Mobile development: React Native

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Case study

- Your boss: I need you to make a counter app for me right now.
- You: Sure, give me minutes.

Expo

The fastest way to make "counter" app materialize on your phone.

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Assume

- You know React.
- You and your boss have Android phones.

Setup

- Create Expo account.
- Install required CLI tool / authenticated
 - o npm install -g eas-cli
 - eas login

Steps

- npx create-expo-app -t expo-template-blank-typescript
- npx expo install expo-updates (For OTA update)

App.tsx

```
import { StatusBar } from "expo-status-bar";
import { StyleSheet, Text, View, Button } from "react-native";
import { useState } from "react";
export default function App() {
  const [count, setCount] = useState(0);
  return (
    <View style={styles.container}>
      <StatusBar backgroundColor="blue" />
      <Text style={{ fontSize: 50 }}>Counts: {count}</Text>
      <Button onPress={() => setCount((c) => c + 1)} title="Add" />
      <Button onPress={() => setCount(0)} title="Reset" color="red" />
    </View>
  );
const styles = StyleSheet.create({
  container: {
    flex: 1,
    backgroundColor: "#fff",
    alignItems: "center",
    justifyContent: "center",
    gap: 10,
```

Build

- eas update:configure
- eas build:configure
- eas build --platform android --profile preview

Update

• eas update --branch preview --message "Fix typo"

Overview of mobile development

Mobile development

- Native
 - Andriod: Java or Kotlin
 - o iOS: Objective-C or Swift
- Cross-platform
 - React Native: JavaScript
 - Flutter: Dart

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Native vs cross-platform

	Native	Cross-Platform
Time to market	Slow	Fast
Features	Full	Limited
Performance	More	Less
Cost	More	Less

React Native vs Flutter

Popularity

React Native vs Flutter

	React Native	Flutter
Language	JavaScript	Dart
UI	Native UI and iOS components	Custom widget
Dev API	Core + 3rd party libs	Core
Dev option	More versatile	More streamlined
Performance	Faster	Slower

Source

React Native

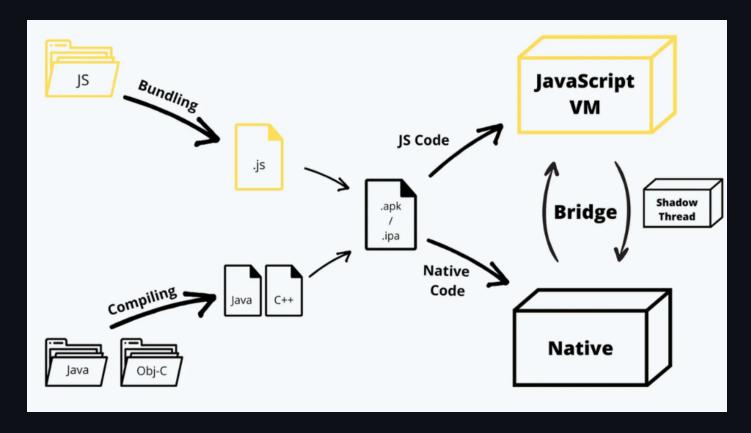
JavaScript

React Native

Native Code

(Objective-C/Swift, Java/Kotlin, XCode, Android Studio)

React Native architecture



Source

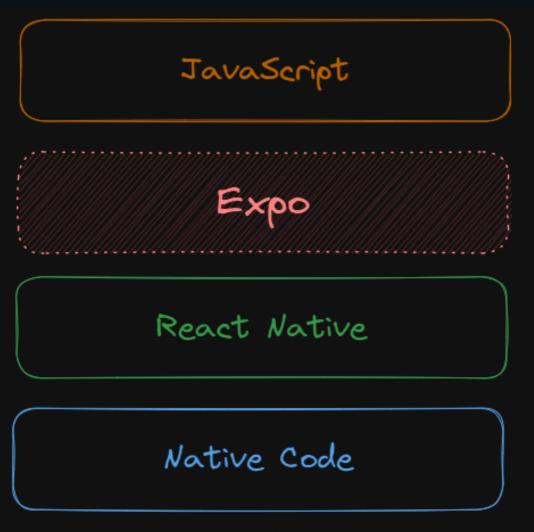
But what is Expo?

