

Fullstack Development

Mobile development: React Native

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.

Assume

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

Setup

- Create Expo account.
- Install required CLI tool / authenticated
 - `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)
- `npm start`
- Scan QR code using Expo Go

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

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	Slower	Faster

Source

React Native

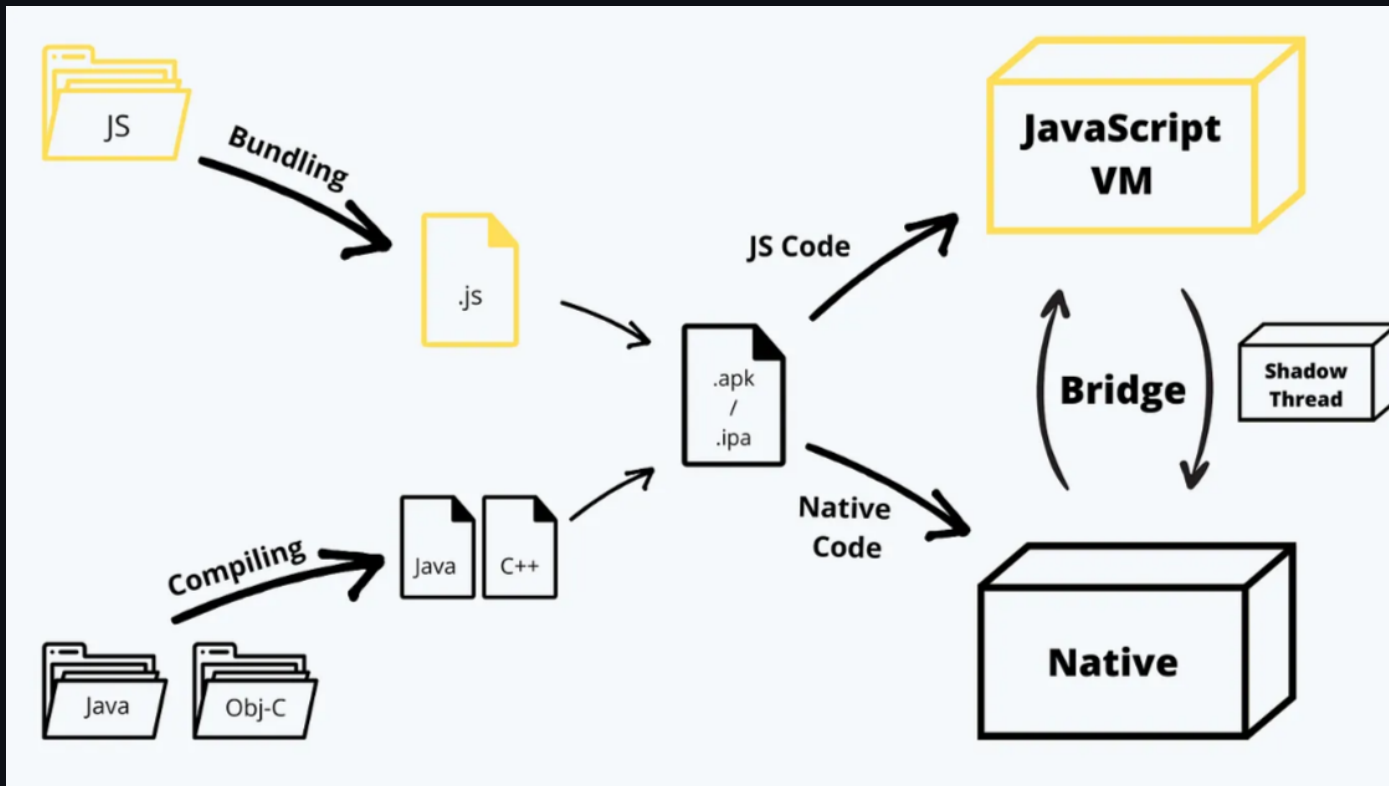
JavaScript

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.

Expo position

JavaScript

Expo

React Native

Native Code

(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.

