



Ashutosh Singh

Installing and Using Material UI with React

Ashutosh Singh

Oct 29, 2020 • 7 Min read • 2,644 Views

Oct 29, 2020 • 7 Min read • 2,644 Views

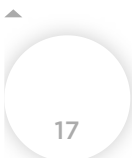
Web Development

Front End Web Dev...

Client-side Framew...

React

Introduction



- [Introduction](#)
- [Installation](#)
- [Basic Usage](#)
- [Conclusion](#)
- [Top](#) ^

Introduction

With over 60,000 [GitHub stars](#), *Material-UI* is one of the most popular React UI libraries. It has components, styles, themes, icons, and so much more and can be used as a single resource for all your styling needs.

In this guide, we will discuss how to install Material-UI, import components, and use them inside your React app.

Installation

To install Material-UI, run the following command in your React project's root directory.

```
1 npm install @material-ui/core
```

bash

Or if you prefer `yarn`, run the following command.

```
1 yarn add @material-ui/core
```

bash

Material-UI works best with Roboto font, but it is not automatically loaded by Material-UI, so you will have to add it yourself. There are many ways to do this. One of the easier ways is by using Google Web Fonts.

Add the following code to the `<head>` tag of your `public/index.html` file.

```
1 <link rel="stylesheet" href="https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Robot
```

html

Icons

With Material-UI, you can use both font icons and SVG icons. To use font icons, add the following code to the `<head>` tag of your `public/index.html` file.

```
1      <link rel="stylesheet" href="https://fonts.googleapis.com/icon?family=MaterialIcons">
```

html

To use SVG icons, run the following command, and install `@material-ui/icons` as a dependency.

```
1      npm install @material-ui/icons
```

bash

Basic Usage

In this section, we will discuss how to use Material-UI in your app. We will style a `<Button>` component using various props.

Button

The first thing to do in order to use any Material-UI component is to import that component. In your `App.js`, add the following code at

the top with other imports.

JSX

```
import React from "react";  
1     import { Button } from '@material-ui/core';  
2
```

Or you can import by pulling specific components from the library.

JSX

```
1     import Button from '@material-ui/core/Button';
```

Now use this component inside the `App()` function, then pass `primary` in `color` prop and `contained` in `variant` prop.

JSX

```
1     export default function App() {  
2         return (  
3             <div>  
4                 <Button color="primary" variant="contained">  
5                     Click Me  
6                 </Button>  
7             </div>  
8         );  
9     }
```

Here is how this button will look.



CLICK ME

You can change the size by passing the `size` prop to the `Button` component. This `size` prop can take `small`, `medium`, and `large` as its value.

```
1 <Button size="large" color="primary" variant="contained">  
2   Click Me  
3 </Button>
```

JSX

Here is how this button will look.



CLICK ME

You can also add icons to this button using `startIcon` and `endIcon` props; as the name suggests, `startIcon` adds icon before the text of the button and `endIcon` adds it after the text.

But first, you need to import the icons into your `App.js`. In this example, you will create login and logout buttons. You can search

for your desired icons [here](#).

Import `AccountCircle` icon from `@material-ui/icons`.

JSX

```
1 import LoginIcon from '@material-ui/icons/AccountCircle';
```

Now, pass this `LoginIcon` to the `startIcon` prop of the `Button` component.

JSX

```
1 <Button startIcon={<LoginIcon />} color="primary" variant="contained">
2   Login
3 </Button>
```

Here is how this button will look.



You can also pass this icon to the `endIcon` prop.

JSX

```
1 <Button endIcon={<LoginIcon />} color="primary" variant="contained">
2   Login
3 </Button>;
```

Here is how this button will look.



Now for the logout button. Import the `ExitToApp` icon from `@material-ui/icons`.

```
1      import LogoutIcon from '@material-ui/icons/ExitToApp';
```

JSX

For the logout button, pass `secondary` to the `color` prop, which will make the button red; that makes sense since it is a logout button.

```
1      <Button startIcon={<LogoutIcon />} color="secondary" variant="contained">
2        Logout
3      </Button>
```

JSX

Here is how this button will look.



You can further group these buttons using the `ButtonGroup` component. First, import the `ButtonGroup` component to `App.js`.

JSX

```
1 import ButtonGroup from "@material-ui/core/ButtonGroup";
```

Using `ButtonGroup`, remove repetitive props from the buttons and pass them to `ButtonGroup` instead.

For example, here `variant="contained"` is common to both the buttons, so you can pass it to `ButtonGroup` instead and remove it from individual buttons.

JSX

```
1 <ButtonGroup variant="contained">
2   <Button endIcon={<LoginIcon />} color="primary">
3     Login
4   </Button>
5   <Button startIcon={<LogoutIcon />} color="secondary">
6     Logout
7   </Button>
8 </ButtonGroup>
```

Here is how this will look.

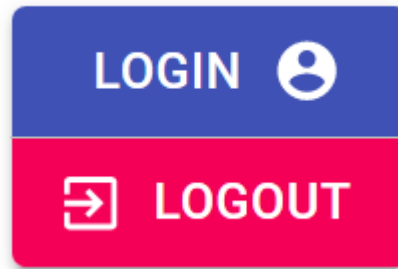


You can also change the buttons' orientation by passing the `orientation` prop to the `ButtonGroup` component.

JSX

```
1 <ButtonGroup variant="contained" orientation="vertical">  
2   ...  
3 </ButtonGroup>
```

Here is how this will look.



You can explore all the examples discussed above [here](#).

There are many props besides the one discussed here available for every component. You can read more about them in the official docs.

Conclusion

In this guide, we discussed how to install and use Material UI in any React app. We also saw how to add icons and style components.

Try to explore different components, themes, icons, and styles available in Material UI. Here are some additional resources that can be helpful.

- [Material UI Docs](#)
- [Material Design](#)
- [Styling a React App with Material UI](#)

Happy coding!