React Native in 100 Seconds — Quick Reference

Why React Native?

- **Cross-platform** — One codebase for iOS and Android.
- **Hot Reloading** — See changes instantly without rebuilding.
- **Huge ecosystem** — Reuse React knowledge and npm packages.
- **Used by** — Facebook, Instagram, Shopify, Discord, Bloomberg.

Key Differences from React (Web)

React Web	React Native
`<div>`	`<View>`
`<p>`, `<span>`	`<Text>`
CSS files	`StyleSheet.create()`
`onClick`	`onPress`
`className`	`style` prop
px, rem, em	Unitless numbers (density-independent pixels)

Expo vs Bare Workflow

Feature	Expo	Bare
Setup	`npx create-expo-app`	`npx react-native init`
Native modules	Limited (Expo SDK)	Full access
OTA updates	Built-in	Manual
Build	Cloud (EAS Build)	Local (Xcode/Android Studio)
Best for	Prototyping, most apps	Custom native code

Quick Tips

1. Use `expo-router` for file-based routing (like Next.js).
2. Use `react-native-reanimated` for smooth 60fps animations.
3. Test on real devices — simulators miss performance issues.
4. Use `AsyncStorage` for simple local persistence.
