

React Native



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About the Tutorial

React Native is a JavaScript framework for building native mobile apps. It uses the React framework and offers large amount of inbuilt components and APIs.

Audience

This tutorial is designed for JavaScript and React developers who aspire to learn mobile building skills. By following this course, you will expand your React and JavaScript knowledge, learn some concepts of functional programming, and prepare to enter the mobile world.

Since JavaScript world is moving forward, we will keep up with it and use EC6 syntax in this tutorial.

Prerequisites

To be able to follow this tutorial, you should be familiar with React and have solid JavaScript knowledge. Even if you do not have previous experience with React, you should be able to follow it. In this tutorial, we will explain some fundamental React concepts.

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Core Concepts



1. React Native – Overview

For better understanding of React Native concepts, we will borrow a few lines from the official documentation –

React Native lets you build mobile apps using only JavaScript. It uses the same design as React, letting you compose a rich mobile UI from declarative components. With React Native, you don't build a mobile web app, an HTML5 app, or a hybrid app; you build a real mobile app that's indistinguishable from an app built using Objective-C or Java. React Native uses the same fundamental UI building blocks as regular iOS and Android apps. You just put those building blocks together using JavaScript and React.

React Native Features

Following are the features of React Native:

- **React** This is a Framework for building web and mobile apps using JavaScript.
- **Native** You can use native components controlled by JavaScript.
- **Platforms** React Native supports IOS and Android platform.

React Native Advantages

Follow are the advantages of React Native:

- **JavaScript** You can use the existing JavaScript knowledge to build native mobile apps.
- **Code sharing** You can share most of your code on different platforms.
- **Community** The community around React and React Native is large, and you will be able to find any answer you need.

React Native Limitations

Following are the limitations of React Native:

• **Native Components** – If you want to create native functionality which is not created yet, you will need to write some platform specific code.



2. React Native – Environment Setup

There are a couple of things you need to install to set up the environment for React Native. We will use OSX as our building platform.

S.NO.	Software	Description
1	NodeJS and NPM	You can follow our NodeJS Environment Setup tutorial to install NodeJS.

Step1: Install create-react-native-app

After installing NodeJS and NPM successfully in your system you can proceed with installation of create-react-native-app (globally as shown below).

C:\Users\Tutorialspoint> npm install -g create-react-native-app

Step2: Create project

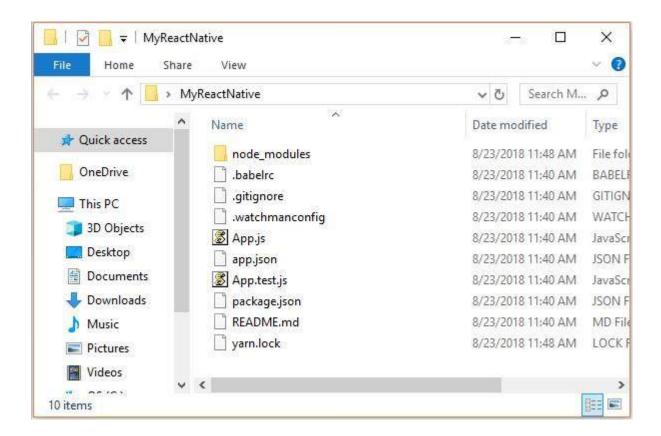
Browse through required folder and create a new react native project as shown below.

C:\Users\Tutorialspoint>cd Desktop

C:\Users\Tutorialspoint\Desktop>create-react-native-app MyReactNative

After executing the above command, a folder with specifies name is created with the following contents.





Step3: NodeJS Python Jdk8

Make sure you have Python NodeJS and jdk8 installed in your system if not, install them. In addition to these it is recommended to install latest version of yarn to avoid certain issues.

Step4: Install React Native CLI

You can install react native command line interface on npm, using the **install -g react-native-cli** command as shown below.

npm install -g react-native-cli



```
yarn start
Starts the development server so you can open your app in the Expo app on your phone.

yarn run ios
(Mac only, requires Xcode)
Starts the development server and loads your app in an iOS simulator

yarn run android
(Requires Android build tools)
Starts the development server and loads your app on a connected Android device or emulator.

yarn test
Starts the test runner.
```

Step5: Start react native

To verify the installation browse through the project folder and try starting the project using the start command.

C:\Users\Tutorialspoint\Desktop>cd MyReactNative
C:\Users\Tutorialspoint\Desktop\MyReactNative>npm start

If everything went well you will get a QR code as shown below.





As instructed, one way to run react native apps on your android devise is to using expo. Install expo client in your android devise and scan the above obtained QR code.

Step6: Eject the project

If you want to run android emulator using android studio, come out of the current command line by pressing **ctrl+c**.

Then, execute run eject command as

```
npm run eject
```

This prompts you options to eject, select the first one using arrows and press enter.

```
We strongly recommend that you read this document before you proceed: 
https://github.com/react-community/create-react-native-app/blob/master
/EJECTING.md

Ejecting is permanent! Please be careful with your selection.

How would you like to eject from create-react-native-app?

React Native: I'd like a regular React Native project.
ExpoKit: I'll create or log in with an Expo account to use React Native and the Expo SDK.
Cancel: I'll continue with my current project structure.
```

Then, you should suggest the name of the app on home screen and project name of the Android studio and Xcode projects.

```
We have a couple of questions to ask you about how you'd like to name yo ur app:

What should your app appear as on a user's home screen? MyReactNative

What should your Android Studio and Xcode projects be called? MyReact Native
Writing your selections to app.json...
Wrote to app.json, please update it manually in the future.
```

Though your project ejected successfully, you may get an error as:



```
Select C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
                                                                  X
Done in 122.03s.
Please consider letting us know why you ejected in this survey:
 https://goo.gl/forms/iD6pl218r7fn9N0d2
The batch file cannot be found.
            ELIFECYCLE
npm
npm
              1
         MyReactNative@0.1.0 eject: `react-native-scripts eject`
npm
         Exit status 1
npm
npm
         Failed at the MyReactNative@0.1.0 eject script.
npm
         This is probably not a problem with npm. There is likely additi
onal logging output above.
         A complete log of this run can be found in:
npm
            C:\Users\Tutorialspoint\AppData\Roaming\npm-cache\ logs\201
8-08-29T07_22_32_459Z-debug.log
```

Ignore this error and run react native for android using the following command-

```
react-native run-android
```

But, before that you need to install android studio.

Step 7: Installing Android Studio

Visit the web page https://developer.android.com/studio/ and download android studio.





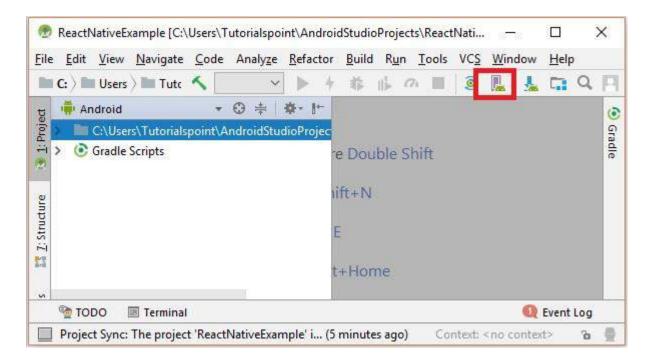
After downloading the installation file of it, double click on it and proceed with the installation.



Step8: Configuring AVD Manager

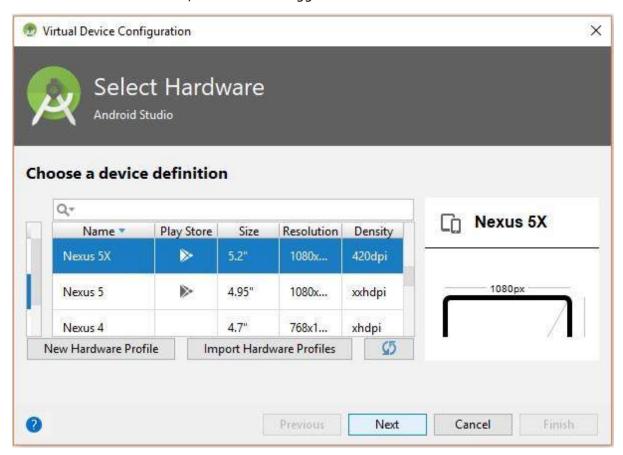
To configure the AVD Manager click on the respective icon in the menu bar.





