Progressive web apps

The web, today

What are the challenges we are facing today with native and web apps?

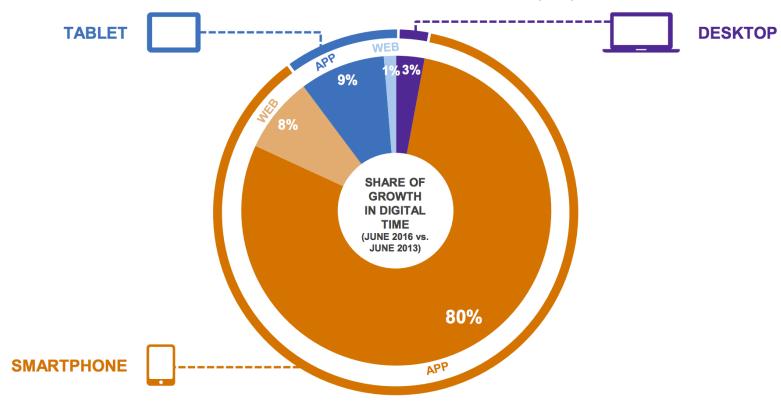
Challenges

- Internet speed 60% of the world's population is still using
 2G internet
- **Slow website load** 53% of users will abandon a site if it takes longer than 3 seconds to load.
- High friction An average user installs 0 applications in a month.
- User engagement Users spend most of their time in native apps, but mobile web reach is almost three times that of native apps

Web vs Mobile

Share of Growth in Total Digital Time Spent: June 2016 vs. June 2013

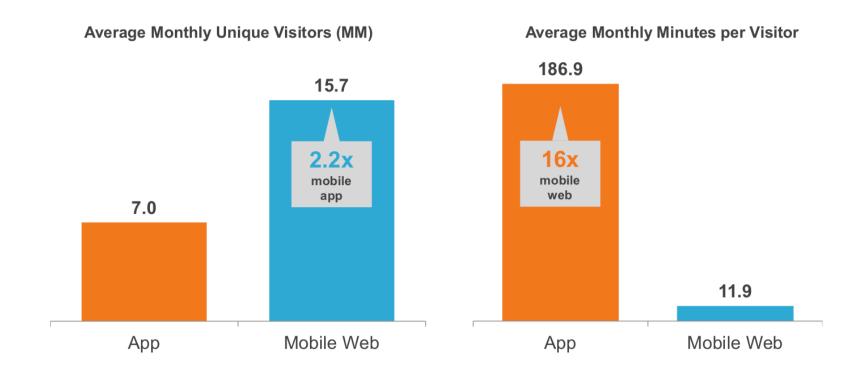
Source: comScore Media Metrix Multi-Platform & Mobile Metrix, U.S., Total Audience



Web vs Mobile

Top 500 Mobile Apps vs. Top 500 Mobile Web Properties

Source: comScore Mobile Metrix, U.S., Age 18+, June 2017



Progressive web apps, the best of both worlds

#Reliable, #Fast, #Engaging

Reliable

- **Load instantly** and never show the downasaur, even in uncertain network conditions.
- When launched from the user's home screen, **service workers** enable a Progressive Web App to load instantly, regardless of the network state.
- A service worker, written in JavaScript, is like a **client-side proxy** and puts you in control of the cache and how to respond to resource requests
- By **pre-caching** key resources you can eliminate the dependence on the network, ensuring an instant and reliable experience for your users.

Engaging

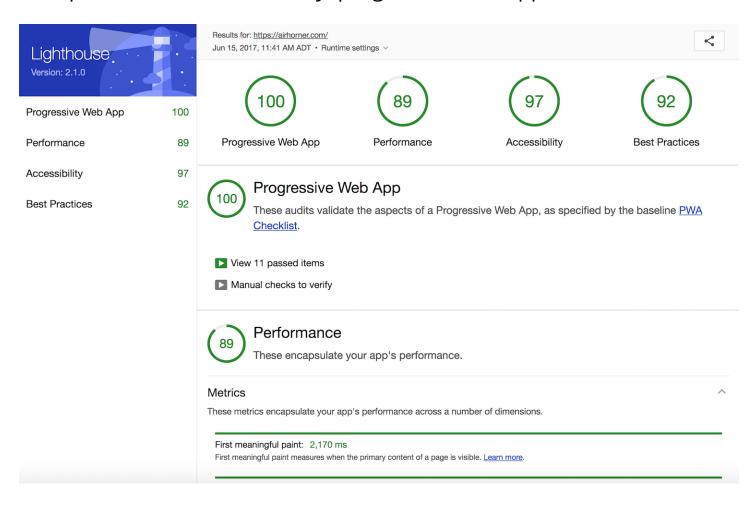
- Progressive Web Apps are **installable** and live on the user's home screen, without the need for an app store
- Can re-engage users with web push **notifications**.
- The **Web App Manifest** allows you to control how your app appears and how it's launched
- You can specify home screen **icons**, the page to load when the app is launched
- You can specify whether or not to show the **browser chrome**.

