

Why react came in picture

First, Understand Two Styles of Programming

Style	What it means	How it feels
Imperative	You tell the computer how to do things step-by-step.	Like giving cooking instructions.
Declarative	You tell the computer what you want, and it figures out the how.	Like saying "Make me a pizza"—you care about the result, not the steps.



\mathbb{Q} So Why Use React When We Have JS?

Feature	JavaScript (DOM)	React
DOM updates	Manual	Automatic
Code style	Imperative	Declarative
State management	You do it yourself	useState , useEffect etc.
Reusability	Harder	Easy (Components)
Scaling apps	Difficult	Much easier
Performance	Okay	Fast with Virtual DOM
Maintainability	Can become messy	Cleaner structure

JavaScript vs React (Summary Table)

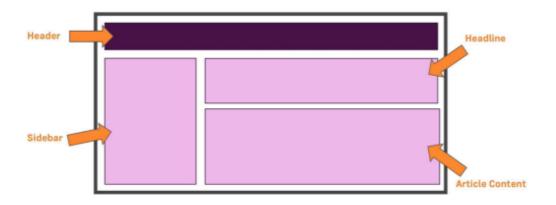
Feature	JavaScript (Imperative)	React (Declarative)
Programming Style	Imperative (step-by-step instructions)	Declarative (describe what UI should look like)
DOM Manipulation	Manual (e.g., document.getElementById)	Automatic via Virtual DOM
UI Updates	You handle state + DOM updates yourself	React handles re-rendering automatically
Component Reuse	Harder to structure and reuse	Easy with components
State Management	Manual (global vars, event listeners)	Built-in with useState, useReducer, etc.
Code Maintenance	Becomes complex as app grows	Cleaner and more manageable
Learning Curve	Lower initially	Slightly higher, but pays off in large apps
Performance	Depends on how you write code	Efficient updates with Virtual DOM
Best For	Small/simple scripts or legacy projects	Modern, scalable, dynamic web apps

React

What is React?

From the official React page: A JavaScript library for building user interfaces

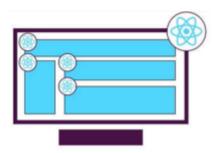
- Its not a framework; React does only one thing create awesome UI!
- React is used to build single page applications.
- React.js is a JavaScript library. It was developed by engineers at Facebook.
- React is a declarative, efficient, and flexible JavaScript library for building user interfaces.
- It lets you compose complex UIs from small and isolated pieces of code called "components".



- It uses VirtualDOM instead of RealDOM considering that RealDOM manipulations are expensive.
- Supports server-side rendering.
- Follows Unidirectional data flow or data binding.
- Uses reusable/composable UI components to develop the view.

Components

- A Component is one of the core building blocks of React.
- Its just a custom HTML element!
- Every application you will develop in React will be made up of pieces called components.
 - Components make the task of building UIs much easier. You can see a UI broken down
 into multiple individual pieces called components and work on them independently and
 merge them all in a parent component which will be your final UI.

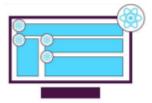


Creating a functional component

- Components are the essential building blocks of any app created with React
 - A single app most often consists of many components.
- A component is in essence, a piece of the UI splitting the user interface into reusable and independent parts, each of which can be processed separately.
 - Components are independent and reusable bits of code.
 - It's an encapsulated piece of logic.
 - They serve the same purpose as JavaScript functions, but work in isolation and return HTML via a render function.

```
function ExpenseItem(){
   return <h2>Expense Item</h2>
}
export default ExpenseItem;

const ExpenseItem = () => {
   return <h2>Expense Item</h2>
}
export default ExpenseItem;
```



Components & JSX

- When creating components, you have the choice between two different ways:
- Functional components (also referred to as "presentational", "dumb" or "stateless" components)

```
const cmp = () => {
  return <div>some JSX</div>
}
```

using ES6 arrow functions as shown here is recommended but optional

 class-based components (also referred to as "containers", "smart" or "stateful" components)

```
class Cmp extends Component {
    render () {
        return <div>some JSX</div>
    }
}
```

PROPS

Props (short for "properties") are read-only inputs that you pass from a parent component to a child component in React.