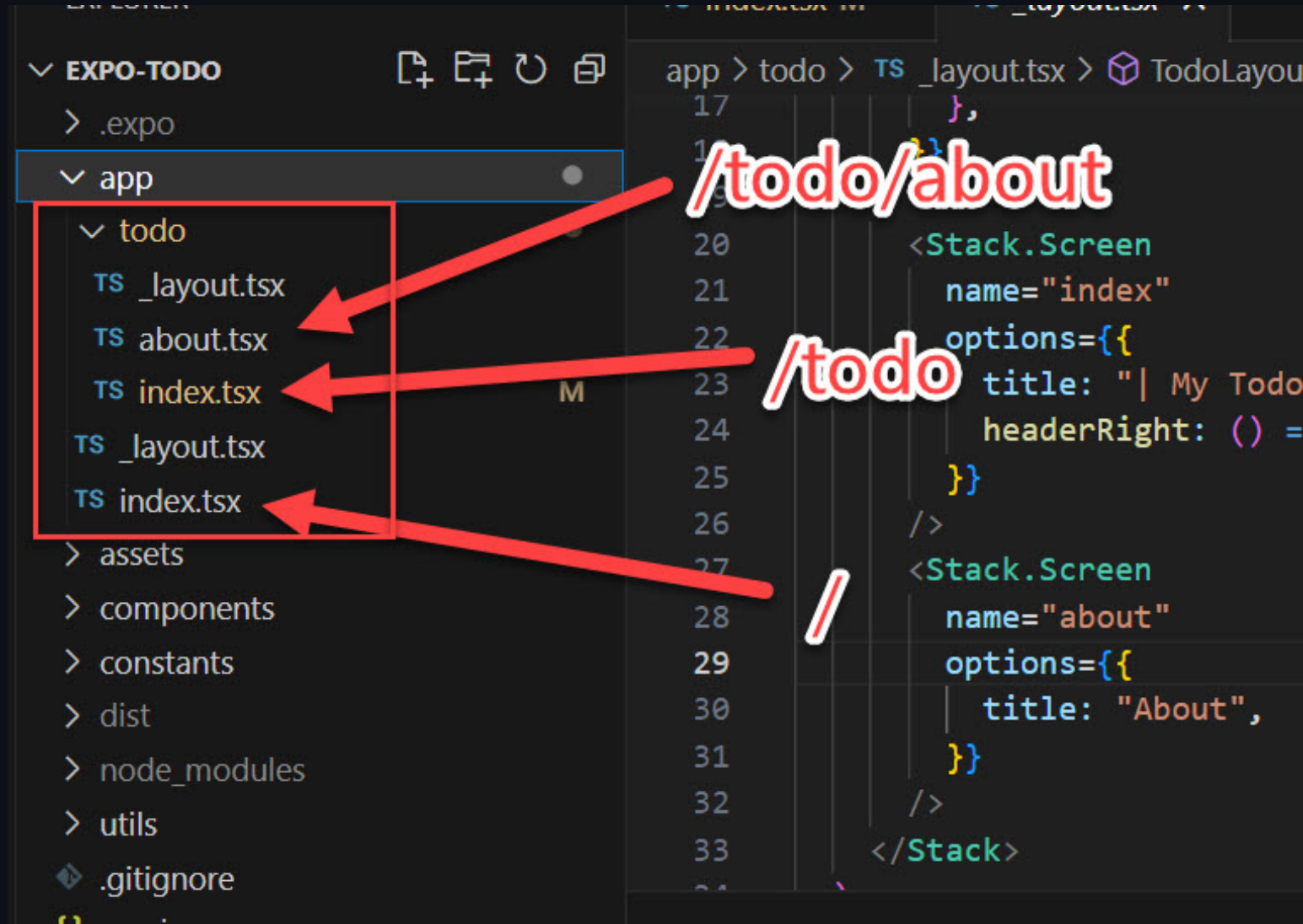
Todo app

Repo

APK

Expo router

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



/app/todo/_layout.tsx

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

Main navigation (tab)

/app/_layout.tsx

```
export default function AppLayout() {  
  return (  
    <View ...>  
      <Tabs screenOptions={...}>  
        <Tabs.Screen name="index" options={...}/>  
        <Tabs.Screen name="todo" options={...}/>  
      </Tabs>  
    </View>  
  );  
}
```


Secondary navigation (stack)

/app/todo/_layout.tsx

```
export default function TodoLayout() {  
  return (  
    <Stack screenOptions={...} >  
      <Stack.Screen name="index" options={...} />  
      <Stack.Screen name="about" options={} />  
    </Stack>  
  );  
}
```

