# Add Google Authentication to your React project in 10 Mins

- The Complete Reference



Sivanesh Shanmugam

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# Add Google Login to your React Apps in 10 mins

#react #security #webdev #googlecloud



Sign in with Google

As a client developer, Creating apps with authentication might be a tedious process. As we need to handle authentication in the server and maintain the code. It does have some multiple cases to be maintained based on authentication mechanisms. (Basic, OAuth, etc) This blog helps you create a standalone backend less authentication for your react app. (or additionally) you can add server configurations too to authenticate with your server.

## Why OAuth?

There are many reasons to use OAuth.

- It is secure.
- It doesn't require any credentials from the user. So no need of remembering multiple passwords.
- Websites can also get essential information about users without spending much time in forms.

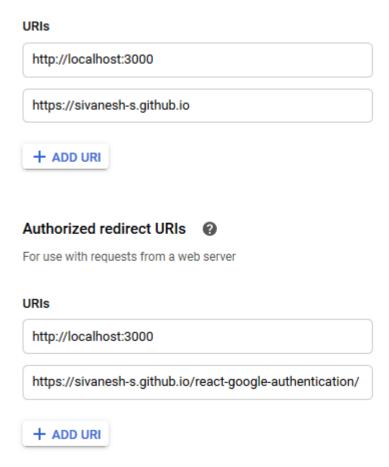
And specifically in our case, we don't need a server to authenticate or to get initial details of the user.

I found a package which is called as react-google-login. Which provides simple mechanisms to add the Google login. You can either directly use their GoogleLogin component or you can use custom buttons. They also provide custom hooks like useGoogleLogin and useGoogleLogout so it will be easy for hooks lovers. (Both methods are described below)

The <u>documentation</u> they provided for this repository is awesome. But it's missing in some ways which are addressed in this blog. Like in detail, this blog helps in creating your application in the Google developer console and access <code>clientId</code>. The initial <code>access\_token</code> obtained by this package will last for only one hour (*For security reasons*). And we need to iterate the process to access the new <code>access\_token</code> using <code>refresh\_token</code>. So you can make a **production-ready application**.

## **Steps**

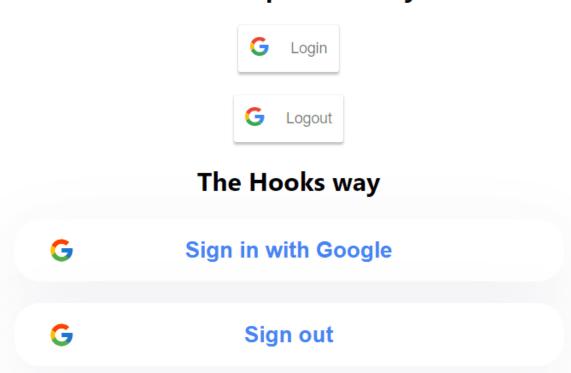
- We need to create an application in the Google developer console. It provides
   clientId is used to identify your application for authentication details. Follow the
   below steps to get the client ID.
  - 1. Go to the <u>Credentials page</u>. ( if you are new, then <u>create a project</u> and follow these steps)
  - 2. Click Create credentials > OAuth client ID.
  - 3. Select the **Web application** type.
  - 4. Name your OAuth 2.0 client and click Create
- Make sure you provided your domain and redirect URL. So that Google identifies the origin domain to which it can provide authentication.



You can also add your local route for development. Now authentication setup in Google developer console is ready.

## **Lets code**

# The Components way



Let's start with code. View my repo for accessing all code snippets. View Demo.

In your CRA install react-google-login package

npm i react-google-login

Create a Login component that acts as a login button.

```
import React from 'react';
import { GoogleLogin } from 'react-google-login';
const clientId = 'YOUR_CLIENT_ID.apps.googleusercontent.com';
function Login() {
  const onSuccess = (res) => {
    console.log('[Login Success] currentUser:', res.profileObj);
  };
  const onFailure = (res) => {
   console.log('[Login failed] res:', res);
  };
  return (
    <div>
      <GoogleLogin
        clientId={clientId}
        buttonText="Login"
        onSuccess={onSuccess}
        onFailure={onFailure}
        cookiePolicy={'single_host_origin'}
        style={{ marginTop: '100px' }}
        isSignedIn={true}
    </div>
  );
export default Login;
```

Similarly, create a Logout component

```
• • •
import React from 'react';
import { GoogleLogout } from 'react-google-login';
const clientId = 'YOUR_CLIENT_ID.apps.googleusercontent.com';
function Logout() {
  const onSuccess = () => {
    alert('Logout made successfully d');
  };
  return (
    <div>
      <GoogleLogout
        clientId={clientId}
        buttonText="Logout"
        onLogoutSuccess={onSuccess}
      ></GoogleLogout>
    </div>
  );
export default Logout;
```

And add both in the required location of your app. Mine is in App.js

```
import React from 'react';
import './App.css';
import Login from './components/Login';
import Logout from './components/Logout';
function App() {
  return (
    <div className="App">
      <Login />
      <Logout />
    </div>
  );
export default App;
```

Now running your application will show profileobj in the console after logging in.

