App Development

How the Internet Works in 5 Minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_LPdttKXPc>

What is JavaScript?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nItSSTwBvSU>

Native Apps, Web Apps, Hybrid Apps

<https://www.mobiloud.com/blog/native-web-or-hybrid-apps/>

Web App

Application accessed via a web browser over a network such as the internet.

Web Site vs Web App

Web Site => informational i.e. Wikipedia

Web App => functional i.e. Facebook

Mobile App

Computer program designed to run on a mobile device.

Mobile apps better than web apps?

* Notifications
* Sharing
* Time
* Ad Revenue

API – application programming interface

The messenger (a software) that takes requests, and tells a system what to do, then returns the response. Since every program, has its own unique code, APIs’ do the translating between everything. Hence, creating connectivity and interactivity between everything. Think of ordering at a restaurant, the waiter is the API, receiving the request, tells the kitchen, returns with response.

SDK – software development kit

A set of tools used for developing applications for specific operating systems.

CMS – content management system

A program that helps create and manage content…i.e. create a blog without coding knowledge

i.e. WordPress

Native App

App written in languages that the platform accepts, created with their main or appropriate language. i.e. Swift for IOS, Java for Android

Why most apps are native

* Fast and Responsive
* Wider Functionality; interacts with other programs on the same platform easier
* UI matches with the platform

Why not?

* More codebases => one for IOS and one for Android
* Costs more $$$ and time

Main disadvantage…develop apps separately for each platform…only if you stick with the native SDKs provided by Apple and Google. This is when REACT NATIVE comes in.

Hybrid App

A cross between a native app and a web app.

Installed like a native app but is a web app on the inside.

Have an idea for an app, but don’t know if people will like it or not. Goal = MVP

Web app may be the minimal option but won’t allow you to test whether people will download or not. Hybrid app is the solution.

Advantages of a hybrid app

* One codebase to manage
* Save time and money
* Easier to scale to another platform
* Still have access to device features

Disadvantages of a hybrid app

* Performance – WebView, mimics native apps
* Cross-platform is tough
* UX will suffer
* Unlike a native app, with Appstore presence, push notifications, home screen icon, offline use

Choosing an app

<https://infinum.co/the-capsized-eight/android-development-is-30-percent-more-expensive-than-ios#disqus_thread>

* UX is important, best to do two native apps
* Time to market and cost – hours required and hourly cost
* Cost of hiring app developers
* Device features
* Performance
* Gestures
* Data processing needs
* Hiring developers…difficult because of high-demand, developers specialize
* Time required to build a native app – average of 18 weeks to build a standard native mobile app, 10 weeks for the back-end and 8 for the front end

” A 50%-good solution solves more problems and survives longer than a 99% solution that nobody has because it’s in your lab where you’re endlessly polishing the damn thing.” – Joel Spolsky, CEO and co-founder of Stack Overflow

What is Node.js?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RF5_MPSNAtU>

Node.js is a JavaScript framework for writing custom servers.

What is a command line interpreter?

<https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-a-command-line-interpreter-2625827>

A command line interpreter is any program that allows the entering of [commands](https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-a-command-2625828) and then executes those commands to the [operating system](https://www.lifewire.com/operating-systems-2625912). It's literally an interpreter of commands.

What is a Node Package Manager?

<https://docs.npmjs.com/getting-started/what-is-npm>

Windows Command Line Tutorial

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBBWVgE0ewk>

Other Terminology

What is compiling in programming?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zmaYXNiwZk>

If you wrote a program and directly gave it to the pc, it would not understand; the pc speaks in binary, not language. The act of compiling, is when the language is converted into binary so that the pc can understand and follow commands.

What is a transpiler/transcompiler (source to source compiler)?

A compiler that takes the [source code](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Source_code) of a program written in one [programming language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Programming_language) as its input and produces the equivalent source code in another programming language.

What is Babel?

<https://www.quora.com/What-exactly-is-BabelJs-Why-does-it-understand-JSX-React-components?share=1>

Babel is an ECMAScript 6 to ECMAScript 5 transpiler.

In short - it allows you to use language features “from the future”. It does so by transpiling your code to the currently supported version of JavaScript.



You need Babel because browser vendors are slow to adopt new language features.

React Native

React Native by Example

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZnfsJ6mM5c>

React Native Crash Course

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkualZPRZCs>

A framework used to build native cross-platform mobile apps with JavaScript and the React library.

Advantages of React Native

* Cross Platform
* Much less expensive
* Easier to code
* Save time
* Open source

Setting up React Native for Android

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uhuoTcbquic>

The video above saves lives.