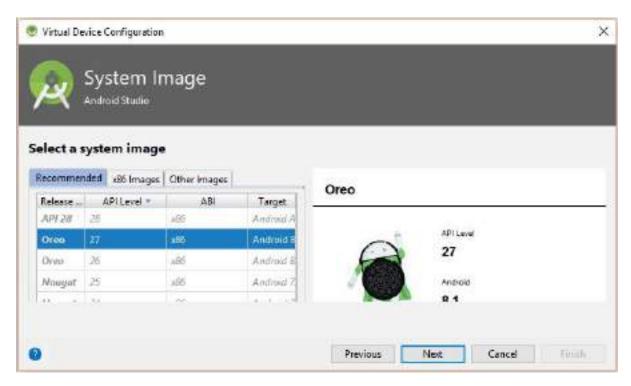
Step9: Configuring AVD Manager

Choose a device definition, Nexus 5X is suggestable.

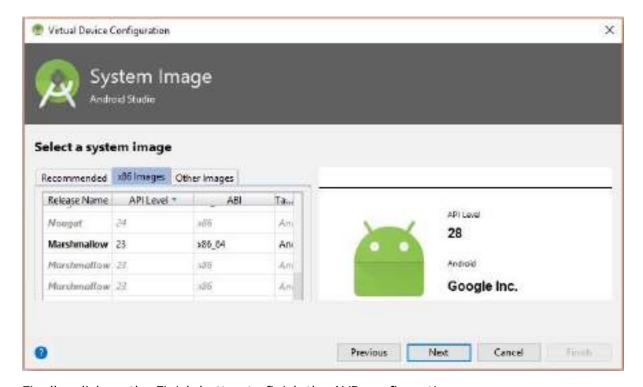


Click on the Next button you will see a System Image window. Select the **x86 Images** tab.





Then, select Marshmallow and click on next.



Finally, click on the Finish button to finish the AVD configuration.





After configuring your virtual device click on the play button under the **Actions** column to start your android emulator.



Step 10: Running android

Open command prompt, browse through your project folder and, execute the **react-native run-android** command.



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe - react-native run-android
                                                                  X
C:\Users\Tutorialspoint\Desktop\MyReactNative>react-native run-android
Scanning folders for symlinks in C:\Users\Tutorialspoint\Desktop\MyReact
Native\node modules (534ms)
Starting JS server...
Building and installing the app on the device (cd android && gradlew.bat
installDebug)...
Incremental java compilation is an incubating feature.
:app:preBuild UP-TO-DATE
:app:preDebugBuild UP-TO-DATE
:app:checkDebugManifest
:app:preReleaseBuild UP-TO-DATE
:app:prepareComAndroidSupportAppcompatV72301Library
:app:prepareComAndroidSupportSupportV42301Library
:app:prepareComFacebookFbuiTextlayoutbuilderTextlayoutbuilder100Library
:app:prepareComFacebookFrescoDrawee130Library
:app:prepareComFacebookFrescoFbcore130Library
:app:prepareComFacebookFrescoFresco130Library
:app:prepareComFacebookFrescoImagepipeline130Library
```

Then, your app execution begins in another prompt you can see its status.

```
which is not a control of the contro
```

In your android emulator you can see the execution of the default app as:





Step 11: local.properties

Open the **android** folder in your project folder **SampleReactNative/android** (in this case). Create a file with named **local.properties** and add the following path in it.

```
sdk.dir = /C:\\Users\\Tutorialspoint\\AppData\\Local\\Android\\Sdk
```

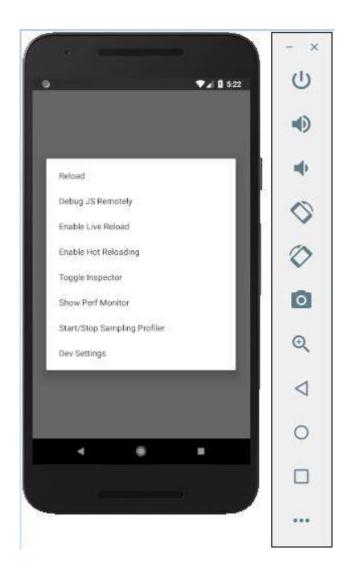
here, replace **Tutorialspoint** with your user name.

Step 12: Hot Reloading

And to build application modify the App.js and the changes will be automatically updated on the android emulator.

If not, click on the android emulator press **ctrl+m** then, select **Enable Hot Reloading** option.







3. Basic ReactNative App

If you open the default app you can observe that the app.js file looks like

```
import React from 'react';
import { StyleSheet, Text, View } from 'react-native';
export default class App extends React.Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <View style={styles.container}>
        <Text>Open up App.js to start working on your app!</Text>
        <Text>Changes you make will automatically reload.</Text>
        <Text>Shake your phone to open the developer menu.</Text>
      </View>
    );
  }
}
const styles = StyleSheet.create({
  container: {
    flex: 1,
    backgroundColor: '#fff',
    alignItems: 'center',
    justifyContent: 'center',
  },
});
```

Output:



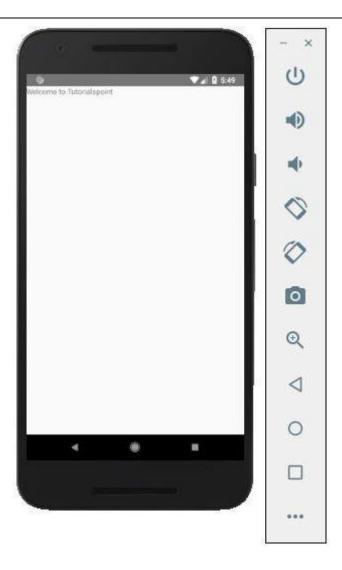


Hello world

To display a simple message saying "Welcome to Tutorialspoint" remove the CSS part and insert the message to be printed wrapped by the <text></text> tags inside <view></view> as shown below.



}





4. React Native – State

The data inside React Components is managed by **state** and **props**. In this chapter, we will talk about **state**.

Difference between State and Props

The **state** is mutable while **props** are immutable. This means that **state** can be updated in the future while props cannot be.

Using State

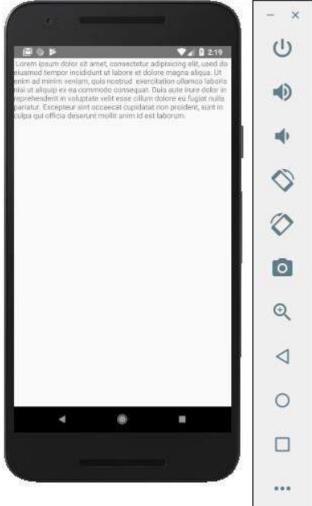
This is our root component. We are just importing **Home** which will be used in most of the chapters.

App.js

```
import React from 'react';
import { StyleSheet, Text, View } from 'react-native';
export default class App extends React.Component {
  state = {
    myState: 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, used do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim
veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea
commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit
esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat
non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.'
   }
  render() {
    return (
      <View>
        <Text> {this.state.myState} </Text>
      </View>
    );
  }
}
```



We can see in emulator text from the state as in the following screenshot.



Updating State

Since state is mutable, we can update it by creating the **deleteState** function and call it using the **onPress = {this.deleteText}** event.

Home.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import { Text, View } from 'react-native'

class Home extends Component {

   state = {

      myState: 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, sed
      do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.
```



```
Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris
nisi
         ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in
reprehenderit
         in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.
         Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui
officia
         deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.'
   }
   updateState = () ⇒ this.setState({ myState: 'The state is updated' })
   render() {
      return (
         <View>
            <Text onPress = {this.updateState}>
               {this.state.myState}
            </Text>
         </View>
      );
   }
}
export default Home;
```

NOTES – In all chapters, we will use the class syntax for stateful (container) components and function syntax for stateless (presentational) components. We will learn more about components in our next chapter.

