

# Common Mistakes with Hooks:

## 6 Common mistakes with Hooks:

Type 1: Forgetting to spread the previous state value into the new one when updating arrays with useState

Common Mistake	Solution
<pre>const updateNums = () =&gt; {   setNums ([1]) }</pre>	<pre>const updateNums = () =&gt; {   setNums ([...nums, 1]) }</pre>

### Common Mistake:

The entire array is replaced with **only** the number provided, since useState does not merge state updates like setState does.

### Solution:

In general, when you are updating an array in the state, remember to use the spread operator to spread the existing values into the updated value.

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Type 2: Forgetting to spread the previous state value into the new one when updating objects with useState

Common Mistake	Solution
<pre>onChange={e =&gt; setName({   firstName: e.target.value })}  onChange={e =&gt; setName({   lastName: e.target.value })}</pre>	<pre>onChange={e =&gt; setName({   ...name,   firstName: e.target.value })}  onChange={e =&gt; setName({   ...name,</pre>

<pre>}} }</pre>	<pre>lastName: e.target.value }} }</pre>
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### Common Mistake:

Similar to Mistake 1: When updating one form field, the opposite state property is removed from the state e.g. firstName vs lastName.

### Solution:

Best practice is to just use the spread operator to copy the entire object, and only update what you need to.

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Type 3: Forgetting to specify the dependency array - the second parameter - to useEffect.

Common Mistake	Solution
<pre>useEffect(() =&gt; {   console.log('count 1 effect')   document.title = count; })</pre>	<pre>useEffect(() =&gt; {   console.log('count 1 effect')   document.title = count; }, [count])</pre>

### Common Mistake:

The first common mistake developers usually make with useEffect is completely forgetting to specify the dependency array - that is - the second parameter which specifies the variables the component should be watching for changes.

### Solution:

Make sure to add a second parameter to your useEffect Hook. Otherwise, your Hook will run after any change on the page.

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Type 4: Specifying the dependency array to useEffect incorrectly or accidentally leaving required dependencies out of it

Common Mistake	Solution
<pre>function updateTitle() {   document.title = count; }  useEffect(() =&gt; {   console.log('count 1 effect');   updateTitle(); }, [])</pre>	<pre>function updateTitle() {   document.title = count; }  useEffect(() =&gt; {   console.log('count 1 effect');   updateTitle(); }, [count])</pre>

### Common Mistake:

Similar to above, instead of leaving out the second parameter, another common mistake is to add the incorrect dependency as the parameter.

### Solution:

Make sure to think about what part of the Component Lifecycle you are trying to replicate with the useEffect Hook:

1. componentDidMount: [] - empty array
2. componentDidUpdate: [count] - array containing dependency

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Type 5: Forgetting to specify or incorrectly specifying a cleanup function when using useEffect

Common Mistake	Solution
<pre>useEffect(() =&gt; {   console.log('Creating timer')   const interval = setInterval(() =&gt; {     console.log('Interval executed')</pre>	<pre>useEffect(() =&gt; {   console.log('Creating timer')   const interval = setInterval(() =&gt; {     console.log('Interval executed')</pre>

```
    setTime(time => time + 1)
  }, 1000)
}, [])
```

```
    setTime(time => time + 1)
  }, 1000)
  return () => {
    console.log('cleaning up!')
    clearInterval(interval);
  }
}, [])
```

**Common Mistake:**

Often when your components have side effects, cleanup will be required when the component unmounts.

**Solution:**

To execute a function when your component unmounts, remember that all you need to do is return an arrow function inside `useEffect` and call your function there.