Passing data via 'Props'

- "Props" stands for properties.
 - It is a special keyword in React used for passing data from one component to another.
 - Props are arguments passed into React components.
 - props are read-only. So, the data coming from a parent component can't be changed by the child component.
 - Props are passed to components via HTML attributes.
 - Props can be used to pass any kind of data such as: String, Array, Integer, Boolean, Objects or, Functions

They allow components to be reusable and dynamic by giving them custom data.

Feature	Explanation	
Read-only	Props cannot be changed inside the child component.	
Passed down	Always flow from parent \rightarrow child.	
Reusable	Make components flexible with different data.	
Destructuring	<pre>Common to use: function Component({ title }) {}</pre>	

Can I Modify Props?

- X No Props are immutable inside the component.
- If you need to change data, you should use state (useState) instead.

```
function Menu() {
  return (
    <main className="menu">
      <h2>Our Menu</h2>
      <Pizza
        name="Pizza Funghi"
        ingredient="Tomato, mozarella, mushrooms, and onion"
        photoName="pizzas/funghi.jpg"
        price={100}
      <Pizza
        name="Pizza Prosciutto"
        ingredient="Tomato, mozarella, ham, aragula, and burrata cheese"
        photoName="pizzas/prosciutto.jpg"
        price={180}
    </main>
  );
```

Destructuring Props

Props destructuring in React is the practice of extracting specific properties from the props object directly, so you can access them without repeatedly writing props. in your component.

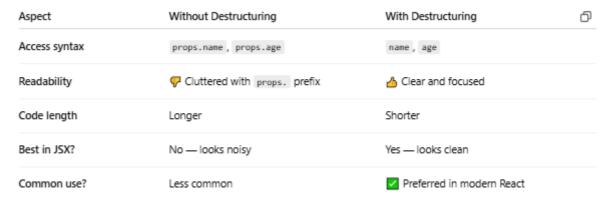
 Props destructuring makes React components more concise, readable, and maintainable by letting you directly extract needed values from the props object.

Why We Need It:

We use props destructuring to:

- 1. Write cleaner and shorter code
 - → Avoid repeating props.name, props.age, etc.
- 2. Improve readability
 - → You see exactly which props the component uses right in the function signature.
- 3. Avoid clutter inside JSX
 - → Especially useful when there are multiple props.
- 4. Make code more maintainable
 - → Easier to update, refactor, and debug.

Comparison Table



Without Destructuring

- You access values with props.name, props.age, etc.
- Works fine but becomes verbose with many props.

With Destructuring

Inside the function body:

- · You pull out name and age from props into their own variables.
- This makes the JSX cleaner.

Even Cleaner: Destructure in the parameter list

- This is the most common and cleanest way.
- You skip props entirely and pull out only what you need.

LIST RENDERING

Rendering a List in React

To render a list of items in React, you typically:

- 1. Use the .map() function to loop over an array.
- 2. Return JSX for each item.
- 3. Provide a unique key prop to each list item.

Why Use a key Prop?

The key helps React identify which items changed, were added, or removed, which improves performance and avoids rendering bugs.

- \mathbb{Q} Key should be unique and stable.
- Avoid using index as key if the list can change.

6 Key Concepts Explained

- .map()
- A JavaScript array method.
- Takes a callback and returns a new array.
- Used to convert an array of data → array of JSX.

2. key Prop

React needs a unique key to track each element:

```
function Menu() {
 return (
   <main className="menu">
     <h2>Our Menu</h2>
      {pizzaData.map((pizza) => (
         <Pizza pizzaObject={pizza} key={pizza.name} />
        ))}
       div>
   </main>
 );
function Pizza(props) {
 console.log(props);
 return (
   <img src={props.pizzaObject.photoName} alt={props.pizzaObject.name} />
      <h3>{props.pizzaObject.name}</h3>
      {props.pizzaObject.ingredients}
      <span>{props.pizzaObject.price + 3}</span>
     </div>
   );
```



What does "pure" mean?