We will also learn how to use the arrow function syntax for **updateState**. You should keep in mind that this syntax uses the lexical scope, and **this** keyword will be bound to the environment object (Class). This will sometimes lead to unexpected behavior.

The other way to define methods is to use the EC5 functions but in that case we will need to bind **this** manually in the constructor. Consider the following example to understand this.

```
class Home extends Component {
    constructor(){
        super()
        this.updateState = this.updateState.bind(this)
```





5. React Native – Props

In our last chapter, we showed you how to use mutable **state**. In this chapter, we will show you how to combine the state and the **props**.

Presentational components should get all data by passing **props**. Only container components should have **state**.

Container Component

We will now understand what a container compenent is and also how it works.

Theory

Now we will update our container component. This component will handle the state and pass the props to the presentational component.

Container component is only used for handling state. All functionality related to view (styling etc.) will be handled in the presentational component.

Example

If we want to use example from the last chapter we need to remove the **Text** element from the render function since this element is used for presenting text to the users. This should be inside the presentational component.

Let us review the code in the example given below. We will import the **PresentationalComponent** and pass it to the render function.

After we import the **PresentationalComponent** and pass it to the render function, we need to pass the props. We will pass the props by adding **myText = {this.state.myText}** and **deleteText = {this.deleteText}** to **<Pre>resentationalComponent>**. Now, we will be able to access this inside the presentational component.

App.js:

```
import React from 'react';
import { StyleSheet, Text, View } from 'react-native';
import PresentationalComponent from './PresentationalComponent'

export default class App extends React.Component {
   state = {
      myState: 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipisicing elit, used do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit
```

esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.'



Presentational Component

We will now understand what a presentational component is and also how it works.

Theory

Presentational components should be used only for presenting view to the users. These components do not have state. They receive all data and functions as props.

The best practice is to use as much presentational components as possible.

Example

As we mentioned in our previous chapter, we are using the EC6 function syntax for presentational components.

Our component will receive props, return view elements, present text using **{props.myText}** and call the **{props.deleteText}** function when a user clicks on the text.

PresentationalComponent.js



Now, we have the same functionality as in our **State** chapter. The only difference is that we refactored our code to the container and the presentational component.

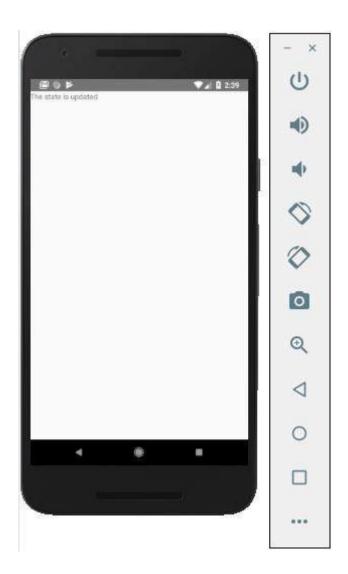


You can run the app and see the text as in the following screenshot.



If you click on text, it will be removed from the screen.







6. React Native – Styling

There are a couple of ways to style your elements in React Native.

You can use the **style** property to add the styles inline. However, this is not the best practice because it can be hard to read the code.

In this chapter, we will use the **Stylesheet** for styling.

Container Component

In this section, we will simplify our container component from our previous chapter.

App.js

Presentational Component

In the example given below, we will import the **StyleSheet**.

At the bottom of the file, we will create our stylesheet and assign it to the **styles** constant. Note that our styles are in **camelCase** and we do not use **px** or **%** for styling.

To apply styles to our text, we need to add **style = {styles.myText}** property to the **Text** element.



PresentationalComponent.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import { Text, View, StyleSheet } from 'react-native'
const PresentationalComponent = (props) => {
   return (
      <View>
         <Text style = {styles.myState}>
            {props.myState}
         </Text>
      </View>
   )
export default PresentationalComponent
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   myState: {
      marginTop: 20,
      textAlign: 'center',
      color: 'blue',
      fontWeight: 'bold',
      fontSize: 20
   }
})
```



When we run the app, we will receive the following output.





7. React Native – Flexbox

To accommodate different screen sizes, React Native offers **Flexbox** support.

We will use the same code that we used in our **React Native - Styling** chapter. We will only change the **PresentationalComponent**.

Layout

To achieve the desired layout, flexbox offers three main properties — **flexDirection justifyContent** and **alignItems**.

The following table shows the possible options.

Property	Values	Description
	Columni, row	Used to specify if elements will be aligned vertically or horizontally.
justifyContent	'center', 'flex-start', 'flex- end', 'space-around', 'space-between'	Used to determine how should elements be distributed inside the container.
alignItems	end' 'stretched'	Used to determine how should elements be distributed inside the container along the secondary axis (opposite of flexDirection)

If the items needs to be aligned verticaly and also centralized, consider the example given below.

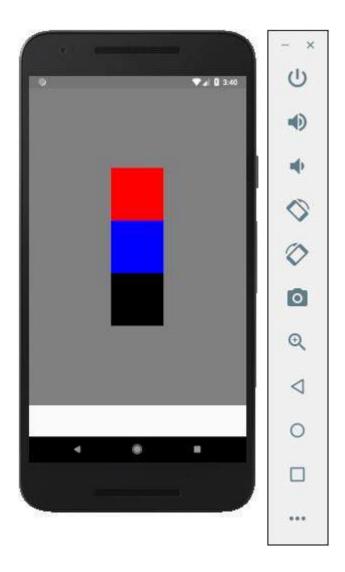
App.js



```
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      flexDirection: 'column',
      justifyContent: 'center',
      alignItems: 'center',
      backgroundColor: 'grey',
      height: 600
   },
   redbox: {
      width: 100,
      height: 100,
      backgroundColor: 'red'
   },
   bluebox: {
      width: 100,
      height: 100,
      backgroundColor: 'blue'
   },
   blackbox: {
      width: 100,
      height: 100,
      backgroundColor: 'black'
   },
})
```

Output:





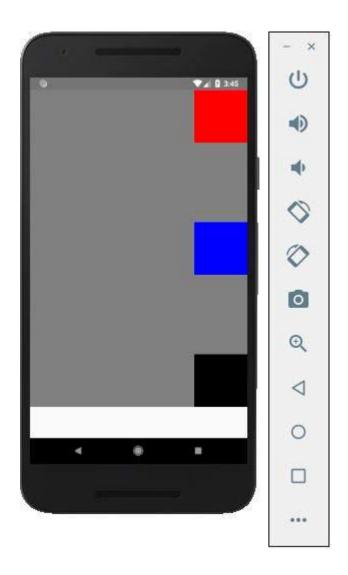
If the items need to be moved to the right side and spaces need to be added between them, we can use the following code.

App.js



```
export default App
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      flexDirection: 'column',
      justifyContent: 'space-between',
      alignItems: 'flex-end',
      backgroundColor: 'grey',
      height: 600
   },
   redbox: {
      width: 100,
      height: 100,
      backgroundColor: 'red'
   },
   bluebox: {
      width: 100,
      height: 100,
      backgroundColor: 'blue'
   },
   blackbox: {
      width: 100,
      height: 100,
      backgroundColor: 'black'
   },
})
```









8. React Native – ListView

In this chapter, we will show you how to create list in React Native. We will import **List** in our **Home** component and show it on screen.

App.js

To create a list, we will use the **map()** method. This will iterate over an array of items, and render each one.

List.js

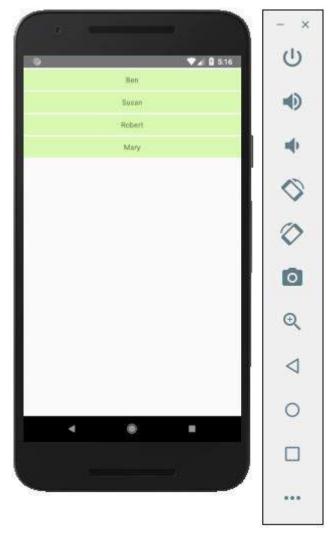