Fast

- PWAs provide experiences that are **consistently fast**
- The first time, Loads in less than **3 secondes**
- Once loaded, users expect them to be fast no *janky* scrolling or *slow-to-respond* interfaces.

Lighthouse

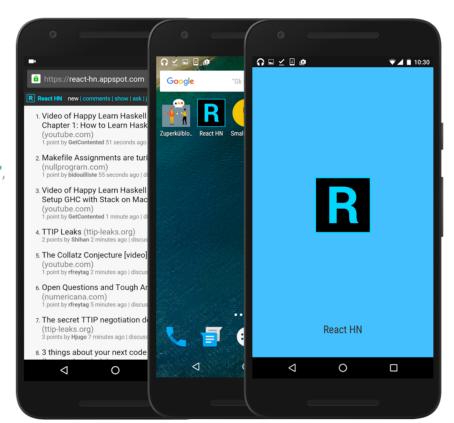
Audit for performance, accessibility, progressive web apps, and more.



Add to home screen

Web App Manifest

```
{
"name": "React HN",
"short_name": "React HN",
"icons": [{
        "src": "img/android-chrome-192x192.png",
        "sizes": "192x192",
        "type": "image/png"
        },...],
"start_url": "index.html",
"background_color": "#4CC1FC",
"display": "standalone",
"theme_color": "#222222"
}
```



Features

- User can be prompted to Add to Homescreen
- The app is loaded with a splash screen
- The theme is customized to match the brand colors

How it works

Create a manifest.json file for a progressive web app.

```
"name": "React HN",
"short name": "React HN",
"icons": [{
    "src": "img/android-chrome-192x192.png",
    "sizes": "192x192",
    "type": "image/png"
   "src": "img/splashscreen-icon-512x512.png",
   "sizes": "512x512",
   "type": "image/png"
}],
"start_url": "./?utm_source=web_app_manifest",
"background_color": "#4CC1FC",
"display": "standalone",
"theme_color": "#222222"
```

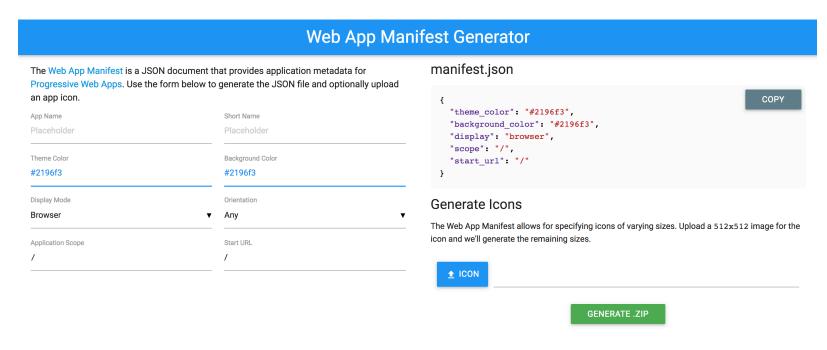
How it works

When you have created the manifest, add a link tag in the head of your page to reference it:

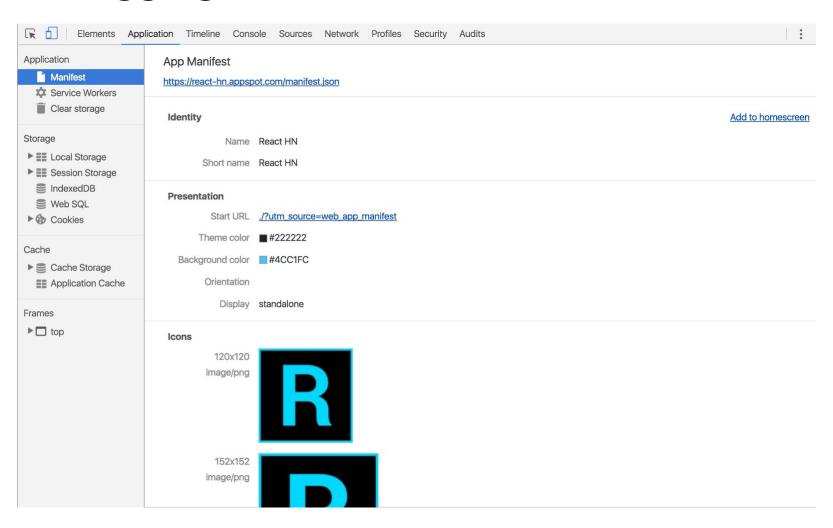
```
<link rel="manifest" href="/manifest.json">
```

That's it!

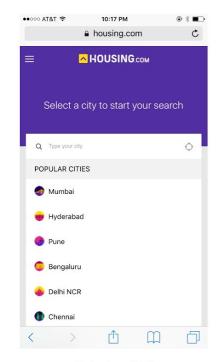
Manifest generator



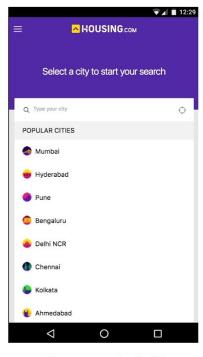
Debugging



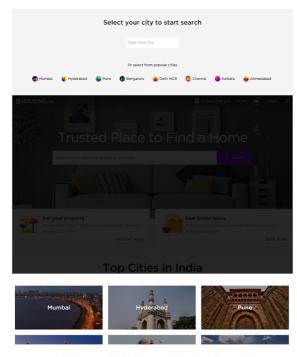
Design is mobile-friendly



Safari on iOS



Chrome on Android



Edge on Windows 10 (Desktop)

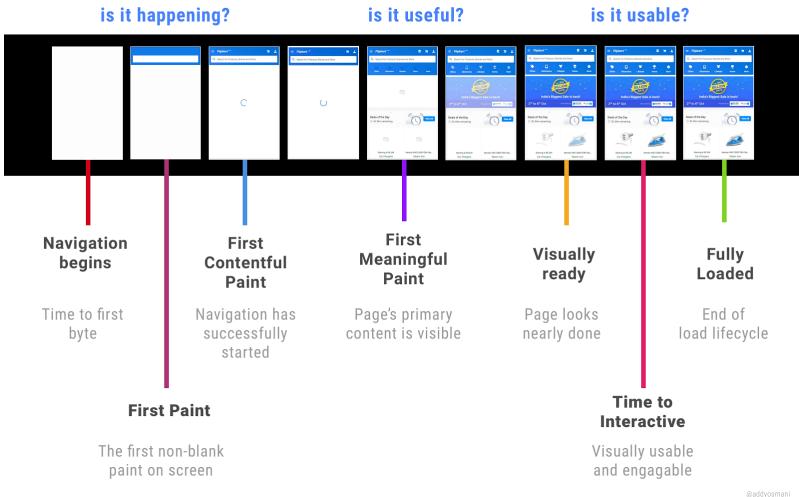
Design is mobile-friendly

How?

• Apps optimized for multiple devices should include a meta-viewport in the of their document:

```
<meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
```

- Adapt the layout depending on the device width
 - with css media queries
 - by sniffing the userAgent on the server
 - or using different urls for mobile/desktop layout



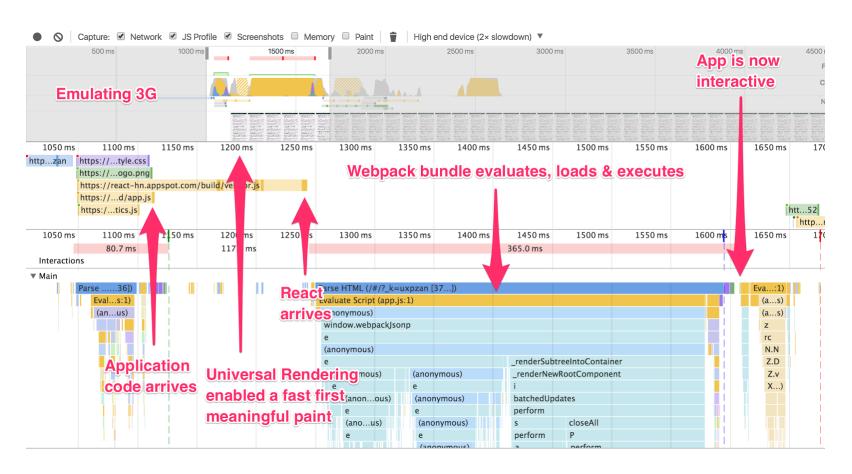
https://medium.com/@addyosmani/progressive-web-apps-with-react-js-part-2-page-loadperformance-33b932d97cf2 19 / 32