Congrats 🥕 You successfully made it 😃.

But after 1 hour your tokenId gets expired and hence it won't be used to access data or authenticate users. And hence we need to generate new tokenId. To make things work we need to add some additional cases in the Login component.

```
• • •
import React from 'react';
import { GoogleLogin } from 'react-google-login';
import { refreshTokenSetup } from '../utils/refreshToken';
const clientId = 'YOUR_CLIENT_ID.apps.googleusercontent.com';
function Login() {
 const onSuccess = (res) => {
   console.log('[Login Success] currentUser:', res.profileObj);
    refreshTokenSetup(res);
  const onFailure = (res) => {
   console.log('[Login failed] res:', res);
  };
  return (
    <div>
      <GoogleLogin
       clientId={clientId}
       buttonText="Login"
       onSuccess={onSuccess}
        onFailure={onFailure}
       cookiePolicy={'single_host_origin'}
        style={{ marginTop: '100px' }}
        isSignedIn={true}
export default Login;
```

refreshTokenSetup function will take care of handling new tokenIds

```
export const refreshTokenSetup = (res) => {
    // Timing to renew access token
    let refreshTiming = (res.tokenObj.expires_in || 3600 - 5 * 60) * 1000;

const refreshToken = async () => {
    const newAuthRes = await res.reloadAuthResponse();
    refreshTiming = (newAuthRes.expires_in || 3600 - 5 * 60) * 1000;
    console.log('newAuthRes:', newAuthRes);
    // saveUserToken(newAuthRes.access_token); <-- save new token
    console.log('new auth Token', newAuthRes.id_token);

    // Setup the other timer after the first one
    setTimeout(refreshToken, refreshTiming);
};

// Setup first refresh timer
    setTimeout(refreshToken, refreshTiming);
};</pre>
```

This function checks for <code>expires\_in</code> timestamp or our custom time (before the token expires) and calls <code>reloadAuthResponse</code> which is a util function provided by the library and it handles <code>refresh\_token</code> and obtains new <code>tokenId</code>.

And Yeah (4) Google login is added to your application successfully (5). So now you can access the user's **name**, **photo URL**, **email**, **google Id**, etc.

#### **Additional**

The above way uses the Google Login default button. You can also use your custom button using render prop.

We can also implement the same functionality using **React Hooks.** 💚

LoginHooks.js

```
• • •
import React from 'react';
import { useGoogleLogin } from 'react-google-login';
import { refreshTokenSetup } from '../utils/refreshToken';
const clientId = 'YOUR_CLIENT_ID.apps.googleusercontent.com';
function LoginHooks() {
  const onSuccess = (res) => {
    console.log('Login Success: currentUser:', res.profileObj);
    refreshTokenSetup(res);
  };
  const onFailure = (res) => {
   console.log('Login failed: res:', res);
  };
  const { signIn } = useGoogleLogin({
   isSignedIn: true,
accessType: 'offline',
  });
  return (
    <button onClick={signIn} className="button">
      <img src="icons/google.svg"></img>
      <span className="buttonText">Sign in with Google</span>
    </button>
export default LoginHooks;
```

```
import React from 'react';
import { useGoogleLogout } from 'react-google-login';
const clientId = 'YOUR_CLIENT_ID.apps.googleusercontent.com';
function LogoutHooks() {
  const onLogoutSuccess = (res) => {
   alert('Logged out Successfully ♂');
  const onFailure = () => {
   console.log('Handle failure cases');
  const { signOut } = useGoogleLogout({
    clientId,
   onLogoutSuccess,
   onFailure,
  });
  return (
    <button onClick={signOut} className="button">
      <img src="icons/google.svg" alt="google login" className="icon"></img>
      <span className="buttonText">Sign out</span>
    </button>
  );
export default LogoutHooks;
```

### **Server-side verification**

If you wish to add Server side verification, Send the tokenId from client to server once onSuccess in Login component called.

So while handling authenticated routes, All requests from the client need to send the tokenId of the user in the header as **Bearer token**. At Server, once token received it must be verified either this tokenId

• belongs to the current application.

• Has it expired

You can do them manually but google suggests using their authentication library (Minimal effort required).

In the Server side (Here Node.js is used).