```
name: 'Robert',
         },
         {
            id: 3,
            name: 'Mary',
         }
      ]
   }
   alertItemName = (item) => {
      alert(item.name)
   }
   render() {
      return (
         <View>
            {
               this.state.names.map((item, index) => (
                  <TouchableOpacity
                      key = {item.id}
                      style = {styles.container}
                     onPress = {() => this.alertItemName(item)}>
                      <Text style = {styles.text}>
                         {item.name}
                      </Text>
                  </TouchableOpacity>
               ))
            }
         </View>
      )
   }
}
export default List
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      padding: 10,
      marginTop: 3,
```



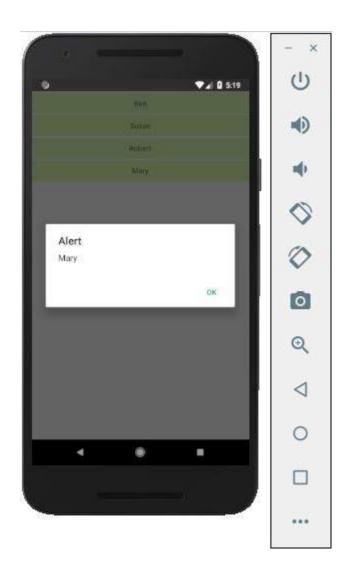
```
backgroundColor: '#d9f9b1',
    alignItems: 'center',
},
text: {
    color: '#4f603c'
}
```

When we run the app, we will see the list of names.



You can click on each item in the list to trigger an alert with the name.







9. React Native – Text Input

In this chapter, we will show you how to work with **TextInput** elements in React Native. The Home component will import and render inputs.

App.js

Inputs

We will define the initial state.

After defining the initial state, we will create the **handleEmail** and the **handlePassword** functions. These functions are used for updating state.

The **login()** function will just alert the current value of the state.

We will also add some other properties to text inputs to disable auto capitalisation, remove the bottom border on Android devices and set a placeholder.

inputs.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import { View, Text, TouchableOpacity, TextInput, StyleSheet } from 'react-
native'

class Inputs extends Component {
    state = {
        email: '',
        password: ''
    }
    handleEmail = (text) => {
        this.setState({ email: text })
```



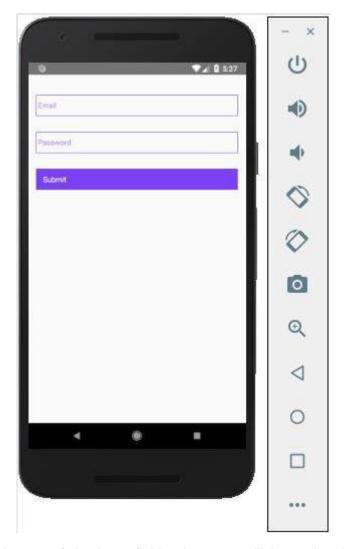
```
}
   handlePassword = (text) => {
      this.setState({ password: text })
   }
   login = (email, pass) => {
      alert('email: ' + email + ' password: ' + pass)
   }
   render(){
      return (
         <View style = {styles.container}>
            <TextInput style = {styles.input}
               underlineColorAndroid = "transparent"
               placeholder = "Email"
               placeholderTextColor = "#9a73ef"
               autoCapitalize = "none"
               onChangeText = {this.handleEmail}/>
            <TextInput style = {styles.input}
               underlineColorAndroid = "transparent"
               placeholder = "Password"
               placeholderTextColor = "#9a73ef"
               autoCapitalize = "none"
               onChangeText = {this.handlePassword}/>
            <TouchableOpacity
               style = {styles.submitButton}
               onPress = {
                  () => this.login(this.state.email, this.state.password)
               }>
               <Text style = {styles.submitButtonText}> Submit </Text>
            </TouchableOpacity>
         </View>
   }
export default Inputs
```



```
const styles = StyleSheet.create({
   container: {
      paddingTop: 23
   },
   input: {
      margin: 15,
      height: 40,
      borderColor: '#7a42f4',
      borderWidth: 1
   },
   submitButton: {
      backgroundColor: '#7a42f4',
      padding: 10,
      margin: 15,
      height: 40,
   },
   submitButtonText:{
      color: 'white'
   }
})
```

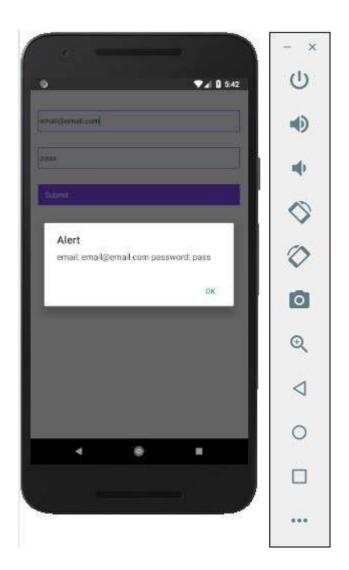


Whenever we type in one of the input fields, the state will be updated. When we click on the **Submit** button, text from inputs will be shown inside the dialog box.



Whenever we type in one of the input fields, the state will be updated. When we click on the **Submit** button, text from inputs will be shown inside the dialog box.







10. React Native - ScrollView

In this chapter, we will show you how to work with the **ScrollView** element.

We will again create **ScrollViewExample.js** and import it in **Home**.

App.js

Scrollview will render a list of names. We will create it in state.

ScrollView.js:

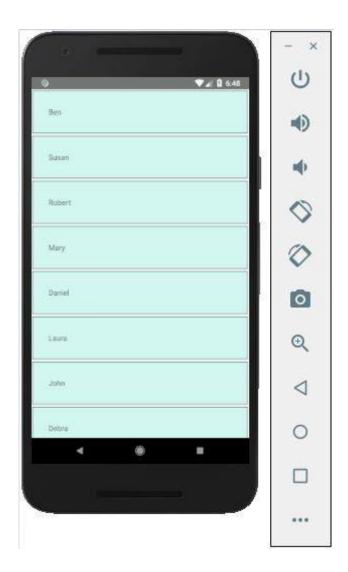
```
import React, { Component } from 'react';
import { Text, Image, View, StyleSheet, ScrollView } from 'react-native';
class ScrollViewExample extends Component {
   state = {
      names: [
         {'name': 'Ben', 'id': 1},
         {'name': 'Susan', 'id': 2},
         {'name': 'Robert', 'id': 3},
         {'name': 'Mary', 'id': 4},
         {'name': 'Daniel', 'id': 5},
         {'name': 'Laura', 'id': 6},
         {'name': 'John', 'id': 7},
         {'name': 'Debra', 'id': 8},
         {'name': 'Aron', 'id': 9},
         {'name': 'Ann', 'id': 10},
         {'name': 'Steve', 'id': 11},
```



```
{'name': 'Olivia', 'id': 12}
      ]
   }
   render() {
      return (
         <View>
            <ScrollView>
               {
                  this.state.names.map((item, index) ⇒ (
                     <View key = {item.id} style = {styles.item}>
                        <Text>{item.name}</Text>
                     </View>
                  ))
               }
            </ScrollView>
         </View>
      )
   }
export default ScrollViewExample
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   item: {
      flexDirection: 'row',
      justifyContent: 'space-between',
      alignItems: 'center',
      padding: 30,
      margin: 2,
      borderColor: '#2a4944',
      borderWidth: 1,
      backgroundColor: '#d2f7f1'
   }
})
```

When we run the app, we will see the scrollable list of names.







11. React Native – Images

In this chapter, we will understand how to work with images in React Native.

Adding Image

Let us create a new folder **img** inside the **src** folder. We will add our image (**myImage.png**) inside this folder.

We will show images on the home screen.

