

# LESSON 09

## Form Handling (React Form Hook)

### WEEK 02

# Introduction to Form Handling

## ❖ What is Form Handling?

- Managing user input in forms, including validation and submission.

## ❖ Why Important?

- Essential for user interaction in web applications.

## ❖ Official Reference

- React Hook Form Documentation (<https://react-hook-form.com>)

# Challenges with Native Form Handling

## ❖ Manual State Management

- Using useState for each input is tedious and error-prone.

## ❖ Performance Issues

- Frequent re-renders on every input change.

```
1 export default function NativeFormHandling() {  
2   const [name, setName] = React.useState('');  
3   return (  
4     <div>  
5       <input value={name} onChange={(e) => setName(e.target.value)} />  
6     </div>  
7   );  
8 }
```

# What is React Hook Form?

## ❖ Definition

- A lightweight library for managing forms in React with hooks.

## ❖ Key Features

- Minimal re-renders, easy validation, uncontrolled components.

## ❖ Benefits

- Simplifies form handling, improves performance.

# Installing React Hook Form

## ❖ Installation Command

- `npm install react-hook-form`

## ❖ Basic Setup

- Import useForm hook to start building forms.

## ❖ Official Guide

- React Hook Form Get Started  
(<https://react-hook-form.com/get-started>)

# Basic Usage of useForm

## ❖ useForm Hook

- Provides form state and methods like **register**, **handleSubmit**.

```
1  import { useForm } from 'react-hook-form';
2
3  export default function BasicUsage() {
4    const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm();
5    const onSubmit = (data) => {
6      console.log(data);
7    };
8    return (
9      <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
10        <input {...register('name')} />
11        <button type="submit">Submit</button>
12      </form>
13    );
14  }
```

# Uncontrolled vs. Controlled Components

## ❖ **Controlled Components**

- Inputs tied to state, managed by React.

## ❖ **Uncontrolled Components**

- Inputs managed by DOM, used by React Hook Form for efficiency.

## ❖ **Why Uncontrolled?**

- Reduces re-renders, better for large forms.

# Handling Form Submission

## ❖ **handleSubmit**

Wraps submission logic, passes form data to callback.

```
1  import { useForm } from 'react-hook-form';
2
3  export default function BasicUsage() {
4    const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm();
5    const onSubmit = (data) => {
6      console.log(data);
7    };
8    return (
9      <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
10        <input {...register('name')} />
11        <button type="submit">Submit</button>
12      </form>
13    );
14  }
```



# Form Validation Basics

## ❖ Built-in Validation

Use register options like **required**, **minLength**.

```
1  export default function BasicUsage() {
2    const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm();
3    const onSubmit = (data) => {
4      console.log(data);
5    };
6    return (
7      <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
8        <input {...register('name', { required: true, minLength: 3 })} />
9        <button type="submit">Submit</button>
10     </form>
11   );
12 }
```

# Displaying Validation Errors

## ❖ **formState.errors**

Tracks validation  
errors for each field.

```
1 interface IFormInput {
2   name: string;
3 }
4
5 export default function BasicUsage() {
6   const {
7     register,
8     handleSubmit,
9     formState: { errors },
10  } = useForm<IFormInput>();
11
12  const onSubmit = (data) => {
13    console.log(data);
14  };
15  return (
16    <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
17      <input {...register('name', { required: true, minLength: 3 })} />
18      {errors.name && <p>{errors.name.message}</p>}
19      <button type="submit">Submit</button>
20    </form>
21  );
22 }
```

# Custom Validation

## ❖ Custom Rules

Use validate function  
in register for  
custom logic

```
1 interface IFormInput {  
2   email: string;  
3 }  
4  
5 export default function CustomValidation() {  
6   const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm<IFormInput>();  
7   const onSubmit = (data) => console.log(data);  
8   return (  
9     <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>  
10      <input  
11        {...register('email', {  
12          validate: (value) => value.includes('@') || 'Invalid email',  
13        })}  
14      />  
15      <button type="submit">Submit</button>  
16    </form>  
17  );  
18 }
```

# Default Values

## ❖ Setting Defaults

Use `defaultValues` in `useForm` to pre-fill form.

```
1 interface IFormInput {
2   name: string;
3   age: number;
4 }
5
6 export default function DefaultValues() {
7   const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm<IFormInput>({
8     defaultValues: { name: 'John Doe', age: 25 },
9   });
10  const onSubmit: SubmitHandler<IFormInput> = (data) => console.log(data);
11  return (
12    <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
13      <input {...register('name')} />
14      <input type="number" {...register('age')} />
15      <button type="submit">Submit</button>
16    </form>
17  );
18 }
```

