



WEB TECHNOLOGIES

React.JS – Forms

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React.JS – Forms

Introduction



- Two main functionalities associated with any form is when
 - input values are changed (using ***onChange*** event)
 - form is submitted (using ***onSubmit*** event)
- Form Data in React is usually handled by Components by storing them in ***state*** object, such Form components are called ***Controlled Components***



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Controlled Components



- The value property of the three types of form elements `<input>`, `<textarea>` and `<select>` are controlled by React using the ***state*** and updated only using ***setState***
- The value is updated in the ***state*** when `onChange` event is triggered on the form element (by `setState`)
- The value is also set to the state property to keep it updated at all times (updated by React) – this is termed as ***“single source of truth”***
- one authoritative location (source) stores and maintains a piece of data or

information



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Controlled Components



- `<textarea> Default Value </textarea>`
can be changed to
`<textarea value={this.state.value} />`
- `<select>`
`<option select value="optionselected"> Default Value </option>`
`</select>`
can be changed to
`<select value={this.state.value}>`
`<option value="optionselected">Default Value</option>`
`</select>`



- To handle multiple inputs by writing a common change handler as follows

```
handleChange(event) {
```

```
    name = event.target.name;
```

```
    value = event.target.value;
```

```
    this.setState({
```

```
        [name]: value
```

```
    });
```

where [name] is the notation for computed property name

Note: setState can be called only the property that is changed



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Uncontrolled Components



- To write an uncontrolled component, instead of writing an event handler for every state update, you can use a ref to get form values from the DOM.
- This we have already seen in the previous lessons
- Additionally, use the `defaultValue` property to specify initial value in React

```
<input defaultValue="Bob" type="text" ref={this.input} />
```





THANK YOU

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