App.js

Local image can be accessed using the following syntax.

image_example.js:

Output:





Screen Density

React Native offers a way to optimize images for different devices using **@2x**, **@3x** suffix. The app will load only the image necessary for particular screen density.

The following will be the names of the image inside the **img** folder.

my-image@2x.jpg

my-image@3x.jpg



Network Images

When using network images, instead of **require**, we need the **source** property. It is recommended to define the **width** and the **height** for network images.

App.js

image_example.js:

Output:







12. React Native – HTTP

In this chapter, we will show you how to use **fetch** for handling network requests.

App.js

Using Fetch

We will use the **componentDidMount** lifecycle method to load the data from server as soon as the component is mounted. This function will send GET request to the server, return JSON data, log output to console and update our state.

http_example.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import { View, Text } from 'react-native'

class HttpExample extends Component {
    state = {
        data: ''
    }

    componentDidMount = () => {
        fetch('https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts/1', {
            method: 'GET'
        })
        .then((response) => response.json())
        .then((responseJson) => {
            console.log(responseJson);
        }
}
```



```
this.setState({
            data: responseJson
         })
      })
      .catch((error) => {
         console.error(error);
      });
   }
   render() {
      return (
         <View>
            <Text>
               {this.state.data.body}
            </Text>
         </View>
   }
}
export default HttpExample
```

Output:







13. React Native – Buttons

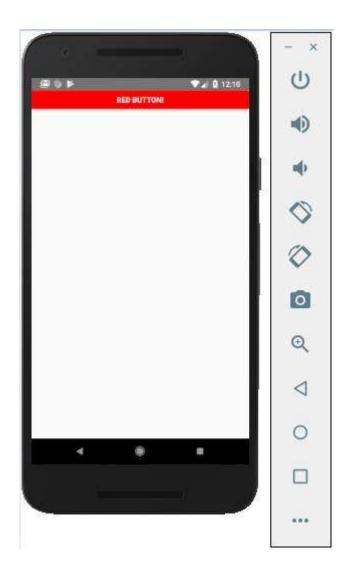
In this chapter, we will show you touchable components in react Native. We call them 'touchable' because they offer built in animations and we can use the **onPress** prop for handling touch event.

Facebook offers the **Button** component, which can be used as a generic button. Consider the following example to understand the same.

App.js

If the default **Button** component does not suit your needs, you can use one of the following components instead.





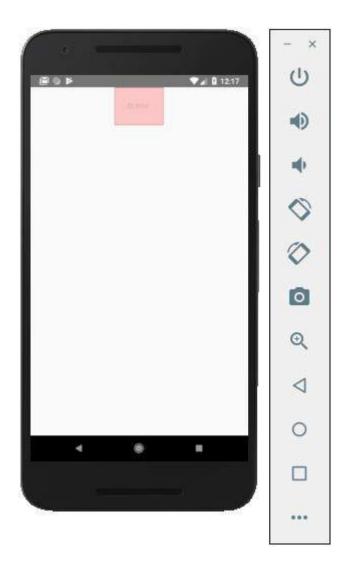


Touchable Opacity

This element will change the opacity of an element when touched.

```
import React from 'react'
import { TouchableOpacity, StyleSheet, View, Text } from 'react-native'
const App = () => {
   return (
      <View style = {styles.container}>
         <TouchableOpacity>
            <Text style = {styles.text}>
               Button
            </Text>
         </TouchableOpacity>
      </View>
   )
}
export default App
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      alignItems: 'center',
   },
   text: {
      borderWidth: 1,
      padding: 25,
      borderColor: 'black',
      backgroundColor: 'red'
   }
})
```





Touchable Highlight

When a user presses the element, it will get darker and the underlying color will show through.



```
</Text>
         </TouchableHighlight>
      </View>
   )
}
export default App
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      alignItems: 'center',
   },
   text: {
      borderWidth: 1,
      padding: 25,
      borderColor: 'black',
      backgroundColor: 'red'
   }
})
```

Touchable Native Feedback

This will simulate ink animation when the element is pressed.



```
)
}
export default Home

const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
    container: {
        alignItems: 'center',
    },
    text: {
        borderWidth: 1,
        padding: 25,
        borderColor: 'black',
        backgroundColor: 'red'
    }
})
```



Touchable Without Feedback

This should be used when you want to handle the touch event without any animation. Usually, this component is not used much.

```
<TouchableWithoutFeedback>
  <Text>
    Button
  </Text>
</TouchableWithoutFeedback>
```



14. React Native – Animations

In this chapter, we will show you how to use **LayoutAnimation** in React Native.

Animations Component

We will set **myStyle** as a property of the state. This property is used for styling an element inside **PresentationalAnimationComponent**.

We will also create two functions: **expandElement** and **collapseElement**. These functions will update values from the state. The first one will use the **spring** preset animation while the second one will have the **linear** preset. We will pass these as props too. The **Expand** and the **Collapse** buttons call the **expandElement()** and **collapseElement()** functions.

In this example, we will dynamically change the width and the height of the box. Since the **Home** component will be the same, we will only change the **Animations** component.

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import { View, StyleSheet, Animated, TouchableOpacity } from 'react-native'
class Animations extends Component {
   componentWillMount = () => {
      this.animatedWidth = new Animated.Value(50)
      this.animatedHeight = new Animated.Value(100)
   animatedBox = () => {
      Animated.timing(this.animatedWidth, {
         toValue: 200,
         duration: 1000
      }).start()
      Animated.timing(this.animatedHeight, {
         toValue: 500,
         duration: 500
      }).start()
   }
   render() {
```



```
const animatedStyle = { width: this.animatedWidth, height:
this.animatedHeight }
      return (
         <TouchableOpacity style = {styles.container} onPress =
{this.animatedBox}>
            <Animated.View style = {[styles.box, animatedStyle]}/>
         </TouchableOpacity>
      )
   }
}
export default Animations
const styles = StyleSheet.create({
   container: {
      justifyContent: 'center',
      alignItems: 'center'
   },
   box: {
      backgroundColor: 'blue',
      width: 50,
      height: 100
   }
})
```



15. React Native – Debugging

React native offers a couple of methods that help in debugging your code.

In App Developer Menu

You can open the developer menu on the IOS simulator by pressing **command + D**.

On Android emulator, you need to press **command + M**.



React Native: Development

Reload

Stop Remote JS Debugging

Disable Live Reload

Start Systrace

Enable Hot Reloading

Show Inspector

Show Perf Monitor

Cancel

Reload

This is used for reloading simulator. You can use the shortcut, command + R



Debug JS Remotely

This is used to activate debugging inside the browser developer console.

Enable Live Reload

This is used for enabling live reloading whenever your code is saved. The debugger will open at **localhost:8081/debugger-ui**.

Start Systrace

This is used for starting the Android marker based profiling tool.

Show Inspector

This is used for opening inspector where you can find information about your components. You can use the shortcut, command + I

Show Perf Monitor

This is used to track the performance of your app.



16. React Native – Router

In this chapter, we will understand navigation in React Native.

Step 1 - Install Router

To begin with, we need to install the **Router**. We will use the React Native Router Flux in this chapter. You can run the following command in terminal, from the project folder.

```
npm i react-native-router-flux --save
```

Step 2

Since we want our router to handle the entire application, we will add it in **index.ios.js**. For Android, you can do the same in **index.android.js**.

App.js

Step 3 - Add Router

Now we will create the **Routes** component inside the components folder. It will return **Router** with several scenes. Each scene will need **key**, **component** and **title**. Router uses the key property to switch between scenes, component will be rendered on screen and the title will be shown in the navigation bar. We can also set the **initial** property to the scene that is to be rendered initially.

Routes.js

```
import React from 'react'
```



Step 4 - Create components

We already have the **Home** component from previous chapters; now, we need to add the **About** component. We will add the **goToAbout** and the **goToHome** functions to switch between scenes.