# Resetting Form

## ❖ reset Method

Clears or resets form  
to default values.

```
1 interface IFormInput {  
2   name: string;  
3   age: number;  
4 }  
5  
6 export default function ResettingForm() {  
7   const { register, handleSubmit, reset } = useForm<IFormInput>();  
8   const onSubmit: SubmitHandler<IFormInput> = (data) => {  
9     console.log(data);  
10    reset();  
11  };  
12  return (  
13    <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>  
14      <input {...register('name')} />  
15      <input type="number" {...register('age')} />  
16      <button type="submit">Submit</button>  
17    </form>  
18  );  
19 }
```

# Watching Form Values

## ❖ watch Method

Tracks input changes  
in real-time.

```
1 interface IFormInput {  
2   name: string;  
3 }  
4  
5 export default function WatchingFormValues() {  
6   const { register, watch } = useForm<IFormInput>();  
7   const name = watch('name');  
8   return (  
9     <div>  
10      <input {...register('name')} />  
11      <p>Current Value: {name}</p>  
12    </div>  
13  );  
14 }
```

# Handling Complex Forms

## ❖ Nested Fields

Use dot notation for nested objects (e.g., **user.name**).

```
1 interface IFormInput {
2   user: IUser;
3 }
4
5 interface IUser {
6   name: string;
7   age: number;
8 }
9
10 export default function NestedFields() {
11   const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm<IFormInput>();
12   const onSubmit: SubmitHandler<IFormInput> = (data) => console.log(data);
13   return (
14     <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
15       <input {...register('user.name')} />
16       <input {...register('user.age')} />
17       <button type="submit">Submit</button>
18     </form>
19   );
20 }
```

# Array Fields

## ❖ useFieldArray

Manages dynamic  
arrays of fields  
(e.g., list of items).

```
1 interface Item {
2   value: string;
3 }
4
5 interface FormValues {
6   items: Item[];
7 }
8
9 export default function ArrayFields() {
10   const { register, handleSubmit, control } = useForm<FormValues>();
11   const { fields, append } = useFieldArray({ control, name: 'items' });
12
13   const onSubmit = (data: FormValues) => console.log(data);
14   return (
15     <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
16       {fields.map((field, index) => (
17         <input key={field.id} {...register(`items.${index}.value`)} />
18       ))}
19       <button type="button" onClick={() => append({ value: '' })}>
20         Add Item
21       </button>
22       <button type="submit">Submit</button>
23     </form>
24   );
25 }
26
```



# Form Context with Controller

## ❖ Controller

Wraps third-party components for form integration.

```
1 import { Controller, useForm } from 'react-hook-form';
2 import { Select } from 'antd';
3
4 export default function FormContextWithController() {
5   const { control, handleSubmit } = useForm();
6   const onSubmit = (data) => console.log(data);
7   return (
8     <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
9       <Controller
10         name="color"
11         control={control}
12         render={({ field }) => {
13           return <Select options={[{ value: 'red', label: 'Red' }] } {...field} />;
14         }}
15       />
16       <button type="submit">Submit</button>
17     </form>
18   );
19 }
```

# Schema Validation with Yup

## ❖ What is Yup?

A schema validation library, integrates with React Hook Form.

```
1 import { useForm, type SubmitHandler } from 'react-hook-form';
2 import { yupResolver } from '@hookform/resolvers/yup';
3 import * as yup from 'yup';
4
5 const schema = yup.object({
6   email: yup.string().email('Invalid email').required('Email is required'),
7 });
8
9 export default function SchemaValidation() {
10   const {
11     register,
12     handleSubmit,
13     formState: { errors },
14   } = useForm<IFormInput>({
15     resolver: yupResolver(schema),
16   });
17
18   const onSubmit: SubmitHandler<IFormInput> = (data) => console.log(data);
19
20   return (
21     <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
22       <input {...register('email')} />
23       {errors.email && <p>{errors.email.message}</p>}
24       <button type="submit">Submit</button>
25     </form>
26   );
27 }
```

# Form Submission States

## ❖ **formState**

Tracks states like  
**isSubmitting**,  
**isSubmitted**.

```
1 export default function FormSubmissionStates() {
2   const {
3     register,
4     handleSubmit,
5     formState: { isSubmitting },
6   } = useForm<IFormInput>();
7
8   const onSubmit = (data) => {
9     console.log(data);
10  };
11  return (
12    <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
13      <input {...register('name', { required: true, minLength: 3 })} />
14      <button type="submit"> {isSubmitting ? 'Submitting...' : 'Submit'}</button>
15    </form>
16  );
17 }
```

# Performance Optimization

## ❖ Minimize Re-renders

- Uncontrolled inputs reduce unnecessary updates.

