

Outline

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Installation

- You don't need to install anything to play with React. Try editing this sandbox!



The image shows a code editor interface. On the left, there is a file named "App.js" with the following content:

```
1 function Greeting({ name }) {
2   return <h1>Hello, {name}</h1>;
3 }
4
5 export default function App() {
6   return <Greeting name="world" />
7 }
8
```

On the right, there is a preview window displaying the output of the code: "Hello, world".

Requirements

- Computer Setup
- To start programming with React, you'll need to have three things:
 - A web browser
 - A code editor (VS code)
 - Node.js

Your First React Application

- Step 1: create a folder on your computer that will be used to store all files related to this book. You can name the folder '**beginning_react**'.
- Step 2: open your terminal and run the **npm** command to create a new React application using **Vite**
- **Vite (pronounced 'veet')** is a build tool that you can use to bootstrap a new React project.
- Inside the '**beginning_react**' folder, you need to run the following command to create a new React project with Vite:

npm create vite@latest my-react-app -- --template react

... React Application

- Then **Vite** will create a new React project named '**my-react-app**' as follows:

```
Scaffolding project in /dev/beginning_react/my-react-app...
```

```
Done. Now run:
```

```
cd my-react-app
npm install
npm run dev
```

- Then, you need to run the ***npm run dev*** command to start your application:

... React Application

```
$ npm run dev

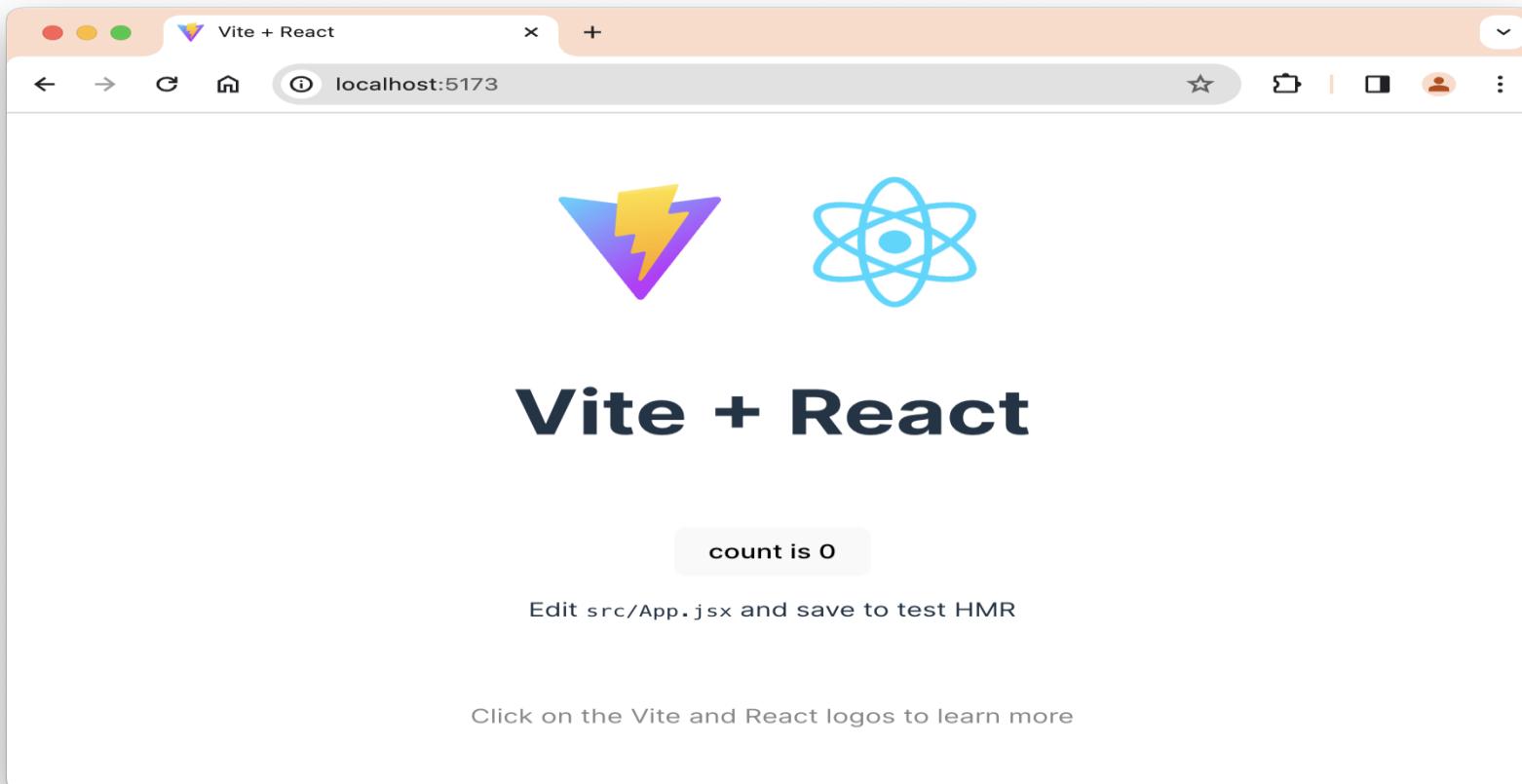
> my-react-app@0.0.0 dev
> vite

VITE v5.0.10  ready in 509 ms

→ Local:  http://localhost:5173/
→ Network: use --host to expose
→ press h + enter to show help
```