A pure function is one that does not change anything outside itself and always returns a new value based only on its input.

- ✓ .map():
- Takes an array.
- Processes each element.
- · Returns a new array with the transformed results.
- Does not change the original array.
- No side effects.

Example:

```
js

const numbers = [1, 2, 3];

const doubled = numbers.map(n ⇒ n * 2);

console.log(doubled); // [2, 4, 6]

console.log(numbers); // [1, 2, 3] - original array unchanged
```

This is pure and declarative — you declare what the new data should look like.

.forEach() is Imperative

What does "imperative" mean?

An imperative function tells the program how to do something, often involving side effects (modifying something outside the function).

X .forEach():

- Loops over an array.
- Does not return anything.
- · Meant for running side effects (e.g., logging, changing variables).
- · Often used when you're doing something, not producing a new result.

Example:

```
js

const numbers = [1, 2, 3];
const doubled = [];

numbers.forEach(n ⇒ {
   doubled.push(n * 2); // Side effect: modifying `doubled` array
});

console.log(doubled); // [2, 4, 6]
```

Why Use map() Instead of for Each() in React for Rendering Lists

Fundamental Difference

- map() returns a new array with transformed elements
- forEach() returns undefined and only executes a function for each element
- Always use map() when you need to render a list in JSX
- Use forEach only for side effects when you don't need the return value

Why Use .map() in React (Not for Each):

1. React needs JSX to be returned

When you're rendering a list in React, you need to return JSX elements (like <1i>, <di>, <di>, <card />) so React knows what to display on the screen.

- .map() creates and returns a new array of these elements.
- .forEach() does not return anything. It just runs code for each item which is useful for side
 effects, but not for rendering.

2. .map() fits naturally in JSX

You can use .map() directly inside JSX:

But .forEach() doesn't return a value, so you can't use it like this.

3. Cleaner, more concise code

.map() allows you to transform data into UI in a single line.

With .forEach(), you'd need to:

- create an empty array,
- manually push items into it,
- and then return it.

4. React community standard

Using .map() is the standard and recommended way to render lists in React. It's used in almost every React codebase and documentation, so it keeps your code idiomatic and familiar to other developers.

Summary (in one sentence):

We use .map() in React to render lists because it returns an array of JSX elements, which React uses to display content — while .forEach() does not return anything useful for rendering.



Conditional Rendering?

Conditional rendering means showing different UI / div / some portion based on a condition — like whether a user is logged in, or if a shop is open.

• React uses JavaScript logic (like if, ?:, &&) inside JSX to decide what to render.

1) Ternary Operator condition? trueUI: falseUI

```
{isLoggedIn ? Welcome back! : Please log in.}
```

2) Logical AND (&&) — render only if condition is true

```
{isOpen && The shop is open!}
```

3) if...else (outside JSX)

Use this if the condition is complex or the JSX is long.

```
let content;
if (isOpen) {
 content = We are open;
 content = We are closed;
return <div>{content}</div>;
```

4) Early return (guard clause)

```
if (!isOpen) return Closed;
return We're open!;
```

What are React Fragments?

A React Fragment lets you group multiple elements without adding an extra node to the DOM.

? Why Use Fragments?

Normally in React, components must return a single parent element. If you want to return multiple siblings, you usually wrap them in a <div> — but that adds unnecessary HTML to the DOM.

Without Fragment:

This adds an extra <div> to the DOM.

With Fragment:

This adds no extra HTML - just the <h1> and .

Where to Use Fragments?

1. Inside .map() when rendering a list of elements that don't need a wrapper

2. Inside a component when returning multiple sibling elements.

```
function Welcome() {
  return (
```

3. In tables, where adding extra would break structure — instead use fragments to return and properly.

REACT STATE

React State

 The state is a built-in React object that is used to contain data or information about the component.