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={...}>
      <Icons ... />
    </TouchableOpacity>
  );
};

export default ToDoForm;
```

I just want to see a list.

- `ScrollView`
- `FlatList`
- `SectionList`
- `VirtualizedList`
- `VirtualizedSectionList`

./component/TodoList.tsx

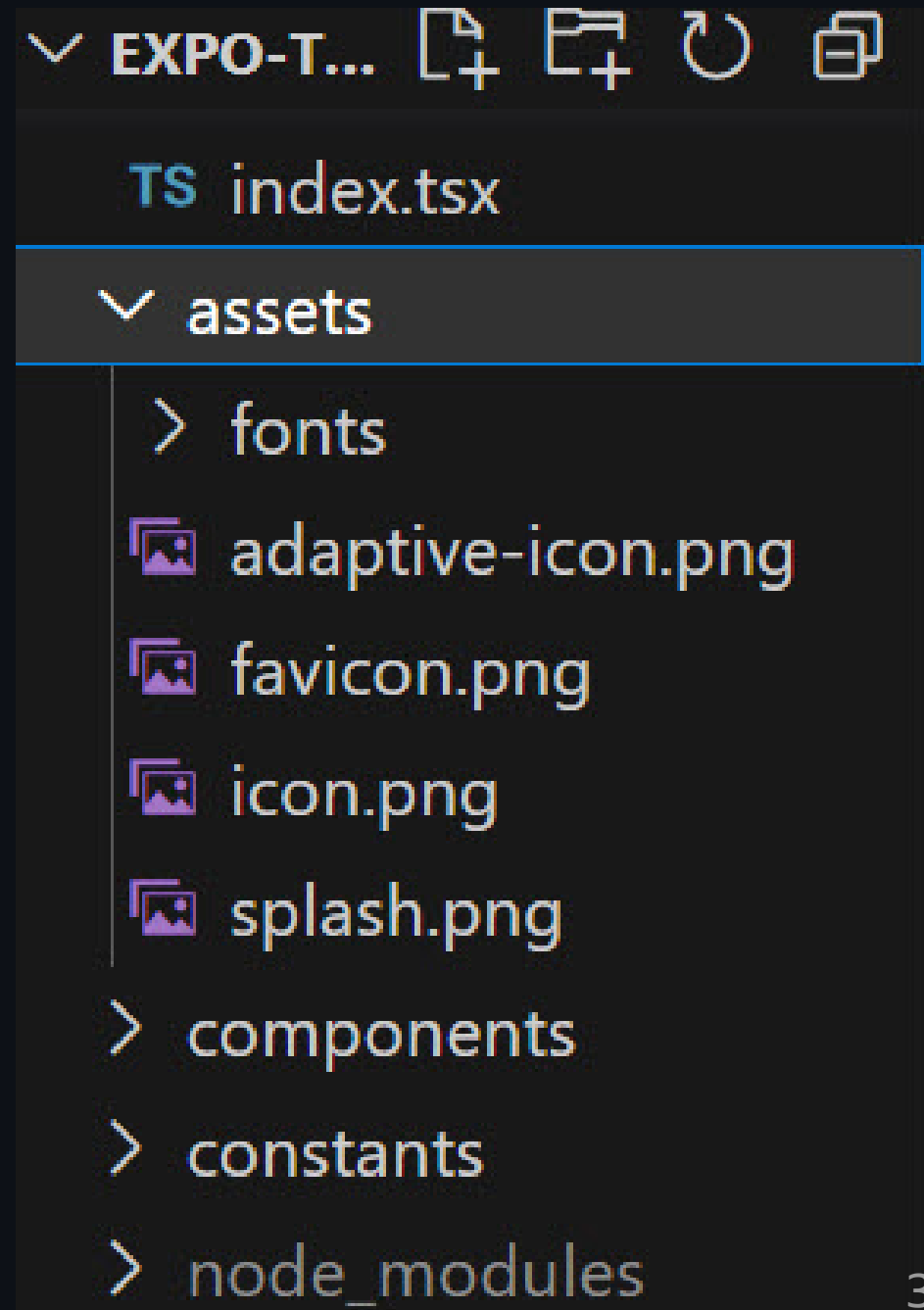
```
import { ListRenderItemInfo, FlatList }

const TodoList: FC<Props> = (props) => {
  const renderTodo = ({ item }: ListRenderItemInfo<Todo>) => (
    <TodoItem todo={item} deleteTodo={props.deleteTodo} />
  );

  return (
    <View style={styles.container}>
      <FlatList
        data={props.todos}
        renderItem={renderTodo}
        keyExtractor={(todo: Todo) => todo.id.toString()}
        ItemSeparatorComponent={Separator}
      />
    </View>
  );
};
```


Icon and splash screen

- Template



Business logic

Plain old React

./app/todo/index.tsx