## ❖ Use mode Option

- mode: 'onChange' for real-time validation.

## ❖ Reference

- React Hook Form Performance

# Handling File Inputs

## ❖ File Input

Use register with type="file".

```
1  import { useForm } from 'react-hook-form';
2
3  export default function HandlingFileInputs() {
4    const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm();
5    const onSubmit = (data) => console.log(data.file[0].name);
6    return (
7      <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
8        <input type="file" {...register('file')} />
9        <button type="submit">Submit</button>
10     </form>
11   );
12 }
```

# Integrating with APIs

## ❖ API Submission

Send form data to a backend API.

```
1 interface IFormInput {
2   name: string;
3 }
4
5 export default function IntegratingWithAPIs() {
6   const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm<IFormInput>();
7   const onSubmit: SubmitHandler<IFormInput> = async (data) => {
8     const res = await fetch('/api/submit', {
9       method: 'POST',
10      body: JSON.stringify(data),
11    });
12    console.log(await res.json());
13  };
14  return (
15    <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
16      <input {...register('name')} />
17      <button type="submit">Submit</button>
18    </form>
19  );
20 }
21
```

# Custom Input Components

## ❖ Reusable Inputs

Create custom  
inputs compatible  
with React Hook  
Form

```
1  import { useForm } from 'react-hook-form';
2
3  function CustomInput({ register, name, ...props }) {
4    return <input {...register(name)} {...props} />;
5  }
6
7  export default function CustomInputComponents() {
8    const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm();
9    const onSubmit = (data) => console.log(data);
10   return (
11     <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
12       <CustomInput register={register} name="name" placeholder="Name" />
13       <button type="submit">Submit</button>
14     </form>
15   );
16 }
17
```

# Form with Conditional Fields

## ❖ Dynamic Fields

Show/hide fields  
based on user input.

```
1 interface IFormInput {
2   hasPet?: boolean;
3   petName?: string;
4 }
5
6 export default function FormWithConditionalFields() {
7   const { register, handleSubmit, watch } = useForm<IFormInput>();
8   const hasPet = watch('hasPet');
9   const onSubmit: SubmitHandler<IFormInput> = (data) => console.log(data);
10  return (
11    <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
12      <input type="checkbox" {...register('hasPet')} />
13      {hasPet && <input {...register('petName')} />}
14      <button type="submit">Submit</button>
15    </form>
16  );
17 }
```



# Error Handling Strategies

## ❖ Centralized Errors

Use `formState.errors` for global error display.

```
1 export default function CentralizedErrors() {
2   const {
3     register,
4     handleSubmit,
5     formState: { errors },
6   } = useForm();
7   const onSubmit = (data) => console.log(data);
8   return (
9     <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
10      <input {...register('name', { required: 'Required' })} />
11      {Object.keys(errors).length > 0 && <p>Form has errors, please check inputs</p>}
12      <button type="submit">Submit</button>
13    </form>
14  );
15 }
```

# Advanced: Form Persistence

## ❖ Persisting Form Data

Save form state  
to localStorage  
for recovery.

```
1 export default function PersistingFormData() {
2   const storedFormData = localStorage.getItem('formData');
3   const { register, handleSubmit } = useForm<IFormInput>({
4     defaultValues: storedFormData ? JSON.parse(storedFormData) : {},
5   });
6   const onSubmit: SubmitHandler<IFormInput> = (data) => {
7     localStorage.setItem('formData', JSON.stringify(data));
8     console.log(data);
9   };
10  return (
11    <form onSubmit={handleSubmit(onSubmit)}>
12      <input {...register('name')} />
13      <button type="submit">Submit</button>
14    </form>
15  );
16 }
```

# Common Pitfalls

## ❖ Overusing watch

- Causes performance issues with large forms.

## ❖ Missing Validation

- Always define rules to prevent invalid submissions.

## ❖ Ignoring TypeScript

- Use types for better maintainability.