

# HOW TO PLAN AND BUILD A REACT APPLICATION

FROM THE EARLIER “THINKING IN REACT” LECTURE:

- 1 Break the desired UI into **components**
- 2 Build a **static** version (no state yet)
- 3 Think about **state management + data flow**



👉 This works well for small apps with **one page and a few features**

👉 In **real-world apps**, we need to adapt this process

# HOW TO **PLAN** AND **BUILD** A REACT APPLICATION

**1** Gather application **requirements and features**

**2** Divide the application into **pages**

👉 Think about the **overall** and **page-level** UI

👉 Break the desired UI into **components** ← From earlier

👉 Design and build a **static** version (no state yet) ← From earlier

**3** Divide the application into **feature categories**

👉 Think about **state management + data flow** ← From earlier

**4** Decide on what **libraries** to use (technology decisions)

This is just a rough overview. In the real-world, things are never this linear

## PROJECT REQUIREMENTS FROM THE BUSINESS

### STEP 1

- 👉 Very simple application, where users can order **one or more pizzas from a menu**
- 👉 Requires **no user accounts** and no login: users just input their names before using the app
- 👉 The pizza menu can change, so it should be **loaded from an API** ✅ DONE
- 👉 Users can add multiple pizzas to a **cart** before ordering
- 👉 Ordering requires just the **user's name, phone number, and address**
- 👉 If possible, **GPS location** should also be provided, to make delivery easier
- 👉 User's can **mark their order as "priority"** for an additional 20% of the cart price
- 👉 Orders are made by **sending a POST request** with the order data (user data + selected pizzas) to the API
- 👉 Payments are made on delivery, so **no payment processing** is necessary in the app
- 👉 Each order will get a **unique ID** that should be displayed, so the **user can later look up their order** based on the ID
- 👉 Users should be able to mark their order as "priority" order **even after it has been placed**

From these requirements, we can understand the features we need to implement

# FEATURES + PAGES

STEP 2 + 3

## FEATURE CATEGORIES

1 User

2 Menu

3 Cart

4 Order

## NECESSARY PAGES

1 Homepage

2 Pizza menu

3 Cart

4 Placing a new order

5 Looking up an order

/

/menu

/cart

/order/new

/order/:orderID

All features can be placed into one of these. So this is what the app will essentially be about

# STATE MANAGEMENT + TECHNOLOGY DECISIONS

STEP 3 + 4

STATE  
"DOMAINS" /  
"SLICES"

These usually map  
quite nicely to the  
app features

- 1 User → Global UI state (*no accounts, so stays in app*)
- 2 Menu → Global remote state (*menu is fetched from API*)
- 3 Cart → Global UI state (*no need for API, just stored in app*)
- 4 Order → Global remote state (*fetched and submitted to API*)

TYPES OF  
STATE

This is just one of many tech  
stacks we could have chosen

👉 Routing

 **React Router**

*The standard for React SPAs*

👉 Styling

 **tailwindcss**

*Trendy way of styling applications that we want to learn*

👉 Remote state  
management

 **React Router**

*New way of fetching data right inside React Router (v6.4+) that is worth exploring ("**render-as-you-fetch**" instead of "**fetch-on-render**"). Not really state **management**, as it doesn't persist state.*

👉 UI State  
management

 **Redux**

*State is fairly complex. Redux has many advantages for UI state. Also, we want to practice Redux a bit more*