what is the difference between controlled form and uncontrolled form? (support your answer with code samples)

If you have been using [ReactJs](https://reactjs.org/" \t "_blank) for some time then you must have seen some warnings about uncontrolled components and went back to handle those using states. In this article, we will be learning everything about these controlled and uncontrolled components in React.

Let’s understand the two most important aspects of controlled components from this example —

1. The text input has the **value attribute set as the components state ‘text’**. This is very important so that **the input component’s value will always be in sync with the components state ‘text’ s value.**
2. Secondly, we are handling the change event emitted by the input element whenever a user tries to update the input element's value. Inside the handler function, we are**mutating the ‘text ’state with the updated input value.**

Now as the state is changed that calls for re-render of the input element with the updated value. Thus the user-made changes will reflect on the UI as well.

***Quick Tip****: If you need to update a view with the change of an input ( e.g. lookahead search feature) then using a controlled input will save a lot of time and will ensure a cleaner code.*

**Uncontrolled Components**

If you have gone through the above points and examples of the controlled component then you have already guessed how uncontrolled components work. Yes, **they don’t use any states on input elements or any event handler. This type of component doesn’t care about an input element’s real-time value changes.**

You might be wondering now, then how would we get the input element’s value?

Well, that’s where [Refs](https://reactjs.org/docs/refs-and-the-dom.html) comes to the rescue. For the uninitiated, Refs in React ecosystem works like pointers that give access to DOM nodes. In the uncontrolled components, we use Refs to access the values of input elements.