Key performance indicator

- First meaningful paint when is the main content of the page visible
- Speed Index visual completeness
- Estimated Input Latency when is the main thread available to immediately handle user input
- Time To Interactive how soon is the app usable & engagable

Goals: Be interactive in < 5s on first visit & < 2s on repeat visits once a Service Worker is active.

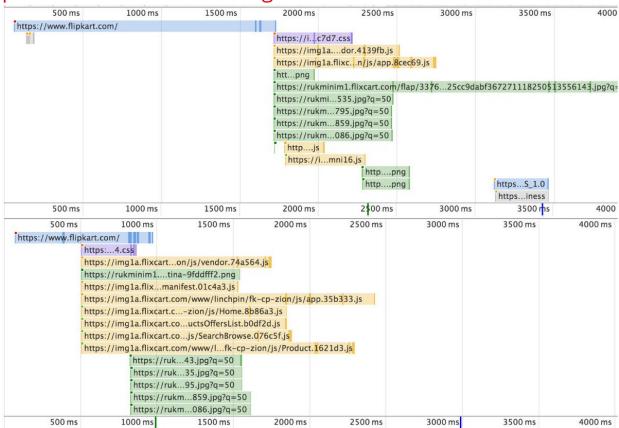
Performance timeline



Optimizations @Flipkart

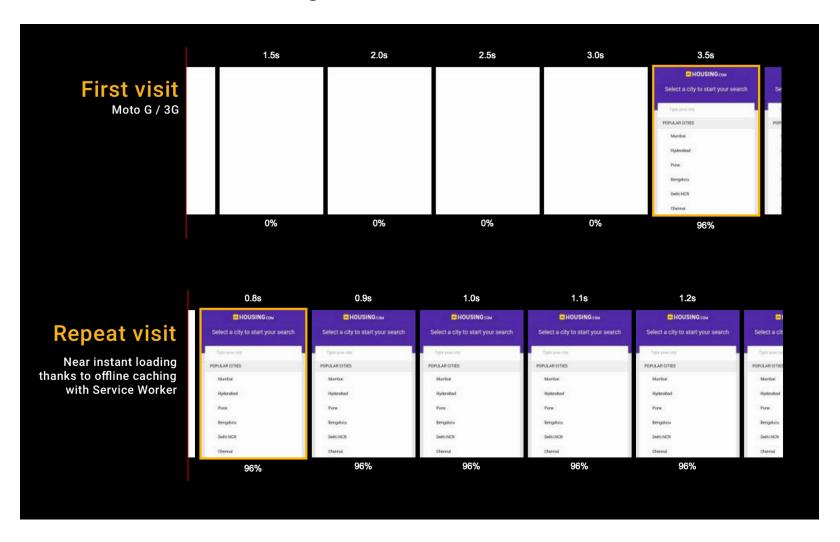
In case you missed this one, here is the before and after of our timeline!

pic.twitter.com/XFfRIM6xTg



— Abhinav Rastogi (@_abhinavrastogi) September 2, 2016

Load instantly





Service worker 🎉

A service worker is a background worker that acts as a programmable proxy, allowing us to control what happens on a request-by-request basis. We can use it to make (parts of, or even entire) web apps work offline.

It enables nice features:

- Push API A server can send push messages to a web even if the web app or browser are not running
- Background Sync- For deferring actions until the user has stable connectivity

