

React

Web App Building Blocks

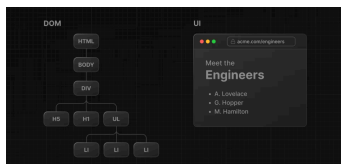
- * User Interface: how users consume/interact w/ app
- * Routing: how users navigate parts of app
- * Data Fetching: where data lives/how to get it
- * Rendering: when/where you render static/dynamic content
- * Integrations: 3rd-party services/how to connect to them
- * Infrastructure: where you deploy, store, run app code (serverless, CDN, edge(close to client), etc)
- * Performance: optimizing app for end-users
- * Scalability: how app adapts as team, data, traffic grow
- * Developer Experience: team's experience building/maintaining app

React: js library for building interactive user interfaces (**UI**)

APIs: helpful functions

Nextjs: React framework that gives building blocks for web apps

Document Object Model (DOM): object representation of HTML elements, bridge btwn code and UI, tree-like structure w/ parent/child relationships



* HTML represents initial pg content, while DOM represents updated pg content

Imperative vs Declarative Programming

- * Imperative: giving chef step-by-step how to make pizza
- * Declarative: ordering a pizza w/out concerns abt steps making it

React

react: core React library
react-dom: provides DOM-specific methods that enable you to use React w/ DOM

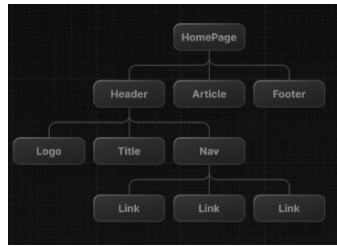
JSX: syntax extension for js allows you to describe UI in familiar HTML-like syntax
* browsers don't understand JSX out of the box -> need js compiler

React Core Concepts

- * Components: Lego bricks of UI, are functions in React
- * Props: read-only properties that can be passed to react components, **one-way data flow** data flows down component tree
- * State: UI info that changes over time, usually triggered by user interaction

Nesting Components

- * Component Trees



Using Variables in JSX

* inside curly braces {} can add js expression that evaluates to single value ie

1. Object property w/ dot notation

```
{props.title}
```

2. Template literal

```
{`Cool ${title}`}
```

3. Returned function value

```
function createTitle(title) {  
  if (title) {  
    return title;  
  } else {  
    return 'Default title';  
  }  
}
```

```
{createTitle(title)}
```

4. Ternary Operators

```
{title ? title : 'Default title'}
```

Event Handlers: ie functions to “handle” events when triggered

State and hooks

- * State: UI info that changes over time, usually triggered by user interaction
- * Hooks: allow you to add additional logic to components

Note: unlike props which are passed to components as first function parameter, state is initiated and stored w/in component

* You can pass state info to children components as props, but logic for updating state should be kept w/in component where state initially created

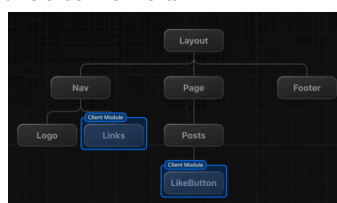
StackBlitz

<https://stackblitz.com/edit/vitejs-vite-9svwuax9?file=index.html>

Environments

- * Client: browser on user's device that sends request to server for app then turns response from server into UI
- * Server: computer that stores app, receives client requests, does computation, sends back response

Network Boundary: separation btwn different environments



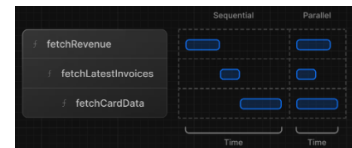
- * in react, can choose where separation is
- * components split into 2 module graphs **server module graph/tree** and **client module graph/tree**
- * after server components rendered, special data format called **React Server Component Payload (RSC)** sent to client

React Server Component Payload (RSC): contains:

1. Rendered server components
2. Placeholders for where client components should be rendered and refs to their js files

* Nextjs uses server components by default

Request waterfall: sequence of network requests that depend on completion of previous requests



