

How to Add Bootstrap 4 to your React Application

Integrating Bootstrap with React can be achieved in various ways, such as:

- Importing Bootstrap from a CDN,
- Installing Bootstrap from npm,
- Using React Bootstrap package like Reactstrap

In this tutorial we'll explore these methods in more details.

How to use Bootstrap 4 from a CDN in React

Let's see the first method of integrating Bootstrap with React i.e via a CDN. This approach is the easiest one since you only need to add a `<link>` tag pointing to a Bootstrap CDN in the `public/index.html` file of your React application.

Provided that you have generated a React project with the `create-react-app` tool, navigate to your project's root folder and open the `public/index.html` file then add the following code in the `<head>` section:

```
<link rel="stylesheet"
href="https://stackpath.bootstrapcdn.com/bootstrap/4.1.3/css/bootstrap.min.css" integrity="sha384-
MCw98/SFnGE8fJT3GXwEOngsV7Zt27NXFoaoApmYm81iuXoPkFOJwJ8ERdknLPMO"
crossorigin="anonymous">
```

If you need to use Bootstrap components that depend on JavaScript/jQuery in your React application, you also need to include jQuery, Popper.js and Bootstrap.js in your document. Add the following imports before the closing `</body>` tag:

```
<script src="https://code.jquery.com/jquery-3.3.1.slim.min.js"
integrity="sha384-
q8i/X+965DzO0rT7abK41JStQIAqVgRVzpbzo5smXKp4YfRvH+8abtTE1Pi6jizo"
crossorigin="anonymous"></script>

<script
src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/popper.js/1.14.0/umd/popper.min.js"
integrity="sha384-
cs/chFZiN24E4KMATLdqvsezGxaGsi4hLGOzlXwp5UZB1LY//20VyM2taTB4QvJ"
crossorigin="anonymous"></script>

<script
src="https://stackpath.bootstrapcdn.com/bootstrap/4.1.0/js/bootstrap.min.js"
integrity="sha384-
uefMccjFJAIv6A+rW+L4AHf99KvxDjWSulz9VI8SKNVmz4sk7buKt/6v9KI65qnm"
crossorigin="anonymous"></script>
```

That's it. You have now added Bootstrap in your React application. You should be able to use all the CSS utilities and UI components available from Bootstrap in your application.

***Note:** Please note that you are not required to use the `create-react-app` tool to scaffold your application. The important thing is that you need to add the imports to the `index.html` file of your project.*

Adding Bootstrap in React Using NPM

You can also import Bootstrap in your React application by installing it from npm.

Provided that you have a React project. Open a new terminal window, navigate to your project's folder and run the following command:

```
$ npm install bootstrap --save
```

After installing the `bootstrap` package, you will need to import it in your React app entry file.

If you generated your project using the `create-react-app` tool; open the `src/index.js` file and add the following code:

```
import 'bootstrap/dist/css/bootstrap.min.css';
```

You can now use the CSS classes and utilities in your application but if you need to use the JavaScript components, you will also need to install the `jquery` and `popper.js` packages from npm. In your terminal, run the following commands:

```
$ npm install jquery popper.js
```

Next, go to the `src/index.js` file and add the following imports:

```
import $ from 'jquery';
import Popper from 'popper.js';
import 'bootstrap/dist/js/bootstrap.bundle.min';
```