Install Google's official supported library google-auth-library package which is used to authenticate and verify OAuth apps.

```
const { OAuth2Client } = require('google-auth-library');
const client = new OAuth2Client(process.env.GOOGLE_CLIENT_ID);
const googleAuth = async (token) => {
  const ticket = await client.verifyIdToken({
    idToken: token,
    audience: process.env.GOOGLE_CLIENT_ID,
  });
  const payload = ticket.getPayload();
  console.log(`User ${payload.name} verified`);
  const { sub, email, name, picture } = payload;
  const userId = sub;
  return { userId, email, fullName: name, photoUrl: picture };
};
module.exports = googleAuth;
```

Here, With our GOOGLE\_CLIENT\_ID sent it verifies whether this token belongs to our application or not. And it parses them and provides profile details in the getPayload function. And you can use them to access user data.

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Any queries feel free to comment or chat with me personally in my social media accounts below.

I love to be connected with developers. 😃

#### <u>Twitter</u> | <u>LinkedIn</u> | <u>GitHub</u>

#### Discussion (35)



Nick Trierweiler • Sep 26 '20 • Edited on Sep 26

This article is great! Thanks for sharing your example and this writeup! I personally would prefer code snippets over images but I am happy that you also shared the source code and I was able to get this working without too much trouble.

There is a confused sentence above which could use refactoring. "To make things work we need to make things work we have to add some additional cases in the Login component."

For others following this tutorial who get a failure message because of cookies try changing cookiePolicy={'single\_host\_origin'} to cookiePolicy='http://localhost:8000/' or whatever your localhost is. Adding the address in google wasn't enough. If I am mistaken please comment and I will try that too!



Sivanesh Shanmugam 👶 • Oct 26 '20

Thanks for your Feedback Sorry for the late response. And I changed that confused sentence.



olsard • Oct 26 '20 • Edited on Oct 26

Great! Thanks for sharing.

There is a little issue with google icon in /public folder.

It could be moved into /src instead

import GoogleIcon from '../assets/icons/google.svg';
<imq src={GoogleIcon} alt="google login" className="icon" />



Pratik Patil • Jan 12 '21

The article is Awesome but I would like a little help. we already have a logout button and

how can I add this to it without making any change to the existing logout code which gets executed onClick of that button



Dilip-Valiya99 • Aug 6 '21

•••

refreshTokenSetup function is not working b'coz if someone will refresh page after login then setTimeOut() will be cleared also refreshTokenSetup function is only run after on success can we call it after expiry time of oath token?



sathishkumar18594 • Jan 13 '21

•••

Thanks for this article!!

I'm getting "Failed to retrieve certificates: request to <u>googleapis.com/oauth2/v1/certs</u> failed, reason: self signed certificate in certificate chain" error message when I send google's token id to my mock API for further validations.

Also noticed the token id does not have valid signature.



Akash Shyam • Jul 15 '21

• • •

Great article! An absolute life saver. Could you expand a bit about using google login with our backend API. So in most applications, you have a custom contact form plus the social logins. I'd like to save the data like email, password etc to my backend(Mongoose + NodeJS).

I could directly just send an API call to the backend in the onSuccess method and register the user in my DB. Is this the correct approach?



Ivan Chavez Escamilla • Sep 21 '20

• •

Great tutorial!

One thing though, I believe the last image is the same as the one for LogoutHooks. There's no image for the Server Side verification code



Sivanesh Shanmugam 👶 • Oct 26 '20

• •

Thanks. Changed them



Manish Kumar • Apr 24 '21 • Edited on Apr 27

• • •

Hi Sivanesh, This Article is very helpful for me, I was using this same code for google auth setup but I am getting one error - Token is getting expired after 1 hour. I have used refersh token setup also , but didn't get success . Error - "Uncaught exception 'Google\_Auth\_Exception' with message 'Token used too late, 1410345101 > 1410341783: " Can you please help me on this... Thanks @sivaneshs



Manish Kumar • Apr 26 '21

•••

@sivaneshs please help



Comment deleted



Sivanesh Shanmugam 👶 • Feb 23 '21 • Edited on Feb 23

••

Yeah, I found them after some hours of debugging and found this helpful code. Thanks for your advice I'll follow them in forthcoming blogs. But actually, It's not your code. I copied the snippet from <a href="mailto:github.com/anthonyjgrove/react-goo...">github.com/anthonyjgrove/react-goo...</a> which he posted two months before your comment on the thread.

I don't know the reason why you did copy the same code and posted it in the same thread, and claiming for a reference.



Kiana-Alize Diaz • Dec 6 '20

•••

Hi under what file would we place server side verification?



Sivanesh Shanmugam 👶 • Dec 7 '20

•••

Placing it in a middleware would help.



