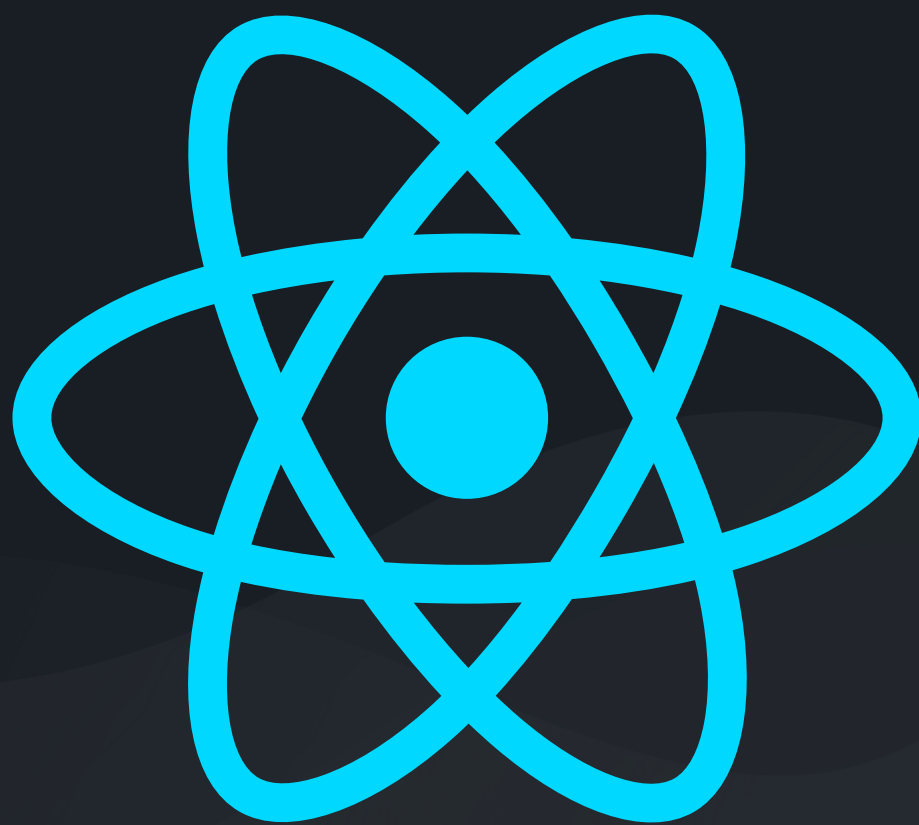


React JS List & Keys

In Detail



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React list & keys

In React, when rendering a **list** of elements (such as an **array of items**), it's important to assign a **unique "key"** prop to each element.

The key prop is a special attribute that **helps React efficiently update and reorder** the elements in the list.



List & keys | Example

```
const items = ["Apple", "Banana", "Orange"];

const listItems = items.map((item) => {
  <li key={item}>{item}</li>)
});

return <ul>{listItems}</ul>;
```

In the example above, the **key={item}** assigns the value of each item in the items array as the **key** for the corresponding list element.



What is a **list** in React?

A list in React refers to an array or **collection of items** that you want to render as components. For **example**, a list of to-do items, a list of products, or a list of blog posts.

Why do we need **keys**?

React uses **keys to identify** individual **elements** in a list. Keys help React understand the relationship between the **previous and current set of items** in the list. They enable React to **update** the list efficiently by identifying added, removed, or moved items accurately.

What makes a **key** **unique**?

Each key in a list should be unique within the scope of that list. Typically, you use an identifier or a unique property from your data source as the key.

How to **assign keys** to list elements?

When rendering a list of elements in React, you need to assign a key prop to each element. You can do this by using the key attribute within the map function.

Why are unique keys important?

Unique keys help React **efficiently update the list** when changes occur. React uses the keys to determine which elements are **added, removed, or reordered**.

Without unique keys, React may have difficulty distinguishing between similar elements, leading to **unexpected behavior** or degraded performance.

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