Expo Documentation — Reference Guide

What is Expo?

Expo is a platform for building React Native apps with a managed workflow. It provides tools, libraries, and services that simplify mobile development.

Getting Started

```
# Create a new project
npx create-expo-app@latest MyApp
cd MyApp

# Start development server
npx expo start

# Run on device
# Scan QR code with Expo Go app (iOS/Android)
```

Project Structure

```
MyApp/
├── app/              # Screens (file-based routing)
│   ├── _layout.tsx   # Root layout
│   ├── index.tsx     # Home screen
│   └── profile.tsx   # Profile screen
├── components/       # Reusable components
├── assets/           # Images, fonts
├── constants/        # Theme, config
└── app.json          # Expo configuration
```

Useful Expo SDK Libraries

Library	Purpose
expo-camera	Camera access
expo-location	GPS location

Library	Purpose
expo-notifications	Push notifications
expo-secure-store	Encrypted storage
expo-image-picker	Photo gallery access
expo-file-system	File read/write

Building for Production

```
# Install EAS CLI
npm install -g eas-cli

# Configure build
eas build:configure

# Build for Android
eas build --platform android

# Build for iOS
eas build --platform ios

# Submit to stores
eas submit --platform android
eas submit --platform ios
```

Key Takeaways

1. Expo Go lets you test on real devices without building native code.
2. Use expo-router for Next.js-style file-based navigation.
3. EAS Build handles native compilation in the cloud.
4. Eject with npx expo prebuild when you need custom native modules.

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