

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.
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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.
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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).
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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.
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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`.
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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.).
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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.
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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.
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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).
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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).
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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 = 240px (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).
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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).
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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`.
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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`.
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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 };`
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Template Literals:

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

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## 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 unsubscribes/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.