

# Router



**React Router** is a library that lets you handle routing (pages/navigation) in React apps — **without reloading the page.**

Install React Router :

```
npm install react-router-dom
```

# <BrowserRouter>



```
<BrowserRouter>  
  <App />  
</BrowserRouter>
```

<BrowserRouter> is a **wrapper component** provided by react-router-dom that enables **client-side routing** in your React app.

## It tells React:

“This app will use URL-based navigation handled entirely by React, not by reloading the browser.”

# Why Do You Need <BrowserRouter>?



React doesn't understand URLs like */about* or */contact* by itself. When you use <Route> and <Link>, **React Router needs to manage the URL and the page view** — that's only possible inside a <BrowserRouter>.

Without it, React throws an error like:  
-> *You cannot use <Route> outside a <Router>*

# Routes, Route, Link & Outlet



**<Routes>** is a container that holds one or more **<Route>** components.

```
<Routes>
  <Route path="/" element={<Home />} />
  <Route path="/about" element={<About />} />
</Routes>
```

**<Link>** lets you navigate **without reloading the page**.  
It replaces the traditional `<a href="...">` and is React-friendly.

```
<Link to="/about">About Us</Link>
```

**<Outlet />** is like a placeholder where **child routes** (nested pages) will be displayed.

# Routes, Route, Link & Outlet



Element	Purpose
<Routes>	Wraps all route definitions
<Route>	Maps a path to a component
<Link>	Navigates between pages without reload
<Outlet>	Dynamically loads page content inside the main layout

If you want to **highlight active links**, use <NavLink> instead of <Link>:

```
import { NavLink } from 'react-router-dom';

<NavLink to="/about" className={({ isActive }) => isActive ? 'active' : ''}>
  About
</NavLink>
```

# React Context API



Normally in React:

- Data (like theme, language, auth) is passed from **parent** → **child** → **grandchild** using **props**
- This is called **prop drilling** and it becomes painful in large apps

**Context API solves this by:**

- Allowing **global access** to shared data — like theme, user, settings — without prop drilling.

## Real Project: Theme Switcher App

- Uses createContext to store the theme state (light or dark)
- Uses Provider to wrap the app
- Any component can useContext() to read/update the theme