React State

React components has a built-in `state` object.

The `state` object is where you store property values that belongs to the component.

When the `state` object changes, the component re-renders.

Creating the `state` Object

The `state` object is initialized in the constructor:

Example:

Specify the `state` object in the constructor method:

```
class Car extends React.Component {
  constructor(props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = {brand: "Ford"};
  }
  render() {
    return (
      <div>
        <h1>My Car</h1>
      </div>
    );
  }
}
```

The `state` object can contain as many properties as you like:

Example:

Specify all the properties your component need:

```
class Car extends React.Component {
  constructor(props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = {
      brand: "Ford",
      model: "Mustang",
      color: "red",
      year: 1964
    };
  }
  render() {
    return (
      <div>
        <h1>My Car</h1>
      </div>
    );
  }
}
```

Using the `state` Object

Refer to the `state` object anywhere in the component by using the `this.state.propertyname` syntax:

Example:

Refer to the `state` object in the `render()` method:

```
class Car extends React.Component {
  constructor(props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = {
      brand: "Ford",
      model: "Mustang",
      color: "red",
      year: 1964
    };
  }
  render() {
    return (
      <div>
        <h1>My {this.state.brand}</h1>
        <p>
          It is a {this.state.color}
          {this.state.model}
          from {this.state.year}.
        </p>
      </div>
    );
```

```
  }
}
```

Changing the `state` Object

To change a value in the state object, use the `this.setState()` method.

When a value in the `state` object changes, the component will re-render, meaning that the output will change according to the new value(s).

Example:

Add a button with an `onClick` event that will change the color property:

```
class Car extends React.Component {
  constructor(props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = {
      brand: "Ford",
      model: "Mustang",
      color: "red",
      year: 1964
    };
  }
  changeColor = () => {
    this.setState({color: "blue"});
```

```
  }
  render() {
    return (
      <div>
        <h1>My {this.state.brand}</h1>
        <p>
          It is a {this.state.color}
          {this.state.model}
          from {this.state.year}.
        </p>
        <button
          type="button"
          onClick={this.changeColor}
        >Change color</button>
      </div>
    );
  }
}
```

Always use the `setState()` method to change the state object, it will ensure that the component knows its been updated and calls the render() method (and all the other lifecycle methods).