Home.js

```
import React from 'react'
import { TouchableOpacity, Text } from 'react-native';
import { Actions } from 'react-native-router-flux';

const Home = () => {
    const goToAbout = () => {
        Actions.about()
    }
    return (
        <TouchableOpacity style = {{ margin: 128 }} onPress = {goToAbout}>
        <Text>This is HOME!</Text>
        </TouchableOpacity>
    )
}
export default Home
```

About.js

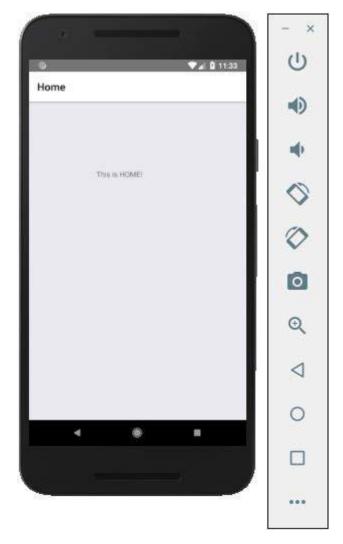


```
import React from 'react'
import { TouchableOpacity, Text } from 'react-native'
import { Actions } from 'react-native-router-flux'

const About = () => {
    const goToHome = () => {
        Actions.home()
    }
    return (
        <TouchableOpacity style = {{ margin: 128 }} onPress = {goToHome}>
        <Text>This is ABOUT</Text>
        </TouchableOpacity>
    )
}
export default About
```

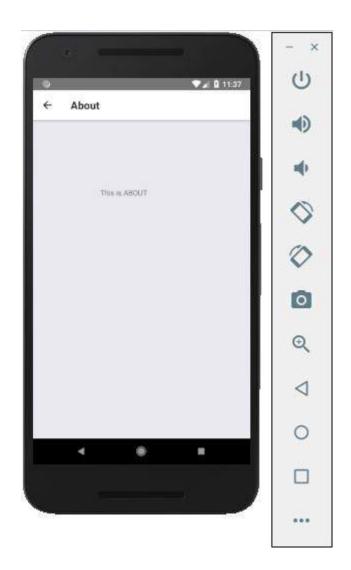


The app will render the initial **Home** screen.



You can press the button to switch to the about screen. The Back arrow will appear; you can use it to get back to the previous screen.







17. React Native – Running IOS

If you want to test your app in the IOS simulator, all you need is to open the root folder of your app in terminal and run -

react-native run-ios

The above command will start the simulator and run the app.

We can also specify the device we want to use.

react-native run-ios --simulator "iPhone 5s

After you open the app in simulator, you can press **command** + **D** on IOS to open the developers menu. You can check more about this in our **debugging** chapter.

You can also reload the IOS simulator by pressing **command** + **R**.



18. React Native - Running Android

We can run the React Native app on Android platform by running the following code in the terminal.

react-native run-android

Before you can run your app on Android device, you need to enable **USB Debugging** inside the **Developer Options**.

When **USB Debugging** is enabled, you can plug in your device and run the code snippet given above.

The Native Android emulator is slow. We recommend downloading <u>Genymotion</u> for testing your app.

The developer menu can be accessed by pressing **command** + M.



Components and APIs



19. React Native – View

View is the most common element in React Native. You can consider it as an equivalent of the **div** element used in web development.

Use Cases

Let us now see a few common use cases.

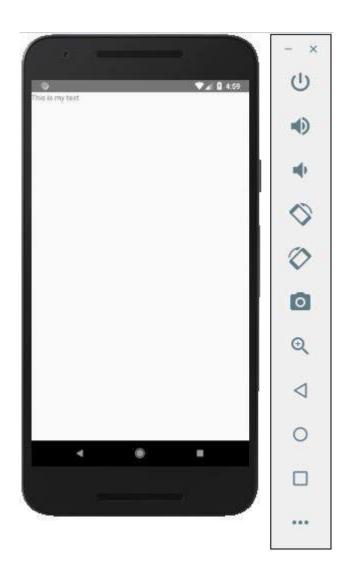
- When you need to wrap your elements inside the container, you can use View as a container element.
- When you want to nest more elements inside the parent element, both parent and child can be **View**. It can have as many children as you want.
- When you want to style different elements, you can place them inside **View** since it supports **style** property, **flexbox** etc.
- **View** also supports synthetic touch events, which can be useful for different purposes.

We already used **View** in our previous chapters and we will use it in almost all subsequent chapters as well. The **View** can be assumed as a default element in React Native. In example given below, we will nest two Views and a text.

App.js

Output:







20. React Native – WebView

In this chapter, we will learn how to use WebView. It is used when you want to render web page to your mobile app inline.

Using WebView

The **HomeContainer** will be a container component.

App.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import WebViewExample from './web_view_example.js'

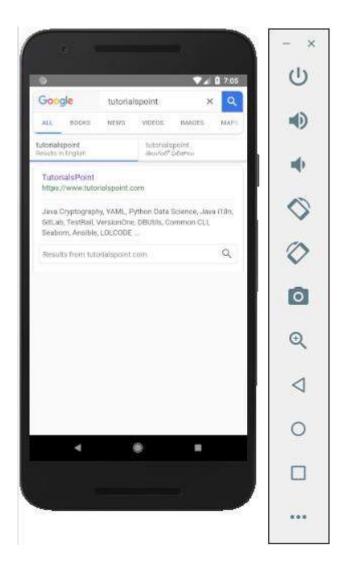
const App = () => {
    return (
        <WebViewExample/>
    )
}
export default App;
```

Let us create a new file called **WebViewExample.js** inside the **src/components/home** folder.

web_view_example.js



The above program will generate the following output.





21. React Native – Modal

In this chapter, we will show you how to use the modal component in React Native.

Let us now create a new file: ModalExample.js

We will put logic inside **ModalExample**. We can update the initial state by running the **toggleModal**.

After updating the initial state by running the **toggleModal**, we will set the **visible** property to our modal. This prop will be updated when the state changes.

The **onRequestClose** is required for Android devices.

App.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import WebViewExample from './modal_example.js'

const Home = () => {
    return (
        <WebViewExample/>
    )
}
export default Home;
```

modal_example.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react';

import { Modal, Text, TouchableHighlight, View, StyleSheet}
from 'react-native'

class ModalExample extends Component {
   state = {
      modalVisible: false,
   }
   toggleModal(visible) {
      this.setState({ modalVisible: visible });
   }
   render() {
```



```
return (
         <View style = {styles.container}>
            <Modal animationType = {"slide"} transparent = {false}
               visible = {this.state.modalVisible}
               onRequestClose = {() => { console.log("Modal has been closed.")
} }>
               <View style = {styles.modal}>
                  <Text style = {styles.text}>Modal is open!</Text>
                  <TouchableHighlight onPress = {() => {
                     this.toggleModal(!this.state.modalVisible)}}>
                     <Text style = {styles.text}>Close Modal</Text>
                  </TouchableHighlight>
               </View>
            </Modal>
            <TouchableHighlight onPress = {() => {this.toggleModal(true)}}>
               <Text style = {styles.text}>Open Modal</Text>
            </TouchableHighlight>
         </View>
      )
   }
}
export default ModalExample
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      alignItems: 'center',
      backgroundColor: '#ede3f2',
      padding: 100
   },
   modal: {
      flex: 1,
      alignItems: 'center',
      backgroundColor: '#f7021a',
      padding: 100
```

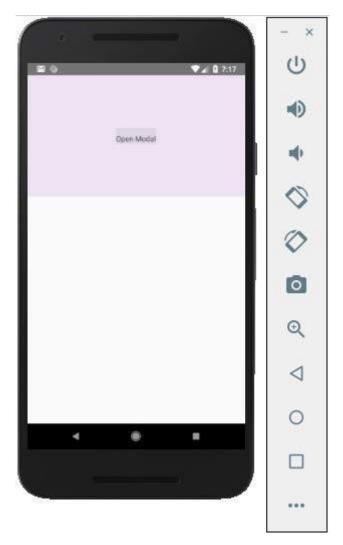