Parallel data fetching: initiates all data requests at same time

Static rendering: data fetching and rendering happens on server @ build time or when revalidating data, useful for UI w/ **no data/data that is shared across users**, benefits:

- faster websites, prerendered content cached and globally distributed when deployed
- reduced server load, bc content cached, server doesn't have to dynamically generate content for each user request
- SEO, prerendered content easier for search engine crawlers to index

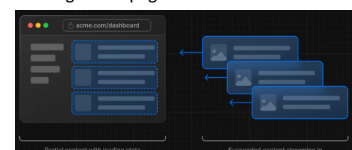
Dynamic rendering: content rendered on server for each user @ **request time** (when user visits page), benefits:

- real-time data, or data updated often
- user-specific content
- request time info, access info only be known @ request time, ie. cookies, URL search parameters

Note: w/ dynamic rendering **your app is only as fast as your slowest data fetch**

Streaming: data transfer technique that allows you to break down route into smaller “chunks” and progressively stream them from serve to client as they are ready

- can prevent slow data requests from blocking whole page



Nextjs

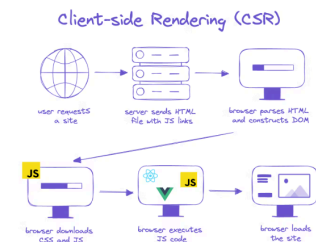
Next.js: open-source web dev framework that provides React-based web apps w/ server-side rendering and static rendering

Vercel: frontend cloud

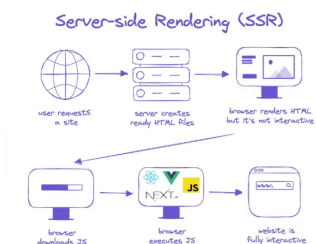
turbopack: bundling tool to improve performance

Tailwind CSS: open-source CSS framework, uses "utility" CSS classes

Client-side Rendering (CSR): generates HTML using js in browser



Server-side Rendering (SSR): generates HTML content on server, sends to client



Quick Start

1. npx create-next-app@latest <app-name>
2. cd <app-name>
3. npm dev

Go to <http://localhost:3000>

Folder Structure

* **/app:** contains routes, components, logic for app

* **/app/lib:** contains functions for app, ie reusable utility and data fetching functs

* **/app/ui:** contains UI components for app

* **/public:** contains static assets for app, ie imgs

* **config files:** configuration for nextjs in project

Routing Files			
Add <code>[page]</code> to expose a route, <code>[layout]</code> for shared UI such as header, nav, or footer, <code>[loading]</code> for skeletons, <code>[error]</code> for error boundaries and <code>[route]</code> for APIs.			
<code>layout.tsx</code>	JS	SSR	Layout
<code>page.tsx</code>	JS	SSR	Page
<code>loading.tsx</code>	JS	SSR	Loading UI
<code>not-found.tsx</code>	JS	SSR	Not found UI
<code>error.tsx</code>	JS	SSR	Error UI
<code>global-error.tsx</code>	JS	SSR	Global error UI
<code>api.ts</code>	JS	SSR	API endpoint
<code>revalidate.ts</code>	JS	SSR	Re-rendered layout
<code>default.ts</code>	JS	SSR	Parallel route fallback page

Types of Folders

_folderName: private folder

[folderName]: parameter of route

(folderName): route group

Tailwind: CSS framework that allows you to quickly write utility classes directly in React

- * style elements by adding class names ie:

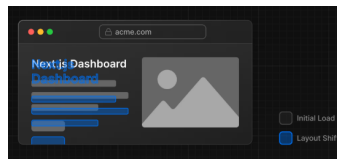
```
<h1 className="text-blue-500">I'm blue!</h1>
```

turns `<h1> blue`

- * can either use tailwind or css modules

clsx: library that lets you toggle class names

Cumulative layout shift: Google metric to evaluate website performance and user experience, ie layout shifts happen when browser initially renders text in a fallback font then swaps it out for a custom font after loading causing elements to shift around



- * **next/font** module downloads font files @ build time and hosts them w/ other static assets automatically optimizing fonts

