

The background of the image is a dark navy blue. Overlaid on this is the React logo, which consists of a light blue circle with a hexagram (six-pointed star) inside it. The hexagram is formed by three overlapping circles of the same light blue color. The text "REACT" and "(INTRODUCTION)" is centered over the logo in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

# REACT (INTRODUCTION)

## A few popular sites built using React:

- Airbnb
- BBC
- Facebook
- Imgur
- Instagram
- Netflix
- Paypal
- Reddit
- Uber

*" React is a library for building composable user interfaces. It encourages the creation of reusable UI components which present data that changes over time. "*

Source [Why did we build React? \(2013\)](#)

We will cover:

1. Components
2. JSX
3. State

What are  
**Components?**

*" A React component is basically any part of a UI that can contain React nodes "*

Source [What Is a React Component?](#)

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This is known as a *functional* component.

Let's look at the other type of component, the  
**Class Component**

```
1 class Welcome extends React.Component {  
2   render() {  
3     return <h1>Hello, {this.props.name}</h1>;  
4   }  
5 }
```

Notice anything strange about this code?

Let's talk about **JSX**

*" by using JSX you can write concise HTML/XML-like structures (e.g., DOM like tree structures) in the same file as you write JavaScript code "*

Source [What Is JSX?](#)





```
1 const element = <h1>Hello, world!</h1>;
```

- It is not (Vanilla) JavaScript ✖
- It is not a string ✖
- It is not HTML ✖

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- It is not HTML ❌
- It is JSX ✓

JSX allows us to express HTML DOM objects in a much easier, human readable way

Let's look at the previous code in Vanilla JavaScript  
(without React)

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(without React)

```
1 const element = <h1>Hello, world!</h1>;
```

```
1 const element = document.createElement('h1');  
2 element.textContent = 'Hello, world!;
```

Can you read the relationships between these objects?

# Can you read the relationships between these objects?

```
1 const root = document.createElement('div');
2 const header = document.createElement('h1');
3 const subtitle = document.createElement('span');
4
5 root.append(header);
6 header.append(subtitle);
```

```
1 const element = (<div>
2     <h1> <span></span></h1>
3 </div>);
```

You can include JavaScript expressions inside JSX:



## You can include JavaScript expressions inside JSX:

```
1 const array = ['bah!', 'humbug'];  
2 const element = <ul>  
3   {array.map((word) => <li>{word}</li>)}  
4 </ul>
```

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JSX is an expression!

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Pros:

- Easier to write elements than using JavaScript DOM
- Easier to see relationship between DOM objects
- Code is more optimised

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- Easier to write elements than using JavaScript DOM
- Easier to see relationship between DOM objects
- Code is more optimised

Cons:

(Can) mix HTML and JavaScript

What is  
**state?**

*" the state of a computer program  
shows its current values or contents "*

Source [What does State mean?](#)



# Application State

Data which (can) affect the whole application

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Example: (Todo list) The list of things to do

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## **Component State**

Local state, which affects only the component

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Data which (can) affect the whole application

Example: (Todo list) The list of things to do

## **Component State**

Local state, which affects only the component

Example: Checkbox, is it on or off?

So let's create a React app...

```
npx create-react-app my-app  
cd my-app  
npm run start
```