- Expo is a set of tools and services built around React Native.
- From React Native official doc:

If you are new to mobile development, the easiest way to get started is with Expo Go.

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Expo position



(Objective-C/Swift, Java/Kotlin, XCode, Android Studio)

Expo ecosystem

Expo SDK

Framework for building React Native apps.

Expo Go

App that makes testing apps easy via a scannable QR code.

Expo Dev Clients

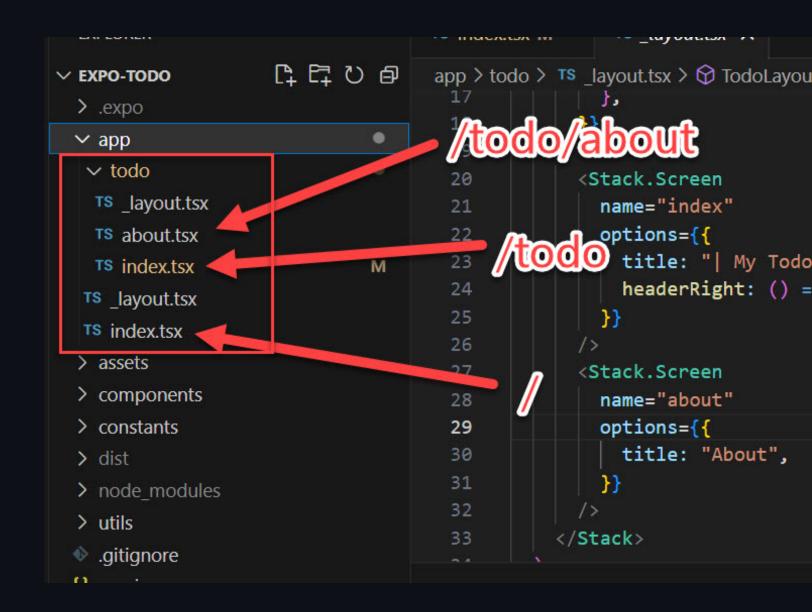
A framework to extend Expo Go.

Expo Application Services (EAS)

Freemium services for building and submission.

Expo router

- File-base routing.
 - /app folder
- _layout.tsx for layout



```
/app/todo/_layout.tsx
```

```
const AboutMenu = () => {
  return (
    // ๆ ๆ ๆ ๆ ๆ ๆ ๆ ๆ ๆ
    <Link href="/todo/about">
      <TouchableOpacity onPress={() => {}} style={{ paddingRight: 10 }}>
        <Ionicons
          name="help-circle-outline"
          size={32}
          color={COLORS.lightWhite}
        />
      </TouchableOpacity>
    </Link>
};
```

Main navigation (tab)

```
/app/_layout.tsx
```

Secondary navigation (stack)

```
/app/todo/_layout.tsx
```

Styling

- Cannot use CSS.
- All of the core components accept a prop named style.
- The style names and values usually match how CSS works on the web.
- Default behavior is flex-column

Styling

./app/index.tsx

```
import { StyleSheet } from "react-native";
// ...
export default function Home() {
  return <View style={styles.container}>...</view>;
const styles = StyleSheet.create({
  container: {
    flex: 1,
    backgroundColor: "#fff",
    alignItems: "center",
    justifyContent: "center",
    fontFamily: "Prompt",
  },
});
```

Style library

- Native Base
- Native Wind

I just want to press something...

- Button
- TouchableOpacity
- TouchableHighlight
- TouchableWithoutFeedback
- TouchableNativeFeedback
- Pressable

TouchableOpacity

./components/TodoForm.tsx

```
import { TouchableOpacity } from "react-native";
const TodoForm: FC<Props> = ({ txt, setTxt, addTodo }) => {
  return (
    // ...
      <TouchableOpacity style={...} onPress={...}>
        <Ionicons ... />
      </TouchableOpacity>
export default TodoForm;
```

I just want to see a list.

