This series of articles will go over how this blog was created. We will as little as possible other packages then the ones coming with React to minimize the complexity of the project. Why use a third-party package when you can use tools already at your disposal, right? This means:

* no Redux, we can now use the Context API from the React library
* no class components, hooks can do everything needed and you don’t need to manage the lifecycle of a component, which simplifies and normalize the look of the project (who likes classes anyways)

~~We will write tests before every component. This is not a big application and it should be easily maintainable, but it’s a good way to practice and make sure no bugs are introduced during the development (shit happens).~~

So, lets dive right into it. We will start by making our front end to have a good idea of the requirements for the backend.

The endpoints of our application will look like this:

/ <------ Home Page

/blog <------ Blog Page

/contact <------ Contact

Pretty simple right?

First, we will use create-react-app to simplify the process of setting up a React application.

npx create-react-app nightcoder

Here we use npx instead of a version on create-react-app installed locally to be sure of having the latest version. After some time, we will have a folder called nightcoder where all our React app will be.

README.md <------ useless for now, but whatever

node\_modules <------ installed packages

package.json <------ nodejs config file

public <------ public folders where you can put images and other content that needs to be rendered statically

src <------ root of our React app

yarn.lock <------ WTF is this?

Let’s start with the home page.

Our home pages will have a header, a component displaying the latest article, a carousel of cards showing popular articles, a list of articles sorted chronologically with the first lines of the article and finally a footer.

The header will be a flexbox starting with the logo & title, navigation buttons and a search bar.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Logo & Title | Navigation buttons | Search bar |