- A component's state can change over time; whenever it changes, the component re-renders.
 - The change in state can happen as a response to user action or system-generated events and these changes determine the behavior of the component and how it will render.
- A component with state is known as stateful component.
- State allows us to create components that are dynamic and interactive.
 - State is private, it must not be manipulated from the outside.
 - Also, it is important to know when to use 'state', it is generally used with data that is bound to change.

React Hooks

- Hooks allow us to "hook" into React features such as state and lifecycle methods
 - React Hooks are special functions provided by React to handle a specific functionality inside a React functional component.
 - Eg React provides useState() function to manage state in a functional component.
 - When a React functional component uses React Hooks, React Hooks attach itself into the component and provides additional functionality.
- You must import Hooks from react
 - Eg: import React, { useState } from "react"; Here useState is a Hook to keep track of the application state.
- There are some rules for hooks:
 - Hooks can only be called inside React function components.
 - Hooks can only be called at the top level of a component.
 - Hooks cannot be conditional
 - Hooks will not work in React class components.
 - If you have stateful logic that needs to be reused in several components, you can build your own custom Hooks

Working with "state" in functional component

- The React useState Hook allows us to track state in a function component.
- To use the useState Hook, we first need to import it into our component.
 - import { useState } from "react";
 - We initialize our state by calling useState in our function component.

```
import React, {useState} from 'react';
const UseStateComponent = () => {
    useState(); //hooks go here
```



- useState accepts an initial state and returns two values:
- The current state.
- A function that updates the state.

```
    Eg:

          function FavoriteColor() {
               const [color, setColor] = useState("");
```

- The first value, color, is our current state.
- The second value, setColor, is the fuction that is used to update our state.
- Lastly, we set the initial state to an empty string: useState("")

Working with "state" in functional component

```
import React, {useState} from 'react';
const UseStateComponent = () => {
   const [counter, setCounter] = useState(0); //hooks go here
   const btnHandler = () => {
       setCounter(counter+1);
       console.log(counter, " button clicked")
   return(
             Counter: {counter}   
             <button onClick={btnHandler}>increment counter</button>
          </div>
       );
export default UseStateComponent;
```





🖈 Props vs State

Props and State are core concepts in React. They are the only triggers that cause React to re-render components and potentially update the DOM in the browser

- Props : allow you to pass data from a parent (wrapping) component to a child component.
 - Eg: AllPosts Component: "title" is the custom property (prop) set up on the custom Post component.
 - Post Component: receives the props argument. React will pass one argument to your component function; an object, which contains all properties you set up on <Post ... /> .
 - {props.title} then dynamically outputs the title property of the props object which is available since we set the title property inside AllPosts component

- State: While props allow you to pass data down the component tree (and hence trigger an UI update), state is used to change the component's, well, state from within.
 - Changes to state also trigger an UI update.
 - Example: NewPost Component: this component contains state. Only class-based components can define and use state. You can of course pass the state down to functional components, but these then can't directly edit it.

```
class NewPost extends Component { // state can only be accessed in class-based components! state = {
    counter: 1
    };

render () { // Needs to be implemented in class-based components! Return some JSX!

return (
    <div>{this.state.counter}</div>
);
}

Props vs State

props are read-only
props an not be modified vsing this.setState
```

props and state

- Props are immutable.
- They should not be updated by the component to which they are passed.
- They are owned by the component which passes them to some other component.
- State is something internal and private to the component.
- · State can and will change depending on the interactions with the outer world.
- State should store as simple data as possible, such as whether an input checkbox is checked or not or a CSS class that hides or displays the component

🔀 Props vs 🏵 State

Feature	Props	State
Mutability	Immutable – cannot be changed by the receiving component	Mutable – can be updated using useState or similar
Ownership	Owned by the parent component	Owned and managed by the same component
Purpose	Pass data and configuration to child components	Store dynamic data that may change during lifecycle
Usage	Passed via JSX: <component title="Hello"></component>	<pre>Managed internally: const [count, setCount] = useState(0)</pre>
Example Use	Text, props like title, id, etc.	Form inputs, toggle states, visibility, active tabs, etc.
Modification	Cannot be modified by the child component	Can be updated by event handlers, API responses, etc.