- ScrollView
- FlatList
- SectionList
- VirtualizedList
- VirtualizedSectionList

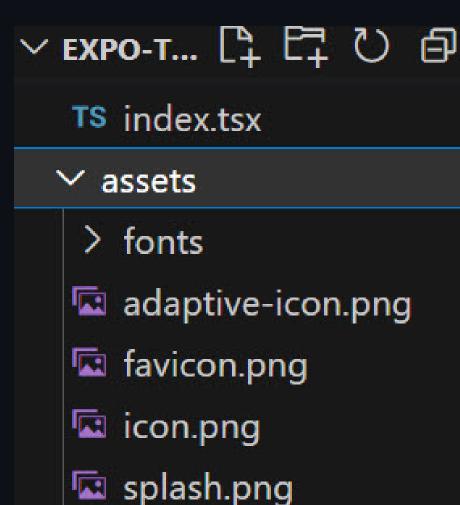
./component/TodoList.tsx

```
import { ListRenderItemInfo, FlatList }
const TodoList: FC<Props> = (props) => {
  const renderTodo = ({ item }: ListRenderItemInfo<Todo>) => (
    <TodoItem todo={item} deleteTodo={props.deleteTodo} />
  );
  return (
    <View style={styles.container}>
      <FlatList</pre>
        data={props.todos}
        renderItem={renderTodo}
        keyExtractor={(todo: Todo) => todo.id.toString()}
        ItemSeparatorComponent={Separator}
    </View>
```

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Icon and splash screen

Template



components

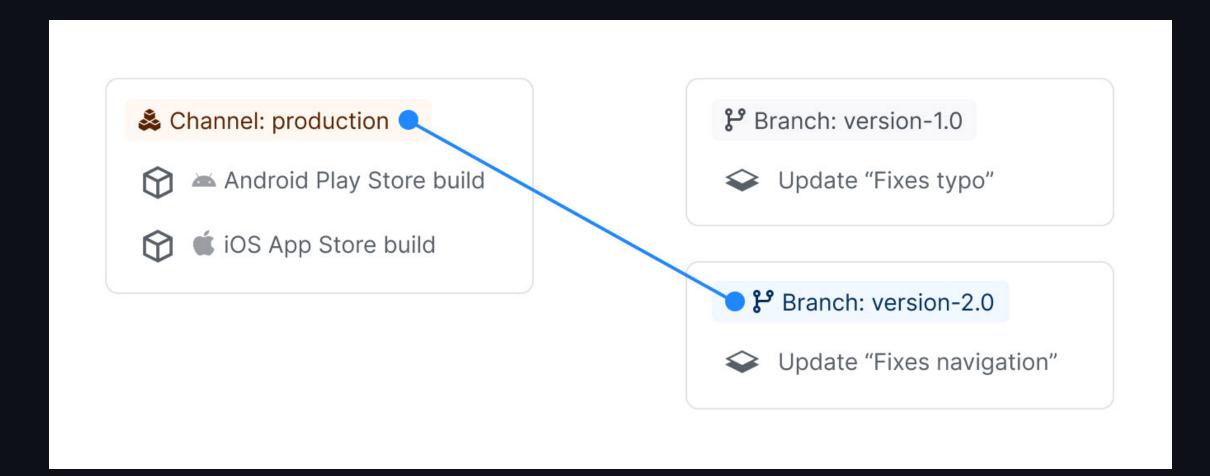
> node modules

constants

Deployment

- Profile
- Channel
- Branch

Channel and branch



Build

./eas.json

```
"build": {
  "development": {
    "developmentClient": true,
    "distribution": "internal",
    "channel": "development"
 },
 "preview": {
    "channel": "preview",
    "distribution": "internal"
 },
  "production": {
    "channel": "production"
```

Build

• eas build --platform android --profile preview

Inspect

- eas channel:list
- eas branch:list

Update

• eas update --branch preview --message "Fix typo"