

# Navigation

## The React Router

# Introduction

- **Allows** multiple views **and** flows **in an app**.
- **Keeps the URL in sync with the UI**.
- **Supports traditional web principles:**
  - 1. Addressability.**
  - 2. Information sharing.**
  - 3. Deep linking.**
    - **1<sup>st</sup> generation AJAX apps violated these principles.**
- **A separate library.**

# Basic routing configuration

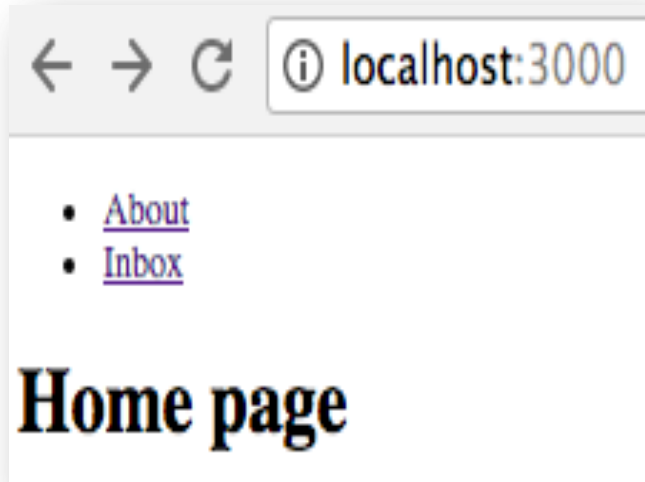
	URL	Components
1	/	Home
2	/about	About
3	/inbox	Inbox

```
17  const App = () => {  
18    return (  
19      <BrowserRouter>  
20        <Switch>  
21          <Route path="/about" component={About} />  
22          <Route path="/inbox" component={Inbox} />  
23          <Route exact path="/" component={Home} />  
24          <Redirect from="*" to="/" />  
25        </Switch>  
26      </BrowserRouter>  
27    );  
28  };  
29  
30  ReactDOM.render(<App />, document.getElementById("root"));  
31
```

- **Declarative routing.**
- **<BrowserRouter> match browser's URL with <Route> paths.**
- **<Route> component mounted when match occurs.**
- **<Route> path supports regular expression pattern matching.**
  - **Use exact argument for precision.**
- **Use <Redirect> to avoid 404-type error.**
- **<Switch> - only one of the nested Routs can be active.**
- **ReactDOM.render() passed an app's Router component.**
- **Ref.** src/sample1/

# Hyperlinks

- Use the `<Link>` component for internal links.
  - Use anchor tag for external links - `<a href . . . . . >`
- EX. Ref. `src/sample2/`



```
6   const Home = () => {
7     return (
8       <>
9         <ul>
10          <li>
11            <Link to="/about">About</Link>
12          </li>
13          <li>
14            <Link to="/inbox">Inbox</Link>
15          </li>
16        </ul>
17        <h1>Home page</h1>
18      </>
19    );
20  };
```

Absolute URL

- `<Link>` gives access to other useful router properties.
- Use `<LinkContainer>` when link wraps other 3<sup>rd</sup> party component, e.g. Bootstrap-React `<Button />`

# Dynamic segments.

- Parameterized URLs, e.g. `/users/22`, `/users/12/purchases`
  - How do we declare a parameterized path in the routing configuration?
  - How does a custom component access the parameter value?

- **Ex: Ref** `src/sample3/`.

**Suppose the Inbox component shows messages for a specific user, where the user's id is part of the browser URL**

**e.g `/inbox/123` where 123 is the user's id.**


```
<Route path='/inbox/:userId' component={ Inbox } />
```

**The colon (:) prefixes a parameter in the path.**

**Parameter name is arbitrary.**

# Dynamic segments.

```
3
4  const BaseInbox = props => {
5    return (
6      <>
7        <h2>Inbox page</h2>
8        <h3>Messages for user: {props.match.params.userId} </h3>
9      </>
10    );
11  };
12
13  export default withRouter(BaseInbox);
14
```



The diagram consists of two white arrows. One arrow originates from the `withRouter` function call in line 13 and points towards the `BaseInbox` component definition in line 4. The second arrow originates from the `props` parameter in the `BaseInbox` definition and points towards the JSX elements in lines 6-9, specifically highlighting the dynamic segment `{props.match.params.userId}` in line 8.

- **withRouter() function:**
  - **Injects routing props into a component:**
    - `props.match.params.(parameter-name)`
    - `props.history`
  - **Returns a new, enriched component.**

# Routing.

- **More routing features next week.**