```
import { useState, useEffect } from "react";
import axios from "axios";
export default function Todo() {
  const [todos, setTodos] = useState<Todo[]>([]);

  function deleteTodo(id: number) {...}
  function addTodo(txt: string) {...}

  useEffect(() => {
    axios
      .get("https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/todos")
      .then((res) => {
        setTodos(res.data.slice(0, 10));
      })
  }, []);

  return (...);
}
```

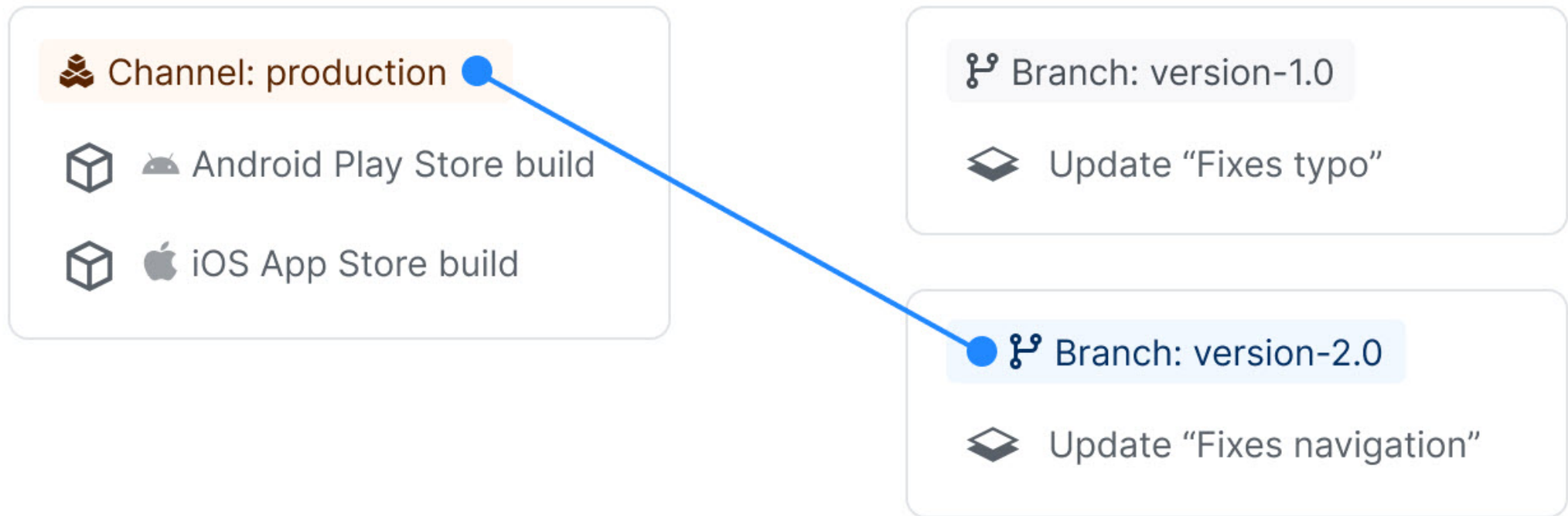
```
./components/ToDoForm.tsx
```

```
interface Props {  
  txt: string;  
  setTxt: (txt: string) => void;  
  addTodo: (txt: string) => void;  
}  
  
const ToDoForm: FC<Props> = ({ txt, setTxt, addTodo }) => {  
  return (  
    //...  
    <TextInput onChangeText={(t) => setTxt(t)} value={txt} />  
    <TouchableOpacity onPress={() => {addTodo(txt);}}>  
      //...  
    </TouchableOpacity>  
    //...  
  );  
};
```

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"`

Takeaway

Choose React Native if

- You and your team know React.
- Your business **differentiator** is not mobile applications.
- You don't have time and/or budget.