Typechecking With PropTypes

> **Note:**
>
> `React.PropTypes` has moved into a different package since React v15.5. Please use the `prop-types` library instead.
>
> We provide a codemod script to automate the conversion.

As your app grows, you can catch a lot of bugs with typechecking. For some applications, you can use JavaScript extensions like Flow or TypeScript to typecheck your whole application. But even if you don't use those, React has some built-in typechecking abilities. To run typechecking on the props for a component, you can assign the special `propTypes` property:

```
import PropTypes from 'prop-types';

class Greeting extends React.Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <h1>Hello, {this.props.name}</h1>
    );
  }
}

Greeting.propTypes = {
  name: PropTypes.string
};
```

`PropTypes` exports a range of validators that can be used to make sure the data you receive is valid. In this example, we're using `PropTypes.string`. When an invalid value is provided for a prop, a warning will be shown in the JavaScript console. For performance reasons, `propTypes` is only checked in development mode.

PropTypes

Here is an example documenting the different validators provided:

```
import PropTypes from 'prop-types';

MyComponent.propTypes = {
  // You can declare that a prop is a specific JS type. By default, these
  // are all optional.
  optionalArray: PropTypes.array,
  optionalBool: PropTypes.bool,
  optionalFunc: PropTypes.func,
  optionalNumber: PropTypes.number,
  optionalObject: PropTypes.object,
  optionalString: PropTypes.string,
  optionalSymbol: PropTypes.symbol,

  // Anything that can be rendered: numbers, strings, elements or an array
  // (or fragment) containing these types.
  optionalNode: PropTypes.node,

  // A React element.
  optionalElement: PropTypes.element,

  // You can also declare that a prop is an instance of a class. This uses
  // JS's instanceof operator.
  optionalMessage: PropTypes.instanceOf(Message),

  // You can ensure that your prop is limited to specific values by treating
  // it as an enum.
  optionalEnum: PropTypes.oneOf(['News', 'Photos']),

  // An object that could be one of many types
  optionalUnion: PropTypes.oneOfType([
    PropTypes.string,
    PropTypes.number,
    PropTypes.instanceOf(Message)
  ]),

  // An array of a certain type
  optionalArrayOf: PropTypes.arrayOf(PropTypes.number),

  // An object with property values of a certain type
  optionalObjectOf: PropTypes.objectOf(PropTypes.number),
```

```
  // An object taking on a particular shape
  optionalObjectWithShape: PropTypes.shape({
    color: PropTypes.string,
    fontSize: PropTypes.number
  }),

  // You can chain any of the above with `isRequired` to make sure a warning
  // is shown if the prop isn't provided.
  requiredFunc: PropTypes.func.isRequired,

  // A value of any data type
  requiredAny: PropTypes.any.isRequired,

  // You can also specify a custom validator. It should return an Error
  // object if the validation fails. Don't `console.warn` or throw, as this
  // won't work inside `oneOfType`.
  customProp: function(props, propName, componentName) {
    if (!/matchme/.test(props[propName])) {
      return new Error(
        'Invalid prop `' + propName + '` supplied to' +
        ' `' + componentName + '`. Validation failed.'
      );
    }
  },

  // You can also supply a custom validator to `arrayOf` and `objectOf`.
  // It should return an Error object if the validation fails. The validator
  // will be called for each key in the array or object. The first two
  // arguments of the validator are the array or object itself, and the
  // current item's key.
  customArrayProp: PropTypes.arrayOf(function(propValue, key, componentName,
location, propFullName) {
    if (!/matchme/.test(propValue[key])) {
      return new Error(
        'Invalid prop `' + propFullName + '` supplied to' +
        ' `' + componentName + '`. Validation failed.'
      );
    }
  })
};
```

Requiring Single Child

With `PropTypes.element` you can specify that only a single child can be passed to a component as children.

```
import PropTypes from 'prop-types';

class MyComponent extends React.Component {
  render() {
    // This must be exactly one element or it will warn.
    const children = this.props.children;
    return (
      <div>
        {children}
      </div>
    );
  }
}

MyComponent.propTypes = {
  children: PropTypes.element.isRequired
};
```

Default Prop Values

You can define default values for your `props` by assigning to the special `defaultProps` property:

```
class Greeting extends React.Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <h1>Hello, {this.props.name}</h1>
    );
  }
}

// Specifies the default values for props:
Greeting.defaultProps = {
  name: 'Stranger'
};

// Renders "Hello, Stranger":
ReactDOM.render(
  <Greeting />,
```

```
    document.getElementById('example')
);
```

If you are using a Babel transform like transform-class-properties , you can also declare `defaultProps` as static property within a React component class. This syntax has not yet been finalized though and will require a compilation step to work within a browser. For more information, see the class fields proposal.

```
class Greeting extends React.Component {
  static defaultProps = {
    name: 'stranger'
  }

  render() {
    return (
      <div>Hello, {this.props.name}</div>
    )
  }
}
```

The `defaultProps` will be used to ensure that `this.props.name` will have a value if it was not specified by the parent component. The `propTypes` typechecking happens after `defaultProps` are resolved, so typechecking will also apply to the `defaultProps` .

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