```
},
text: {
   color: '#3f2949',
   marginTop: 10
}
```



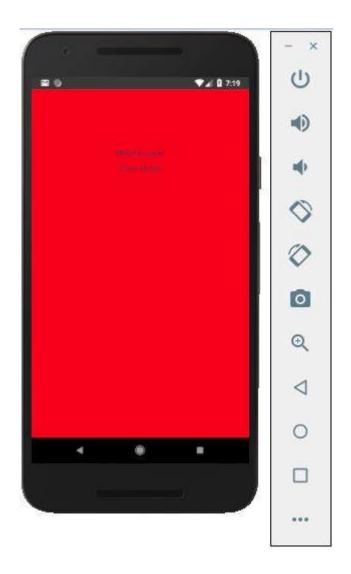
Our starting screen will look like this -





If we click the button, the modal will open.







22. React Native – ActivityIndicator

In this chapter we will show you how to use the activity indicator in React Native.

Step 1 – App

App component will be used to import and show our **ActivityIndicator**.

App.js

Step 2 – ActivityIndicatorExample

Animating property is a Boolean which is used for showing the activity indicator. The latter closes six seconds after the component is mounted. This is done using the **closeActivityIndicator()** function.

activity indicator example.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react';
import { ActivityIndicator, View, Text, TouchableOpacity, StyleSheet } from
'react-native';

class ActivityIndicatorExample extends Component {
    state = { animating: true }

    closeActivityIndicator = () => setTimeout(() => this.setState({
        animating: false }), 60000)

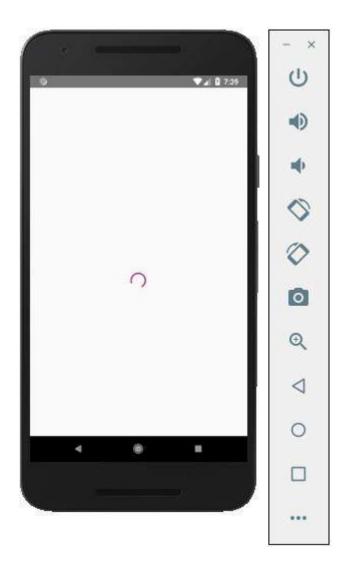
    componentDidMount = () => this.closeActivityIndicator()
    render() {
```



```
const animating = this.state.animating
      return (
         <View style = {styles.container}>
            <ActivityIndicator
               animating = {animating}
               color = '\#bc2b78'
               size = "large"
               style = {styles.activityIndicator}/>
         </View>
   }
}
export default ActivityIndicatorExample
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      flex: 1,
      justifyContent: 'center',
      alignItems: 'center',
      marginTop: 70
   },
   activityIndicator: {
      flex: 1,
      justifyContent: 'center',
      alignItems: 'center',
      height: 80
   }
})
```



When we run the app, we will see the loader on screen. It will disappear after six seconds.





23. React Native – Picker

In this chapter, we will create simple Picker with two available options.

Step 1 - Create File

Here, the **App.js** folder will be used as a presentational component.

App.js

```
import React from 'react'
import PickerExample from './PickerExample.js'

const App = () => {
    return (
        <PickerExample />
    )
}
export default App
```

Step 2 – Logic

this.state.user is used for picker control.

The **updateUser** function will be triggered when a user is picked.

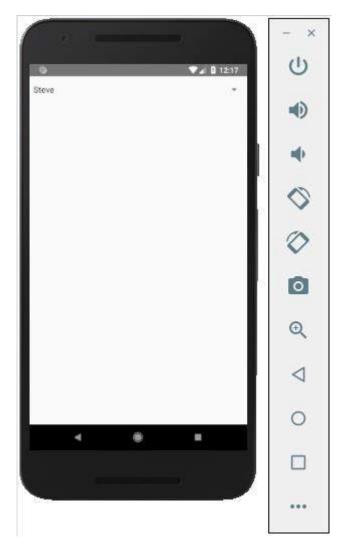
PickerExample.js



```
<Picker.Item label = "Steve" value = "steve" />
               <Picker.Item label = "Ellen" value = "ellen" />
               <Picker.Item label = "Maria" value = "maria" />
            </Picker>
            <Text style = {styles.text}>{this.state.user}</Text>
         </View>
      )
   }
}
export default PickerExample
const styles = StyleSheet.create({
   text: {
      fontSize: 30,
      alignSelf: 'center',
      color: 'red'
   }
})
```

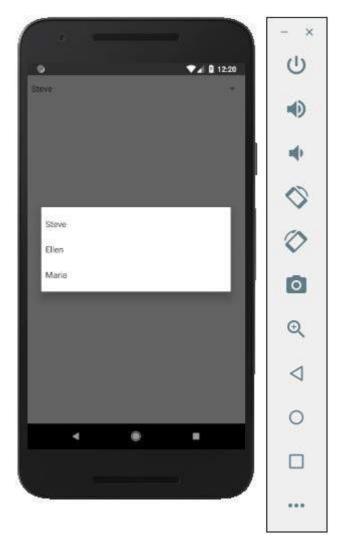
Output:





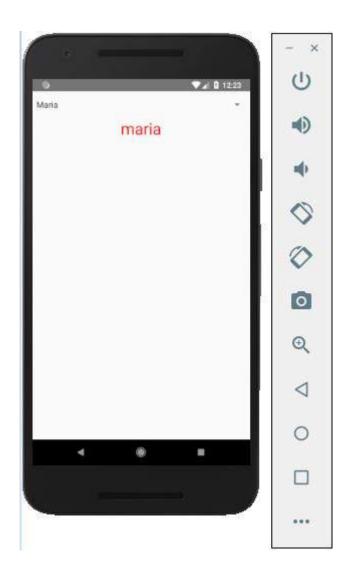
If you click on the name it prompts you all three options as:





And you can pick one of them and the output will be like.







24. React Native - Status Bar

In this chapter, we will show you how to control the status bar appearance in React Native.

The Status bar is easy to use and all you need to do is set properties to change it.

The **hidden** property can be used to hide the status bar. In our example it is set to **false**. This is default value.

The barStyle can have three values – dark-content, light-content and default.

This component has several other properties that can be used. Some of them are Android or IOS specific. You can check it in official documentation.

App.js

If we run the app, status bar will be visible and content will have dark color.







25. React Native – Switch

In this chapter, we will explain the **Switch** component in a couple of steps.

Step 1 – Create File

We will use the HomeContainer component for logic, but we need to create the presentational component.

Let us now create a new file: **SwitchExample.js**.

Step 2 – Logic

We are passing value from the state and functions for toggling switch items to **SwitchExample** component. Toggle functions will be used for updating the state.

App.js

Example

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import {
   View
}
from 'react-native'
import SwitchExample from './switch_example.js'
export default class HomeContainer extends Component {
   constructor() {
      super();
      this.state = {
         switch1Value: false,
      }
   toggleSwitch1 = (value) => {
      this.setState({switch1Value: value})
      console.log('Switch 1 is: ' + value)
   }
   render() {
      return (
                                                                                 95
```



Step 3 - Presentation

Switch component takes two props. The **onValueChange** prop will trigger our toggle functions after a user presses the switch. The **value** prop is bound to the state of the **HomeContainer** component.

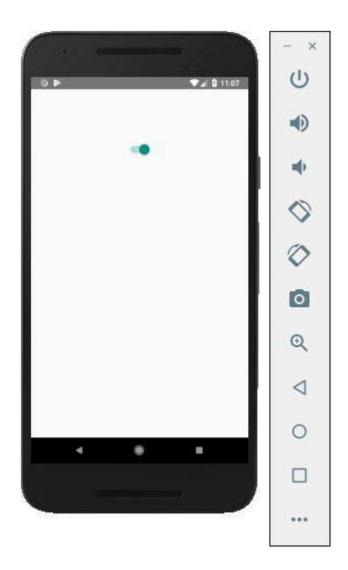
switch_example.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import { View, Switch, StyleSheet }
from 'react-native'
export default SwitchExample = (props) => {
   return (
      <View style = {styles.container}>
         <Switch
            onValueChange = {props.toggleSwitch1}
            value = {props.switch1Value}/>
      </View>
   )
}
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      flex: 1,
      alignItems: 'center',
      marginTop: 100
   }
})
```

If we press the switch, the state will be updated. You can check values in the console.