Pit McDonald • Dec 9 '20



Pragati Varshney • Jan 4

•••

X

Hey,

Its a great article for beginners like me.

But, I am facing a challenge with log out, cookies and local storage are not getting cleared on log out and when I try to login the second time it auto-logins.

can you please guide me how to fix or what could have gone wrong?



codeuiandy • Nov 15 '21

•••

Thanks @sivaneshs this was very helpfull and save me the time of debuging and all



leoigel • Nov 26 '20

•••

i got this error :

Uncaught qw {message: "Missing required parameter 'client\_id'", xM: true, stack:

"gapi.auth2.ExternallyVisibleError: Missing require...tXYzGQD7-

oxLsteJNmIlmx3Ysqg/cb=gapi.loaded\_0:1:15"}



anoopvm • Apr 5

•••

I ended up with this because of wrong case. I used clientid instead of "clientId"



Michelle Ann Terrazas • Aug 3 '21

• •

Thank you so much for this, it helped me immensely with my task for my project last week! :)

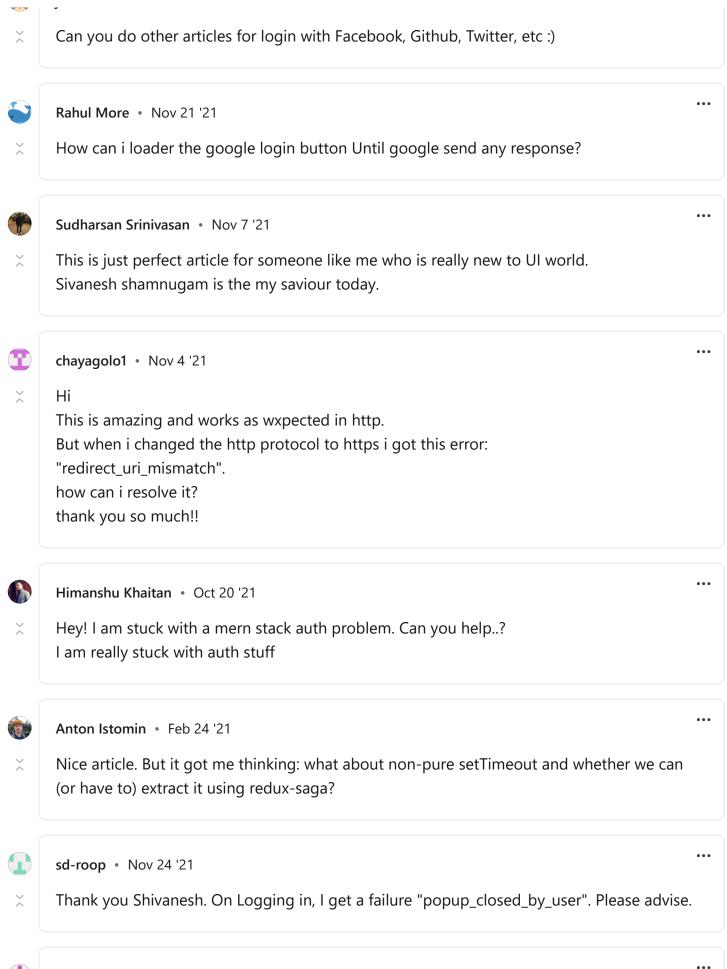


Kalin Panmanee • May 24 '21

• •

I'm trying to finish coding on the server side verification part but still struggle with a this problem. "TypeError: jwt.split is not a function " . Does anyone can help with this issue? By the way, I already got the token ID.





Congying • Sep 8 '21

Y

Thanks, it works fine for me. But I'm wondering how to get user info in another react components. Thanks in advance.



Sivanesh Shanmugam 👸 • Sep 9 '21

•••

You can add it in a React context and use it anywhere inside your components.



Pratik Wadekar • Oct 14 '21

•••

Can someone help me know how do I persist the login with react-google-login?



namansamra • Mar 9 '21

•••

hi I have a query like if i have a database and then user tries to login with google then how can I find the user from the database .



Sivanesh Shanmugam 👶 • Mar 9 '21

•••

With the token obtained, you can extract the user's information in which you can get email, Google user ID etc. With that I think you can find the user.



 $\stackrel{\times}{\sim}$ 

Jules Grenier • Mar 31 '21

This is **exactly** what I was looking for!! Thank you so much! 💙 📜

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# Sivanesh Shanmugam

A full-stack developer who loves to work with React.js, Express, Node.js, Redux, Javascript, PWA (Progressive Web Apps), Service workers, HTML, CSS, custom plugins in Babel, ESLint.

#### **LOCATION**

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WORK

Member Technical Staff (React Developer) at Zoho Technologies

JOINED

Mar 12, 2020

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