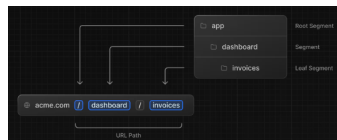
- * **anti-aliasing:** smoothing out edges in font by creating gradual transition, ie. tailwind has **antialiased** property

- * **next/image:** `<Image>` component is an extension of HTML `` tag, it automatically optimizes image by:

- preventing layout shift when imgs loading
- resizing imgs to avoid shipping large imgs to devices w/ smaller viewport
- lazy loading imgs by default (imgs load as they enter viewport)
- serving imgs in modern formats, ie WebP, AVIF, when browser supports it

- * Note: define `<Image>` dimensions and fonts to prevent layout shifts

Nested Routing: folders used to create nested routes, each folder represents route segment that maps to URL segment

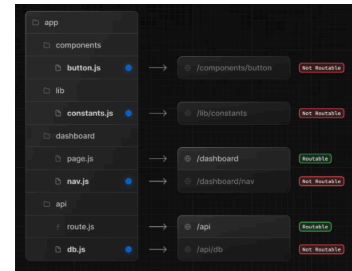


- * **page.tsx:** components for pg, required to make route accessible



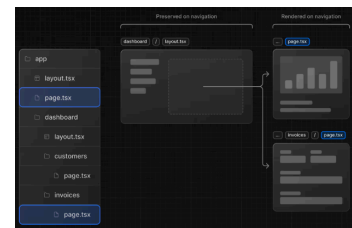
- * can **colocate** publicly accessible and inaccessible files in app folder

- * only content inside **page** file will be publicly accessible



- * **layout.tsx:** root layout must contain `<html>`, `<body>` tags, changes affect all routes under folder, on navigation only pages components update while layout doesn't re-render

- * **partial rendering:** preserves client-side react state in layout when transitioning between pages



- * **root layout:** required in every nextjs app, UI shared across all pages in app

- * **<Link />** component allows client-side navigation w/ js, nextjs **prefetches** code for linked route in background

Note: nextjs automatically code splits app by route segments, pages are isolated, ie. if page throws error, rest of app still works, less code for browser to parse, makes app faster

- * **seed:** populating a database w/ initial set of data

Note: don't query database directly when fetching data on client as exposes database secrets

React Server Components: benefits:

- * support js Promises, providing solution for async tasks like data fetching natively, ie. can use **async/await** syntax w/out needing **useEffect**, **useState** or other data fetching libs

- * run on server, keep expensive data fetches and logic on server, only sends result to client

- * query database directly w/out additional API layer

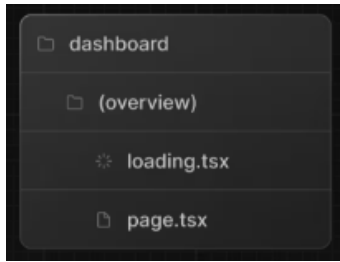
loading.tsx: fallback UI while page loads

- * user doesn't have to wait for page to finish loading before navigating away called **interruptable navigation**

- * **loading skeleton:** simplified version of UI as placeholder/fallback for loading content

Nextjs

Route Groups: ie. (folderName), doesn't affect URL path



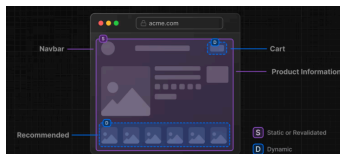
- * ie. loading.tsx only applies to page.tsx file
- * ie. /dashboard/(overview)/page.tsx becomes /dashboard

Suspense: allows you to defer rendering parts of app until some condition is met

Note: it's good practice to move data fetches down to components that need it, then wrap components in **Suspense**

Partial prerendering (PPR): combines static and dynamic rendering in same route, uses react Suspense, works by:

1. Static route **shell** is served immediately, makes initial load faster
2. Shell leaves holes where dynamic content loads asynchronously
3. Async holes streamed in parallel, reducing overall page load time



Note: if you call a **dynamic function** in a route (ie querying your database), the entire route becomes dynamic

Note: Suspense fallback is embedded into initial HTML file w/ static content, @ build time/revalidation static content is **prerendered** to create static shell, rendering of dynamic content **postponed** until user requests route