Output:







26. React Native – Text

In this chapter, we will talk about **Text** component in React Native.

This component can be nested and it can inherit properties from parent to child. This can be useful in many ways. We will show you example of capitalizing the first letter, styling words or parts of the text, etc.

Step 1 - Create File

The file we are going to create is

text_example.js

Step 2 – App.js

In this step, we will just create a simple container.

App.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import TextExample from './text_example.js'

const App = () => {
    return (
        <TextExample/>
    )
}
export default App
```

Step 3 – Text

In this step, we will use the inheritance pattern. **styles.text** will be applied to all **Text** components.

You can also notice how we set other styling properties to some parts of the text. It is important to know that all child elements have parent styles passed to them.

text_example.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react';
import { View, Text, Image, StyleSheet } from 'react-native'

const TextExample = () => {
```



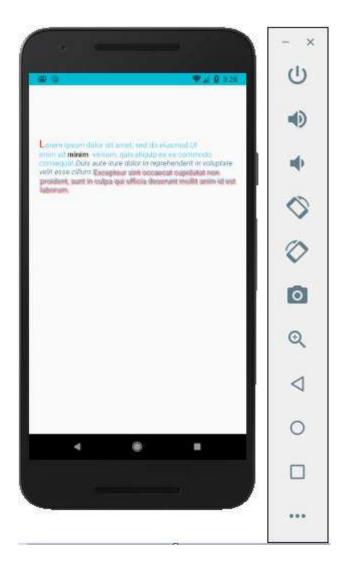
```
return (
      <View style = {styles.container}>
         <Text style = {styles.text}>
            <Text style = {styles.capitalLetter}>
               L
            </Text>
            <Text>
               orem ipsum dolor sit amet, sed do eiusmod.
            </Text>
            <Text>
               Ut enim ad <Text style = {styles.wordBold}>minim </Text> veniam,
               quis aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.
            </Text>
            <Text style = {styles.italicText}>
               Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse
cillum.
            </Text>
            <Text style = {styles.textShadow}>
               Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa
qui officia
               deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.
            </Text>
         </Text>
      </View>
   )
}
export default TextExample
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      alignItems: 'center',
      marginTop: 100,
```



```
padding: 20
   },
  text: {
     color: '#41cdf4',
   },
   capitalLetter: {
     color: 'red',
     fontSize: 20
   },
   wordBold: {
     fontWeight: 'bold',
     color: 'black'
   },
   italicText: {
     color: '#37859b',
     fontStyle: 'italic'
   },
  textShadow: {
     textShadowColor: 'red',
     textShadowOffset: { width: 2, height: 2 },
     textShadowRadius : 5
   }
})
```



You will receive the following output -





27. React Native – Alert

In this chapter, we will understand how to create custom **Alert** component.

Step 1 – App.js

Step 2 – alert_example.js

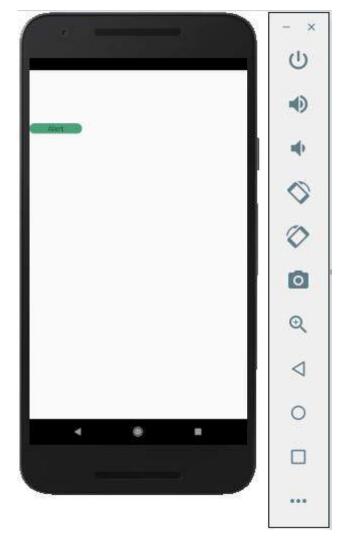
We will create a button for triggering the **showAlert** function.



```
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
  button: {
    backgroundColor: '#4ba37b',
    width: 100,
    borderRadius: 50,
    alignItems: 'center',
    marginTop: 100
  }
}
```

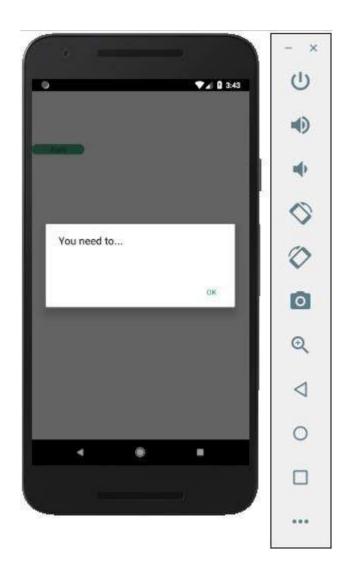


Output



When you click the button, you will see the following ${\mathord{\text{--}}}$







28. React Native – Geolocation

In this chapter, we will show you how to use **Geolocation**.

Step 1 - App.js

```
import React from 'react'
import GeolocationExample from './geolocation_example.js'

const App = () => {
    return (
        <GeolocationExample />
    )
}
export default App
```

Step 2 – Geolocation

We will start by setting up the initial state for that will hold the initial and the last position.

Now, we need to get current position of the device when a component is mounted using the **navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition**. We will stringify the response so we can update the state.

navigator.geolocation.watchPosition is used for tracking the users' position. We also clear the watchers in this step.[V1]

/AsyncStorageExample.js

```
import React, { Component } from 'react'
import { View, Text, Switch, StyleSheet} from 'react-native'

class SwichExample extends Component {
    state = {
        initialPosition: 'unknown',
        lastPosition: 'unknown',
    }
    watchID: ?number = null;

componentDidMount = () => {
        navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition(
```



```
(position) => {
            const initialPosition = JSON.stringify(position);
            this.setState({ initialPosition });
         },
         (error) => alert(error.message),
         { enableHighAccuracy: true, timeout: 20000, maximumAge: 1000 }
      );
      this.watchID = navigator.geolocation.watchPosition((position) ⇒ {
         const lastPosition = JSON.stringify(position);
         this.setState({ lastPosition });
      });
   }
   componentWillUnmount = () => {
      navigator.geolocation.clearWatch(this.watchID);
   }
   render() {
      return (
         <View style = {styles.container}>
            <Text style = {styles.boldText}>
               Initial position:
            </Text>
            <Text>
               {this.state.initialPosition}
            </Text>
            <Text style = {styles.boldText}>
               Current position:
            </Text>
            <Text>
               {this.state.lastPosition}
            </Text>
         </View>
      )
   }
}
```



```
export default SwichExample

const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
    container: {
        flex: 1,
        alignItems: 'center',
        marginTop: 50
    },
    boldText: {
        fontSize: 30,
        color: 'red',
    }
})
```





29. React Native – AsyncStorage

In this chapter, we will show you how to persist your data using **AsyncStorage**.

Step 1 - Presentation

In this step, we will create the **App.js** file.

Step 2 – Logic

Name from the initial state is empty string. We will update it from persistent storage when the component is mounted.

setName will take the text from our input field, save it using **AsyncStorage** and update the state.

```
async_storage_example.jsimport React, { Component } from 'react'
import { StatusBar } from 'react-native'
import { AsyncStorage, Text, View, TextInput, StyleSheet } from 'react-native'

class AsyncStorageExample extends Component {
    state = {
        'name': ''
    }
    componentDidMount = () => AsyncStorage.getItem('name').then((value) => this.setState({ 'name': value }))

setName = (value) => {
    AsyncStorage.setItem('name', value);
    this.setState({ 'name': value });
```



```
}
   render() {
      return (
         <View style = {styles.container}>
            <TextInput style = {styles.textInput} autoCapitalize = 'none'
               onChangeText = {this.setName}/>
            <Text>
               {this.state.name}
            </Text>
         </View>
      )
   }
export default AsyncStorageExample
const styles = StyleSheet.create ({
   container: {
      flex: 1,
      alignItems: 'center',
      marginTop: 50
   },
   textInput: {
      margin: 5,
      height: 100,
      borderWidth: 1,
      backgroundColor: '#7685ed'
   }
})
```

When we run the app, we can update the text by typing into the input field.



Output





