

# React Documentation — useState Hook

## 1. Introduction

useState is a React Hook that allows functional components to maintain and manage local state.

State represents dynamic data that changes over time and triggers UI updates when modified.

Before Hooks, state management was only available in class components.

## 2. Importing useState

```
import { useState } from "react";
```

## 3. Syntax

```
const [state, setState] = useState(initialValue);
```

## 4. Basic Usage

```
function Counter() {
  const [count, setCount] = useState(0);

  return (
    <button onClick={() => setCount(count + 1)}>
      {count}
    </button>
  );
}
```

## 5. State Update Rules

State is immutable. Never modify state directly.

Incorrect: `count = count + 1;`

Correct: `setCount(count + 1);`

Calling the setter function causes React to update state and re-render the component.

## 6. Functional Updates

Use when new state depends on previous state:

```
setCount(prev => prev + 1);
```

Useful for async logic and avoiding stale values.

## 7. Multiple State Variables

```
const [name, setName] = useState("Harshal");
const [age, setAge] = useState(22);
```

## 8. Object State

```
const [user, setUser] = useState({
  name: "Harshal",
  age: 22,
  city: "Pune"
});
```

Incorrect:

```
setUser({ age: 23 });
```

Correct:

```
setUser({
  ...user,
  age: 23
});
```

## 9. Nested Object Updates

```
setUser(prev => ({
  ...prev,
  address: {
    ...prev.address,
    city: "Mumbai"
  }
}));
```

## 10. Array State

```
const [items, setItems] = useState([]);
```

Add:

```
setItems(prev => [...prev, "New Item"]);
```

Remove:

```
setItems(prev => prev.filter(item => item !== "A"));
```

Update:

```
setItems(prev =>
  prev.map(item =>
    item === "A" ? "Updated" : item
  )
);
```

## 11. Array of Objects

```
const [users, setUsers] = useState([
  { id: 1, name: "Harshal" },
  { id: 2, name: "Rahul" }
]);

setUsers(prev =>
  prev.map(user =>
    user.id === 1
      ? { ...user, name: "New Name" }
      : user
  )
);
```

## 12. Controlled Inputs

```
const [input, setInput] = useState("");

<input
  value={input}
  onChange={(e) => setInput(e.target.value)}
/>
```

## 13. Immutability Concept

React compares references to detect changes.

Incorrect:

```
array.push(newItem);
setArray(array);
```

Correct:

```
setArray([...array, newItem]);
```

## 14. Mental Model

React state behaves like a snapshot.

Do not mutate existing state.

Always create new object or array.

Use spread operator frequently.

## 15. Common Mistakes

- Direct mutation of state
- Forgetting spread operator
  - Using old state instead of functional update
- Expecting immediate update after setState

## 16. Best Practices

- Keep state minimal
- Prefer multiple states instead of deeply nested objects
  - Use functional updates when possible
- Avoid unnecessary re-renders