

# Introduction to React.js:

Before react we had jQuery. jQuery was very imperative in writing code and was like mixing ingredients sequentially which in turn creates a lot of inconsistencies. It is really difficult to constantly keep track of what has changed and what to change. This leads to slow development. This also makes it very hard to scale as your website gets bigger and bigger.

React introduces the idea of components. You can build small components that you can reuse and put on different parts of the webpage. Due to the way react is structured, a component doesn't have to know the rest of the webpage. It is just its own local block that works by itself and reduces dependencies on other parts of the website.

The most important thing for a developer is to minimize the amount of DOM Manipulation that we do because web browsers have to work really hard to achieve that. It reduces the performance of the web page and introduces bugs. Beforehand, we were painters and we used to tell the Dom exactly what to do. Using react we create a virtual DOM. It is a JavaScript object that describes our website and the current state of our website. We just give this object to react and the react bot will automatically make changes to the DOM and paint the picture in the most optimum way possible.

React handles all the event handlers. Again, the virtual Dom is just a copy of the DOM that's in a JavaScript object and then react underneath. The hood just changes the view and that is why it is able to work outside of browsers and you can use things like VR and mobile devices because react is the machine and what the canvas is on. We can change the canvas to whatever we want.