... React Application

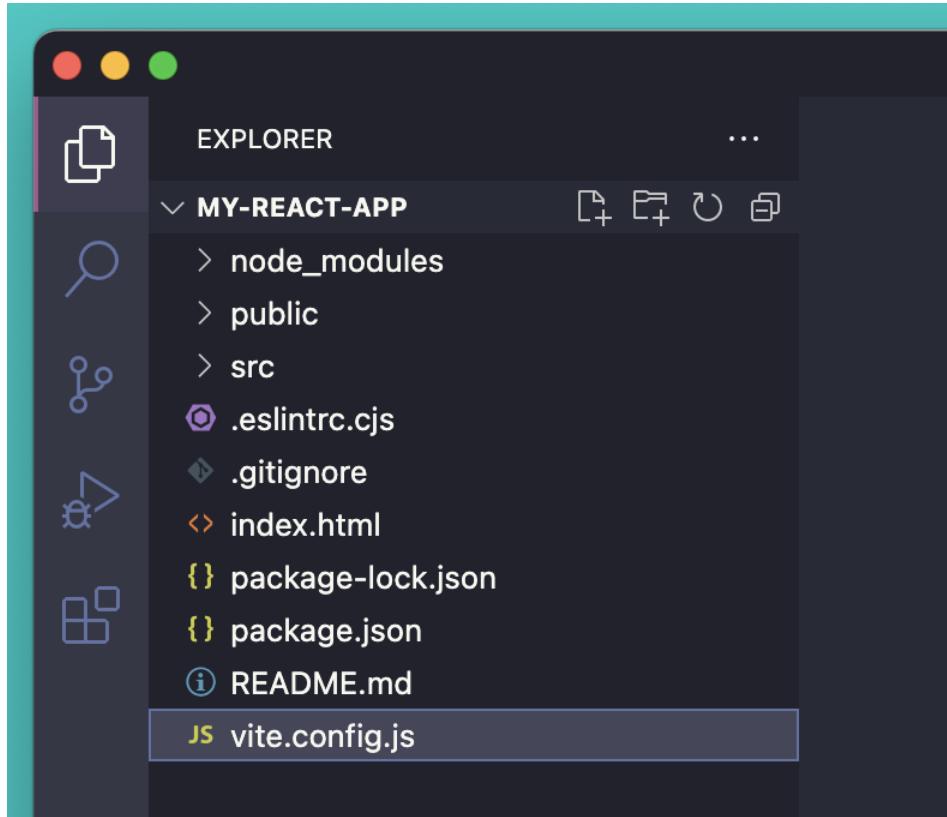
- Now you can view the running application from the browser, at the designated localhost address:



... React Application

Explaining the Source Code

- Here, you should see several folders and files that make up the React application as follows:



... React Application

- You don't need to modify any of these files.
- Instead, let's go to the src/ folder where the React application code is written.

```
src
├── App.css
├── App.jsx
├── assets
│   └── react.svg
└── index.css
└── main.jsx
```

... React Application

- First, the **App.css** file contains the CSS rules applied to the **App.jsx** file, which is the main React application code.
- The **assets/ folder** contains the assets required for this project. In this case, it's the React icon, which you had seen in the browser.
- The **index.css** file is the root CSS file applied globally to the application
- The **main.jsx** file is the root file that access the **index.html** file to render the React application.
- Here's the content of main.jsx file:

```
import React from 'react'
import ReactDOM from 'react-dom/client'
import App from './App.jsx'
import './index.css'

ReactDOM.createRoot(document.getElementById('root')).render(
  <React.StrictMode>
    <App />
  </React.StrictMode>,
)
```

... React Application

- You can open the **App.jsx** file to view the React code:

```
function App() {  
  return <h1>Hello World</h1>  
}  
  
export default App
```