**Lifecycle Methods**

**Mounting Lifecycle Methods**

There are three categories of lifecycle methods: *mounting*, *updating*, and *unmounting*. This lesson is about the first category: *mounting* lifecycle methods.

A component “mounts” when it renders for the first time. This is when *mounting lifecycle methods* get called.

There are three *mounting lifecycle methods:*

* componentWillMount
* render
* componentDidMount

When a component *mounts*, it automatically calls these three methods, in order.

# Updating Lifecycle Methods

There are two categories that we haven’t yet discussed: updating and unmounting lifecycle methods. This lesson covers both.

What is updating?

The first time that a component instance renders, it does not update. A component updates every time that it renders, starting with the second render.

There are five updating lifecycle methods:

* componentWillReceiveProps
* shouldComponentUpdate
* componentWillUpdate
* render
* componentDidUpdate

Whenever a component instance updates, it automatically calls all five of these methods, in order.

# Unmounting Lifecycle Method

A component’s unmounting period occurs when the component is removed from the DOM. This could happen if the DOM is rerendered without the component, or if the user navigates to a different website or closes their web browser.

componentWillUnmount is the only unmounting lifecycle method!

componentWillUnmount gets called right before a component is removed from the DOM. If a component initiates any methods that require cleanup, then componentWillUnmount is where you should put that cleanup.