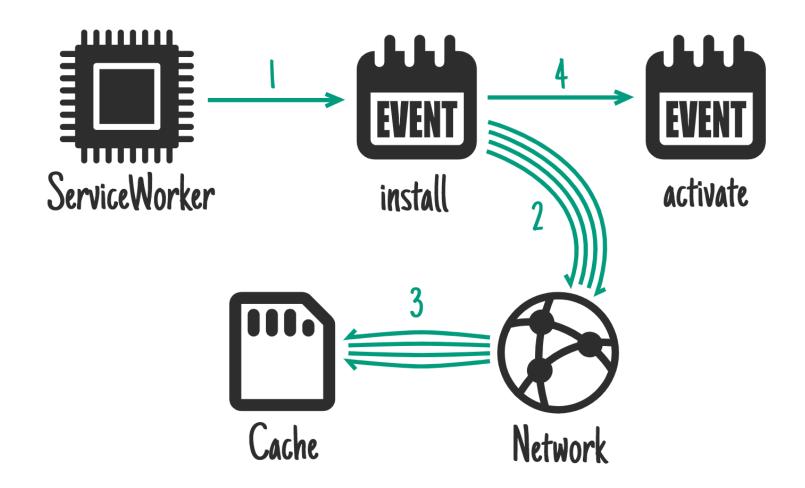
Service worker life

Each service worker goes through three steps in its lifecycle:

- **Registration** informs the browser where your service worker is located and lets it know it can start installing in the background
- **Installation** caches the static assets for the page
- **Activation** starts taking control of the page



Service worker life



Service worker registration

Basic registration in your index.html could look like this:

```
<script>
// Check for browser support of service worker
if ('serviceWorker' in navigator) {
    navigator.serviceWorker.register('service-worker.js')
    .then(function(registration) {
        // Successful registration
     })
    .catch(function(err) {
        // Failed registration, service worker won't be installed
     });
</script>
```

Service worker installation

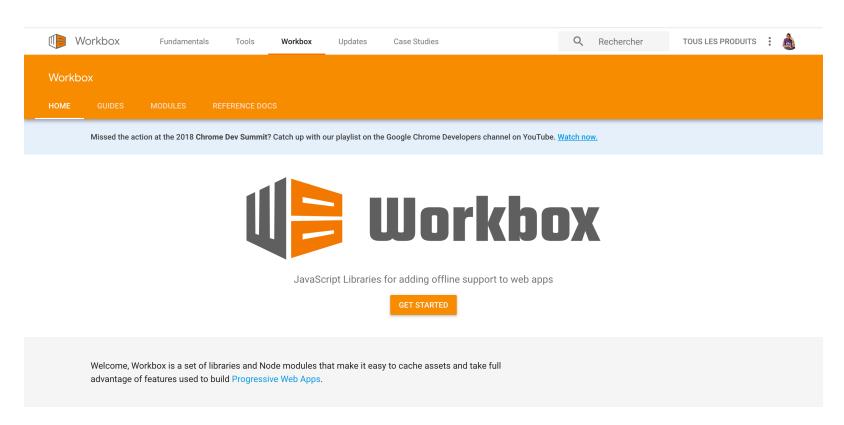
Service worker activation (intercepting requests)

When a service worker controls a page, it can intercept each request being made by the page and decide what to do with it.

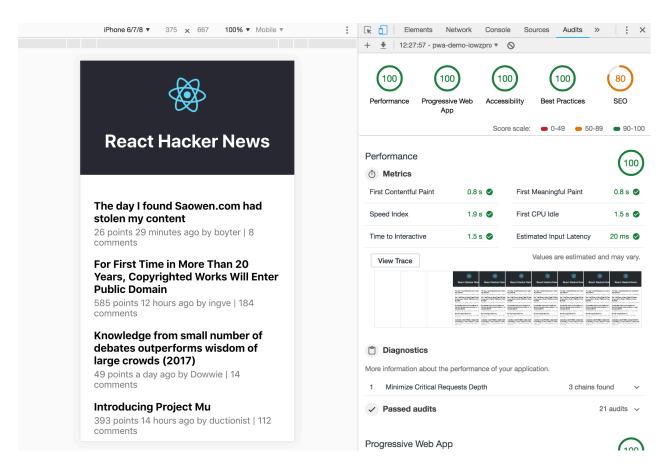
```
self.addEventListener('fetch', function(event) {
    console.log(event.request.url);
    event.respondWith(
        caches.match(event.request).then(function(response) {
            return response || fetch(event.request);
        })
    );
});
```

Learn more with examples

Workbox



Progressive web app demo



Github: https://github.com/heig-vd-tweb/react-pwa

Live demo: https://pwa-demo-iowzpnxasa.now.sh/

Awesome resources

Progressive Web Apps with React.js by Addy Osmani

- Introduction
- Performance
- Offline and network resilience
- Progressive enhancement
- A React and Preact Case PWA Study