* Suspense is used as boundary btwn static and dynamic code

* **URL search params** benefits:

- bookmarkable and sharable URLs since search params in URL
- server-side rendering, URL parameters can be directly consumed on server to render initial state
- analytics and tracking, search queries and filters directly in URL makes easier to track user behavior w/out requiring additional client-side logic

Adding Search Functionality

* **useSearchParams:** allows you to access parameters of current URL, ie. search params for URL /dashboard/invoices?page=1&query=pending would look like: {page: '1', query: 'pending'}

* **usePathname:** lets you read current path, ie. /dashboard/invoices, usePathname would return '/dashboard/invoices'

* **useRouter:** enables navigation btwn routes w/in client components programmatically

Implementation steps:

1. Capture user's input
2. Update URL w/ search params
3. Keep URL in sync w/ input field
4. Update table to reflect search query

"use client": client component, can use event listeners and hooks

* **URLSearchParams:** Web API provides utility methods for manipulating URL query parameters

Pre-Populating

defaultValue vs **value/** Controlled vs Uncontrolled

- * if using state to manage input value, use **value** to make it a controlled component, React would manage input's state
- * if not using state, can use **defaultValue**, means native input manages own state

useSearchParams() vs **search Params** ie.

* **<Search>** is client component, use **useSearchParams()** hook to access params from client

* **<Table>** is server component that fetches own data, can pass **searchParams** prop from page component

Note: if you want to read params from client use **useSearchParams()** hook as avoids having to go back to server

Debouncing: programming practice that limits rate @ which function can fire, steps:

1. **Trigger Event:** when event that should be debounced occurs, timer starts
2. **Wait:** if new event occurs before timer expires, reset timer
3. **Execution:** timer reaches end of countdown, debounced function executed

Pagination: allows users to navigate thru different pages

React Server Actions: allow you to run async code directly on server, eliminate need to create API endpoints to mutate data, include features like:

- encrypted closures
- strict input checks
- error message hashing
- host restrictions
- etc
- advantage of invoking Server Action w/in Server Component is **progressive enhancement:** forms work even if js has not yet loaded on client

Dynamic route segments: when you don't know route segment names ahead of time and want to create routes from dynamic

data, dynamic segments filled in @ request time/prerendered @ build time ie. **[foldername]**

Universally Unique Identifier (UUID):

128-bit number designed to be unique identifier, reduces risk of ID collision, globally unique, reduces risk of enumeration attacks, better for large databases

Auto-incrementing keys: ie (1, 2, 3, ...), may cause ID collision in URL

error.tsx: can be used to define UI boundary for route segment, catch-all for unexpected errors and allows you to display fallback UI to users

notFound.tsx: error page for fetching resource that doesn't exist, takes precedence over **error.tsx**

Accessibility

Semantic HTML: using semantic elements (<input>, <option>, etc) instead of <div>, allows assistive technologies (ATs) to focus on input elements and provide context to user

Labelling: including <label> and htmlFor attribute for descriptive text

Focus Outline: fields properly styled

Form validation: either client/server-side validation for form

Authentication: checks who you are

Authorization: determines what you can do/access in app

Hashing: converts string into fixed-length string of characters which appears random, provides security if user's data exposed

Metadata: info embedded in page's HTML not visible to users, usually w/in <head> element, info is crucial for search engines/systems that need to understand webpage's content

Types of Metadata

* **Title:** title of webpage

* **Description:** brief overview of webpage content

* **Keyword:** keywords related to webpage content

* **Open Graph:** enhances webpage representation when shared on social media platforms

* **Favicon:** links favicon to webpage displayed in address bar/tab

2 Ways to Add Metadata

* **Config-based:** export static metadata object/dynamic generateMetadata function in layout.js /page.js file

* **File-based:** use nextjs special files for metadata

Note: can create dynamic OG images using ImageResponse Constructor

Note: metadata in nested pages will override metadata in parent

Nextjs

StackBlitz
<https://stackblitz.com/edit/stackblitz-starter-s-i4zz7nvi>