Day 24 – Authentication Basics (Modern 2025)

What is Authentication?

Authentication means verifying who the user is.

Example: Login system \rightarrow user enters email/password \rightarrow we verify identity.

Why Authentication?

- Secure user data
- Personalization (dashboards, profiles)
- Restrict access to certain pages
- Real-world apps cannot exist without login

Authentication vs Authorization

Concept	Meaning	Example	
Authentication	Who are you?	Login	
Authorization	What can you do?	Admin vs Normal user	

Modern Authentication Methods (2025)

Method	Used For	Secure	Notes
JWT + HttpOnly Cookies	Full-stack apps	VVV	Recommended best practice
Auth services like Firebase/ Auth0	Fast login integration	VVV	No backend required
Tokens in LocalStorage	Dev/testing	×	Vulnerable to XSS

 \boxed{V} We start with **Mock Auth + Context + Protected Routes** → THEN real backend.

Authentication Flow in React

1 User enters login info 2 Validate → authenticate 3 Store user data in **Context** (global state) 4 Protect private pages → redirect if not logged in

Tools We Use

 \checkmark React Router \rightarrow protected navigation \checkmark Context API \rightarrow global auth state \checkmark useNavigate() \rightarrow redirect after login

AuthContext Structure

- · Holds user data
- Login function
- Logout function
- · Shared across app

Protected Routes (PrivateRoute Component)

Block pages unless user logged in.

Example pages protected: <a>Dashboard <a>Profile <a>Settings

Project Structure

Day 24 – Mini Project Requirements

Secure Dashboard App

✓ Login Page with validation ✓ Dashboard (ONLY if logged-in) ✓ Logout button ✓ Save user in context ✓ useNavigate for redirection ✓ Tailwind/MUI styling recommended

Credentials for mock test:

email: admin@gmail.com

password: 123456

Bonus Challenges

Add Profile Page Show logged-in user's email Redirect user to login after logout Prevent back-button access after logout

🔝 What You Will Learn

- Real authentication architecture
- Secure route protection
- Global state for auth
- Redirect behavior in React

igotimes After you finish igotimes Share your code ightarrow I will review like a senior dev igotimes