent position: `relative`; child position: `absolute` → positioned relative to that parent, removed from normal flow.
 - **Responsive + Media Queries:** Fluid units + `@media (max-width: ...)`. Mobile-first = base for small screens, enhance with `min-width`.
 - **CSS Variables:** `--var` + `var(--var)` enable theming and easy overrides via cascade.
 - **Pseudo-class vs Pseudo-element:** `:hover/:focus` = element state; `::before/::after` = virtual sub-elements.
-

JavaScript Core

- **var / let / const:** `var` = function-scoped, hoisted. `let/const` = block-scoped, TDZ. `const` not reassignable.
 - **Hoisting:** Function declarations callable before definition; `const/let` function expressions are NOT.
 - **this:** Regular function `this` depends on call site; arrow function `this` is lexical (from surrounding scope).
 - **== vs ===:** `==` coerces; `===` doesn't. Prefer `===` to avoid surprise.
 - **Spread vs Rest:** Rest collects (`function f(...args)`), spread expands (`[...arr], {...obj}`).
 - **Template Literals:** Backticks → ``${expr}`` interpolation + multi-line strings.
 - **Default Params:** `function f(x = 5) {}`; `undefined` triggers default, `null` does not.
 - **"use strict":** Stricter semantics (no implicit globals, safer `this`, more errors instead of silent failures).
-

DOM & Async

- **Bubbling vs Capturing:** Capturing: root → target; bubbling: target → root. Default listeners = bubbling. `stopPropagation()` stops further travel.
- **Event Delegation:** Attach one handler on parent; check `event.target` for child. Fewer listeners + works with dynamic elements.
- **Promises vs Async/Await:** Async/await is syntactic sugar over promises; `try/catch` makes async error handling look synchronous.
- **Fetch + Errors:** `fetch` rejects only on network error; 404/500 still resolve. Must check `response.ok/status`.
- **JSON:** Valid JSON: objects, arrays, numbers, strings, booleans, `null`. No functions/`undefined`/symbols.

TypeScript

- **TS vs JS:** TS adds static types; compiler type-checks then emits plain JS. Browsers run JS only.
 - **any vs unknown:** any = no safety; unknown requires type checks before use, so safer.
 - **Interfaces vs Types:** Both define shapes; interfaces support extension/merging; types handle unions/intersections.
 - **Union Types:** string | number; must narrow with checks before using.
 - **Tuples:** [string, number] = fixed length and positions; different from (string | number) [].
 - **Type Guards:** Functions returning `arg` is `MyType` let TS narrow unions inside conditionals.
 - **Generics + Constraints:** `Array<string>, function f<T>(x: T)`. Use `T extends { length: number }` when you need `.length`.
 - **keyof + Utilities:** `keyof T` = union of property names. `Partial<T>` (all optional), `Pick<T, K>` (subset), `Omit<T, K>` (minus keys).
 - **tsconfig target:** Controls JS version output (ES5/ES2015/ES2022), i.e., what syntax/features TS downlevels.
-

React Core

- **Virtual DOM:** React builds VDOM → diffs with previous → minimal real DOM updates = better performance.
 - **JSX:** Compiles to `React.createElement(...)`; build step converts JSX to JS.
 - **Props vs State:** Props = read-only inputs from parent; state = internal, updated via `setState/useState`.
 - **Unidirectional Data Flow:** Data flows parent→child via props; children report up via callbacks.
 - **Controlled vs Uncontrolled:** Controlled inputs use React state as source of truth. Uncontrolled use DOM value + refs. Controlled usually preferred.
 - **Keys:** Unique, stable `key` for list items so React can track moved/changed items; avoid array index.
-

React Hooks & Performance

- **Rules of Hooks:** Call only at top level of React function components/custom hooks (no loops/ifs), and always in same order.
- **useEffect:** No deps = every render; [] = on mount; [deps] = when deps change. Return cleanup for unsubscriptions/listeners.
- **useContext:** Fixes prop drilling by reading provider value directly.

- **useRef vs useState**: useState triggers re-render; useRef stores mutable value without re-render (DOM nodes, timers, previous values).
 - **useMemo vs useCallback**: useMemo memoizes values; useCallback memoizes function references.
 - **State Lifting**: Move shared state to common parent; pass data + callbacks down to siblings.
 - **React.memo**: Skips re-render if props shallowly equal (for pure components).
 - **Flux/Redux Idea**: Action (what happened) → reducer (pure function) → new state in store; predictable state changes.
 - **Performance Scenario**: Big list + search → debounce input, useMemo filtered results, virtualize list, React.memo row components.
 - **Testing Scenario**: Mock API calls (no real network), test loading state first, then success/error states after mocked resolution.
-

Design & Wireframing

- **Fidelity**: Low-fi = layout & flow; hi-fi = colors, fonts, details. Don't obsess over visuals too early.
- **Wireframe Purpose**: Map user flow and information architecture—not final visual design.